



LOUISIANA ANIMAL
WELFARE COMMISSION

Governor's Office of Community Programs

P.O. Box 60630, New Orleans, LA 70160

(504) 568-8315

May 24, 2013

Caddo Parish President and Parish Officials

Dear Caddo Parish Government Officials,

I performed an inspection of the Caddo Parish Animal Shelter on April 15, 2013. The Caddo Parish Animal Shelter is an excellent facility that performs an exemplary job in its mission to serve Caddo Parish and its people. The structure is attractive, extremely functional and well kept. Many standard operating procedures are recorded in written policies; records are strictly maintained and readily available for review. Animals appear to be adequately cared for and are housed under conditions that generally promote health and hygiene. Cages and other enclosures are easily sanitized and of sufficient durability to provide a secure and healthy environment. The facility's procedures regarding cleaning are excellent. Adequate ventilation and protection against the elements are provided to all animals. The shelter complies with state requirements for animal population control.

Please see the attached Louisiana Animal Welfare Commission Inspection Form. You will see that the inspection identified six minor departures from the state standards, none of which directly affects the health and welfare of the animals. One major violation of LAWC recommendations, a recommendation by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) that animal contact personnel be vaccinated against rabies, was observed. CDC recommends that animal control personnel receive pre-exposure rabies prophylaxis. The vaccine regimen is comparatively expensive and many shelters only administer vaccinations to workers who have been employed for some specified duration (usually 6 months to one year). Caddo Parish Animal Control should pursue a goal of administering pre-exposure prophylaxis to animal contact shelter employees who complete a probationary tenure of work. The Caddo Parish area is considered endemic for skunk variant rabies, so a real danger exists.

This communication has been made available to the public. The attached LAWC Inspection Form is also publicly available. If you have any questions regarding this inspection or LAWC in general, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Gary A. Balsamo, DVM, MPH&TM
Chair, Louisiana Animal Welfare Commission
State Public Health Veterinarian

cc.

LAWC

General public

Attachment:

LAWC Inspection Form

...to ensure and promote the proper treatment and well-being of animals

Name of shelter: CADDO PARISH ANIMAL SHELTER	Contact person: EVERETT HARRIS, DIRECTOR
Phone: 318-226-6624	Email address: eharris@caddo.org

Physical address: 1500 MONTY STREET
SHREVEPORT, LA 71107

Name of inspector:
DR. GARY BALSAMO, STATE PUBLIC HEALTH VETERINARIAN

Date of inspection: 4/15/2013

Initial Re-inspection

Critical	Major	Minor		Category
				A. Animal euthanasia
			Citation	Comments
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A9,A10	THERE ARE NO WRITTEN PROTOCOLS FOR EUTHANASIA.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
				B. Management
			Citation	Comments
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	B18	AGE SHOULD BE A CONSIDERATION IN THE SEPARATION OF ANIMALS.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	B20	CDC RECOMMENDS RABIES VACCINES FOR ANIMAL CONTACT STAFF.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
				C. Records
			Citation	Comments
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	C8	ANIMAL RECORDS DO NOT DOCUMENT DAILY OBSERVATION IN WRITING.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
				D. General structure
			Citation	Comments
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
				E. Water and electric power
			Citation	Comments
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
				F. Waste disposal
			Citation	Comments
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
			G. Storage	
			Citation	Comments
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
			H. Primary Enclosures	
			Citation	Comments
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	H6	MORE THAN ONE ANIMAL IS HOUSED PER ENCLOSURE.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	H9.H13	SOME CAGING DOES NOT OFFER A MINIMUM OF 7 FT. OF CLEARANCE IN HEIGHT. Some guillotine doors were inoperable from outside the cages.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
			I. Feeding and watering	
			Citation	Comments
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
			J. Pest control	
			Citation	Comments
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
			K. Rabies quarantine	
			Citation	Comments
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
			L. Infection control and rabies vaccination requirements	
			Citation	Comments
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	L8	ANIMALS ARE APPROPRIATELY VACCINATED PRIOR TO BEING PLACED IN ADOPTABLE STATUS.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
			M. Population control	
			Citation	Comments
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Additional comments:				
This shelter could be a model for most shelters around the state. The parish government should be commended for providing the people of Caddo Parish with a shelter that effectively and humanely fulfills the needs of the public.				
Rating: Below standards <input type="checkbox"/> Meets standards <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exceeds standards <input type="checkbox"/>				