

**MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF HEALTH
RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING
MARCH 8, 2023**

DEBRA VALCOURT-SHERMAN, called the meeting of the Monroe Township Board of Health to order. Notice of the meeting was given pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meeting Act. Written notice was sent to two newspapers, the Gloucester County Times and the Sentinel. A copy of the written notice was given to the Township Clerk and posted on the bulletin board.

Salute to the flag.

ROLL CALL

Member	Present	Excused	Absent
Rene Pandola	X		
David Scales	X		
Dan Kozak	X		
Diana Salvadori	X		
Cncl. Ronald Garbowski		X	
Marie Sheridan	X		
Ben Jones	X		
Debra Valcourt-Sherman	X		
Sherri McIlvaine	X		

PUBLIC PORTION: No Public Present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

DEBRA VALCOURT-SHERMAN: Asked for a motion to approve the Minutes from February of 2023 meeting of the Monroe Township Board of Health.

MARIE SHERIDAN: made a motion to approve the minutes from the February of 2023, the motion was seconded by **RENE PANDOLA**. All members agreed to approving the minutes.

DEBRA VALCOURT-SHERMAN: The total cash settlement for **February of 2023** was **\$1,309.00**.

REPORTS:

SHERRI MCILVAINE: Nothing to report.

MARIE SHERIDAN: Nothing to report.

DAN KOZAK: Nothing to report.

BEN JONES: Nothing to report.

RENE PANDOLA: Nothing to report.

DIANA SALVADORI: Nothing to report.

RON GARBOWSKI: Not present.

DEBRA VALCOURT-SHERMAN: Nothing to report.

DAVID SCALES: Nothing to report.

JAMES DEHART: Business Administrator for the Township of Monroe spoke in reference to the TNR draft and wanted to let the Board know of some key components that were added into the draft. The sponsor and caretaker are not allowed to add to the already approved cat colony. **JAMES DEHART** stated that he feels as though the Board may have been misunderstanding the Cat Colony (TNR) program, the Township is not allowing people to say they want to have one and bring in all these cats, it is being established where there are already areas that have an abundance of cats and the Township is trying to get ahead of the issue before it gets out of control. The Township adding the Cat Colony (TNR) program allows us to have organizations such as PetSavers come in and trap, neuter and release these cats back to the same area as long as they are able to be released. They will rehome ones that are able to be, euthanize the ones who are too ill and medicated ones who are sick. There was a lengthy discussion in reference to the draft for the TNR program.

DAVID SCALES: Commented that he had a few concerns about the fact that the neighbors of these Cat Colonies have no say in if they want these colonies next to their residences and all the issues that could arise from these colonies. The neighbor has no right to decline. There was a lengthy discussion in reference to this topic.

DENISE ADAMS: Stated that it is not like people can just say I want to bring 35 cats to my backyard so I need to be an approved cat colony, these cats are there already and need to be addressed and the only way to address them and then get them treated for any health issues is by making it an approved cat colony so we can have PetSavers come in and do what needs to be done to thin the population and stop reproduction. There was a lengthy discussion in reference to this topic.

SHERRI MCILVAINE: Stated she already has two other calls for different locations that have an issue with 12 or more cats. She stated that PetSavers said they have 6 or 7 other properties that they have been called on in Williamstown and Sherri stated she had no calls about these other locations. There was a lengthy discussion in reference to this issue and the TNR program.

DAN KOZAK: Addressed **DAVID SCALES** and stated that he hears what he is saying in reference to the neighbors of these cat colonies and that the neighbors should have rights and no one believes that more than him and he has been with the Township for more than 20 years and he said he has seen a lot of ordinances and this one is a great start. He stated that if this does not work for some reason we can always go back and address those problems and revise the Ordinance. There was a discussion in reference to this topic.

DENISE ADAMS: Stated that PetSavers will educate all caregivers of these colonies and also will speak to the neighbors of these colonies to give them more insight and help them understand the colonies and the need for the TNR program. There was a lengthy discussion in reference to this topic.

DEBRA VALCOURT-SHERMAN: Asked how the program works as far as notifying the township of the status of the colonies and **JAMES DEHART** stated that he believes the caregiver has to report the number of cats in the colony on a yearly basis and that if any new cats happen to join the colony it needs to be reported as soon as they notice. If there is an issue the Sponsor will try to rectify the issue before the Township has to step in and contact Animal Control. There was a lengthy discussion in reference to this topic.

SHERRI MCILVAINE: Asked what the stipulations are going to be with these cat colonies and when they come to her for approvals. **JAMES DEHART** stated that they look to PetSavers to go out and assess the situation to see if it is warranted to have a colony registered where the cat issues is occurring. There was a lengthy discussion in reference to this topic.

DEBRA VALCOURT-SHERMAN: Asked for a motion to approve the TNR draft, **BEN JONES** made a motion to approve the draft, **DAN KOZAK** seconded the motion. There was a roll call vote and all members agreed.

RENE PANDOLA: Asked if we are going to have an inspector for the Board of Health, **SHERRI MCILVAINE** stated that **STEVE D'AMICO** is the person that goes out for the lawn issues for her. **DAN KOZAK** stated that we could use a part time inspector for the busy season for the Board of Health. There was a discussion in reference to this topic with the Business Administrator, **JAMES DEHART**.

DEBRA VALCOURT-SHERMAN: With no further business to discuss, **DEBRA VALCOURT-SHERMAN** asked for a motion to adjourn and **DIANA SALVADORI** made a motion to adjourn the Monroe Township Board of Health meeting of March 8, 2023 the motion was seconded by **SHERRI KENNEDY**. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlotte Rudolph
Clerk Transcriber

These minutes are an extract from the meeting that was held on the above date and are not a verbatim account or to be construed as an official transcript of the proceedings.

Approved as submitted _____ Date _____

Approved as corrected _____ Date _____