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February 23, 2023

# <u>VIA PENSACOLA HUMANE</u> SOCIETY FACEBOOK PAGE

To Loyal Donors, Supporters, Volunteers, Fosters, and the Greater Pensacola Community

Re: Saltmarsh, Cleaveland & Gund's Agreed Upon Procedures Report for 2021 and 2022

On behalf of The Pensacola Humane Society (hereinafter "PHS"), we are pleased to provide the findings from Saltmarsh, Cleaveland & Gund's (hereinafter "Saltmarsh") Independent Accountant's Report on Applying Agreed Upon Procedures (hereinafter "Report") provided to the PHS Board of Directors on February 23, 2023. This Report was voluntarily requested by PHS as PHS was under no obligation to perform this type of financial audit. Further, PHS is voluntarily disclosing the findings of the Report to be fully open and honest with the public about the financial well-being of PHS and reassure the community of PHS's financial position moving forward.

As some initial background, PHS contacted four (4) separate and independent accounting firms in the Southeast to provide their recommendation and availability to complete a financial audit. PHS ended up engaging the services of Saltmarsh for a number of reasons. Saltmarsh is an 80-year-old professional accounting firm with numerous offices spread across the Southeastern United States with an impeccable reputation within the industry and business world. It should be noted that each of the four accounting firms independently recommended an *Agreed Upon Procedures Report* in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("AICPA") be done for PHS. This report differs from a traditional full accounting audit in that it focuses on specific areas of accounting that PHS and the accounting firm wish to address. Specifically, Saltmarsh and PHS agreed that Saltmarsh would focus on the following areas, which PHS felt would fully encompass any financial issues that may have arisen in 2021 and/or 2022:

- Obtain and review the reconciliation of PHS's cash accounts during 2021 and 2022 for timely completion, approval and agreement to the general ledger and applicable bank statements.
- Review the bank statements for all cash accounts and review digital image
  of checks for signature by authorized signor, and determine all transfers in
  or out of the account were properly recorded.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See December 10, 2022 Saltmarsh Engagement Letter and Schedule of Agreed Upon Procedures, enclosed with this correspondence.

- Review the bank statements for any overdrafts and/or usage of PHS's line of credit.
- Obtain a detailed listing of all cash disbursements for 2021 and 2022, perform data analytics by payee, amounts, date, etc. to review for unusual and/or structured payments.
- From the detailed listing of all cash disbursements, Saltmarsh will select a sample of disbursements for testing by agreeing to supporting invoice, check copy, approval in accordance with internal policies and business purpose to PHS, and proper recording in the appropriate general ledger account and clearing in the bank statements.
- Obtain credit card statements for the two credit card accounts owned by PHS and review for unusual activity and select a sample of purchases and review supporting documentation and business purpose to PHS.
- Obtain a detail listing of investments held by PHS and reconcile to the general ledger, and verify investments are maintained in accordance with the institutions investment policy.
- Review investment transactions during 2021 and 2022 and determine any transfers to or from investment accounts were properly recorded in the general ledger and were properly approved in accordance with internal policies.
- Obtain the detailed payroll records for 2021 and 2022 and review for unusual activity and verify to clearing in PHS's operating accounts.
- Review PHS's processes for receiving and recording donations received for 2021 and 2022, including selection of a sample of days to review the detail of daily donations to verify the funds were timely and properly deposited into PHS bank accounts.
- Obtain a detailed listing of restricted funds and related disbursements to determine how PHS tracks and uses restricted funds in accordance with donor restrictions, and has available assets to satisfy any remaining restricted funds.
- Review PHS's process for the reconciliation of balance sheet accounts on a monthly basis and the related preparation of month end financial statements. This would include timely completion, approval by management and presentation to the Board of Directors.2

On February 22, 2023, Gerald Adcox (PHS Board President) and Barbara Sawyer (PHS Board Treasurer) each provided a letter in connection with Saltmarsh's agreed upon procedures and confirmed that all documentation, procedures, and information were properly disclosed to Saltmarsh.3 The following day, Saltmarsh provided the finalized Report to PHS.4 The Report is a fair and accurate representation of the accounting records at PHS and found no wrongdoing, misappropriation of funds, or any improper or

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See February 22, 2023 Signed Authorization of Gerald Adcox and Barbara Sawyer, enclosed with this correspondence.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Enclosed with this correspondence.

incorrect behavior by PHS. Of note, the Report only provided positive findings for PHS, including the following details:

- 1. Any and all reconciling items and transfers cleared the bank in a timely manner and were valid transfers.
- 2. All disbursements and checks "appeared to represent valid expenses of [PHS]".
- 3. All disbursements and transactions tested were properly supported and represented valid business expenses of PHS.
- 4. No unusual activity was found concerning the purchases on credit cards. All payments on outstanding credit card balances were made by Electronic Bank Transfer from PHS's operating checking account and support for specific charges were filed with the monthly statement.
- 5. The total balances to PHS's general ledger were properly recorded at fair value and that investments holdings and asset allocations were in accordance with PHS's investment policies.
- 6. An issue was found concerning bonus payments as well as an incentive payment program to the former Director of Development, but the Report found that these payments were done without the knowledge and/or approval of the Board or the Treasurer.
- 7. Regarding donations, funds were utilized for their intended purposes and properly recorded in accordance with donor intentions, with restricted net assets account being reduced accordingly.
- 8. PHS had sufficient assets available to satisfy donor requirements as of December 31, 2022.
- 9. The Board treasurer was actively involved in the monthly reconciliation of PHS's balance sheet accounts, routinely assisted PHS's staff bookkeeper in entering information in the accounting software and was responsible for generating the month-end financial statements. The treasurer also reviewed the financial information with the Board as documented in the meeting minutes.<sup>5</sup>

We are pleased with the findings in the Report and are grateful to Saltmarsh for their thorough investigation and findings after reviewing countless documentation from PHS. We hope the Report, voluntary measures taken by the Board to work with Saltmarsh, as well as voluntarily disclosing the findings of said Report will help reassure donors, volunteers, fosters, and the community at large that PHS is financially sound and well positioned for a bright future. We appreciate your patience and continued support and invite constructive input from the community. If you would like to discuss further or have any questions, you can reach me at 850-483-5930 or contact me via email at michael.kelly@csklegal.com.

Sincerely,

Michael B. Kelly

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> *Id*.

Michael B. Kelly Counsel for The Pensacola Humane Society

**Enclosures** MBK

# Saltmarsh

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS AND CONSULTANTS

**HUMANE SOCIETY OF PENSACOLA, INC.** 

PENSACOLA, FLORIDA

AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES REPORT

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

# HUMANE SOCIETY OF PENSACOLA, INC. PENSACOLA, FLORIDA AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES REPORT FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022 AND 2021

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# INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

To the Board of Directors Humane Society of Pensacola, Inc. Pensacola, Florida

We have performed the procedures in the Schedule of Procedures and Findings, which were agreed to by the Humane Society of Pensacola, Inc. ("the Society"). The Society is responsible for determining the sufficiency of these procedures. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures, either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

The Society has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose, which is to review certain accounting records and transactions and overall financial reporting of the Society for appropriateness. This report may not be suitable for any other purpose. The procedures performed may not address all the items of interest to a user of this report and may not meet the needs of all users of this report, and, as such, users are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes.

We were engaged by the Society to perform this agreed-upon procedures engagement and conducted our engagement in accordance with attestation standards established by the AICPA. We were not engaged to and did not conduct an examination or review, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

We are required to be independent of the Society and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related to our agreed-upon procedures engagement.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Directors and management of the Society, and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Pensacola, Florida February 13, 2023

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#### I. Cash

#### PROCEDURES:

- 1. Obtained and reviewed the reconciliation of the Society's cash accounts during 2021 and 2022 for timely completion, approval and agreement to the general ledger and applicable bank statements.
- 2. Reviewed the bank statements for all cash accounts and reviewed the digital image of checks for signature by authorized signor(s), and determined whether all transfers in or out of the accounts were properly recorded.
- 3. Reviewed the bank statements for any overdrafts and/or usage of the Society's line of credit.

#### FINDINGS:

We obtained and reviewed the monthly bank reconciliations noting that the beginning cash balance per each reconciliation agreed to the bank statement and that the reconciled balances agreed to the Society's general ledger, noting minor differences. All reconciling items and transfers cleared the Bank in a timely manner.

The Society has a policy that requires two signatures on any check of \$5,000 or more. In reviewing the digital image of checks clearing the operating checking account, we noted four checks in excess of \$5,000 each that cleared the bank in the first half of 2021 that only had one signature. Three of the checks were for capital improvements to the Society's shelter and were signed by the previous board president. One check related to payment for veterinarian services was signed by the former Executive Director. We reviewed the supporting documentation for these disbursements and determined all appeared to represent valid expenses of the Society. All other checks \$5,000 or more had two signatures as required.

In reviewing the digital images of checks, we noted all the checks clearing the operating account from June 23, 2021, to November 8, 2022, were signed by the Society's former Executive Director, with the exception of expense reimbursement checks made payable to the former Executive Director, which were signed by the Board Treasurer in accordance with the Society's policies and procedures. After the departure of the former Executive Director all checks were signed by the Board Treasurer.

We reviewed all transfers into or out of the Society's cash accounts, noting all transactions were valid transfers between accounts of the Society.

We reviewed the monthly bank statements for activity and cash balances throughout 2021 and 2022, noting that no overdrafts occurred. We did note the Society has established a line-of-credit in the amount of \$100,000 to be used to cover any temporary cash shortfalls. As of December 31, 2022, two advances on the line-of-credit had been made in the amounts of \$20,000 and \$50,000 for a total outstanding balance of \$70,000. The line-of-credit is secured by the Society's investment account, noted in section III below, which has a fair value of approximately \$1.1 million as of December 31, 2022.

# II. Cash Disbursements and Credit Card Testing

#### PROCEDURES:

- 1. Obtained a detailed listing of all cash disbursements for 2021 and 2022, and performed data analytics by payee, amounts, date, etc. to review for unusual and/or structured payments.
- 2. From the detailed listing of all cash disbursements, we selected a sample of disbursements for testing by agreeing to the supporting invoice, check copy, approval in accordance with internal policies and business purpose to the organization, and proper recording in the appropriate general ledger account and clearing in the appropriate bank statement.
- 3. Obtained the credit card statements for the two credit card accounts owned by the Society and reviewed for unusual activity. Selected a sample of purchases and reviewed supporting documentation for business purpose to the Society.

#### FINDINGS:

In performing data analytics on the detailed listing of cash disbursements for 2021 and 2022, we noted two instances where the payment for goods or services were split between two sequentially numbered checks by the Society's staff so that the check amounts would be less than the \$5,000 threshold requiring two signatures. These payments were made in June and October of 2022, and were signed by the former Executive Director, despite the cash disbursements being made in violation of the Society's policies and procedures. We reviewed the supporting invoices for these payments, noting the disbursements appeared to represent valid expenses of the Society.

All disbursements for goods and services of the Society are made either by check or electronic funds transfer or are purchased on credit cards in the name of the Society.

From the detailed listing of all cash disbursements, we selected a sample of disbursements for testing and agreed the amount disbursed to supporting invoice, check copy, approval in accordance with internal policies and business purpose to the organization, recording in the appropriate general ledger account, and clearing in the appropriate bank statement. All disbursements tested were properly supported and represented valid business expenses of the Society.

For purchases on credit cards, we reviewed the statements for both cards for all months in 2021 and 2022 and noted no unusual activity. All payments on outstanding credit card balances were made by Electronic Bank Transfer from the Society's operating checking account. We selected a sample of purchases and reviewed the supporting documentation, noting that the support for specific charges was filed with the monthly statement. All transactions tested appeared to represent a valid business expenses of the Society.

# II. Cash Disbursements and Credit Card Testing - (Continued)

As part of our disbursements testing, we noted one payment to Adcox Imports, Inc., a dealership owned by the Board President. The payment was dated March 9, 2022, in the amount of \$61,239 for the purchase of a 2020 Sprinter Cargo Van for the Society. We examined the supporting documentation which included a purchase agreement from Adcox Imports, Inc. and a buyers order from the Georgia dealership from which Adcox Imports purchased the van for \$61,000. The \$239 difference related to title fees paid. The check for this purchase was signed by the former Executive Director and Board Treasurer. The purchase was properly recorded in the general ledger as a fixed asset of the Society.

In reviewing the disbursement register and credit card statements, we noted three payments to the Pensacola Yacht Club during 2021 and 2022. The disbursements included a payment in April 2021 for \$1,150.46 for a farewell reception for an employee, a payment in April 2022 for \$15,089.52 for expenses related to the Society's Fur Ball fundraising event, and one credit card charge in October 2022 for \$445.70 related to the Society's Annual Meeting, which was attended by board and staff. All transactions were properly supported and represented valid business expenses of the Society.

#### III. Investments

#### PROCEDURES:

- 1. Obtained a detailed listing of investments held by the Society and reconciled to the general ledger. Verified that investments were maintained in accordance with the Society's investment policy.
- Reviewed investment transactions during 2021 and 2022 and determined any transfers to or from investment
  accounts were properly recorded in the general ledger and were properly approved in accordance with
  internal policies.

#### FINDINGS:

We obtained the investment statement from NBC Securities as of December 31, 2022, and agreed the total balance to the Society's general ledger noting the investments were properly recorded at fair value and that investments holdings and asset allocations were in accordance with the Society's investment policy.

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As of December 31, 2022, investments consisted of the following:

	Value
Cash & cash alternatives Equity investments Fixed-income investments	\$ 6,569 667,080 424,906
	<u>\$ 1,098,555</u>

# IV. Payroll

#### PROCEDURES:

1. Obtained the detailed payroll records for 2021 and 2022, reviewed for unusual activity and verified total payroll to clearing in the Society's operating account statements.

#### FINDINGS:

The Society uses a third-party payroll provider for processing payroll on a weekly basis for all employees. We obtained the payroll invoices for all weeks in 2021 and 2022 and agreed to the electronic fund transfers recorded in the Society's operating checking account without exception.

In reviewing the weekly payroll invoices for 2021 and 2022, we noted five weeks in 2022, where the weekly payroll increased by more than 25% from the average weekly payroll. Those weeks were January 20th, September 28th, October 12th, October 19th, and October 26th. As a result of these fluctuations, we obtained and reviewed the details of amounts paid by person, noting all of the fluctuations were related to bonuses paid to the former Director of Development. The bonus amounts included \$5,000 paid out the week of January 20th and \$4,750 paid out for each of the other pay periods, resulting in a total bonus of \$24,000 to the former Director of Development in 2022.

As a result, we requested the supporting documentation for the bonus payments and reviewed the monthly board minutes for approval of any bonuses or bonus programs.

The supporting documentation provided by the Society included an unsigned copy of an incentive plan for the former Director of Development where bonuses would be paid based on a percentage of restricted and unrestricted donations raised by the former Director of Development. The bonus calculation provided to us appears to have been prepared by the former Director of Development. That calculation showed \$5,000 owed for the 4th quarter of 2021, which was paid in January 2022, and \$19,000 owed for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd quarters of 2022. The \$19,000 was paid over the four weekly pay periods noted above in the amount of \$4,750 each.

In reviewing the board minutes, we did not see any bonus payments discussed with or approved by the Board of Directors. However, we did note discussion regarding the possibility of establishing an incentive payment program for the former Director of Development in April 2022. The board minutes indicate that no action was taken by the Board of Directors to approve the proposed incentive program. As a result, it appears these bonuses were paid without the knowledge and/or approval of the Board of Directors or the Board Treasurer.

#### V. Donations

#### PROCEDURES:

- 1. Reviewed the Society's processes for receiving and recording donations received for 2021 and 2022, including the selection of a sample of days to review the detail of daily donations to verify the funds were timely and properly deposited into the Society's bank accounts.
- 2. Obtained a detailed listing of restricted funds and related disbursements to determine whether the Society tracks and uses restricted funds in accordance with donor instructions, and whether the Society has available assets to satisfy any remaining restricted funds.

#### FINDINGS:

The Society primarily receives contributions by check in the mail and online via its website through credit card donations. Donations received in the mail typically include donor correspondence noting any restriction associated with donated funds. For donations received online, the donor can select from a drop-down listing to indicate any specific uses of funds. The Society's process is to record any donor restricted funds as Net Assets With Donor Restrictions in its accounting records. As funds are utilized for intended purposes, the restricted net assets account is reduced accordingly.

In order to test donations, we obtained the details of daily deposits for 2021 and 2022 from the Society's general ledger and selected any deposit totaling \$5,000 or more for testing. For these deposits, we obtained and reviewed the detailed bank deposit slips and supporting donor communications for any contribution totaling \$5,000 or more. There was one donation of \$15,000 for which underlying documentation could not be located to determine whether or not a donor restriction was present. All other donations had underlying support indicating whether or not a donor restriction was present, and we determined these donations were properly recorded in accordance with donor intentions.

In reviewing the general ledger detail for all donations in 2021 and 2022, we noted that the Society received numerous smaller dollar donations designated for programs such as Doggie Bathe In, Foster Program, Kennel Sponsorships, Lucky Penny Funds, etc. which were not tracked as Net Assets with Donor Restrictions. For the period reviewed, these donations amounted to \$49,422.

# V. Donations - (Continued)

We obtained a listing of all donor restricted funds in 2021 and 2022, as identified by the Society, and agreed the documented donor restriction for each fund to underlying support either provided by or agreed to by the donor. We traced expenditures of restricted funds to underlying documentation noting that the use of restricted funds appeared to be in line with the donor's intended purposes.

As of December 31, 2022, the balance of unspent restricted funds in the general ledger, including \$49,422 not recorded as Net Assets with Donor Restrictions was as follows:

HSUS	\$	1,400
Greater Good Fund		15,166
Escambia County Spray/Neuter Fund		24,085
Louie's Love Fund		2,192
Santa Rosa Spray/Neuter Fund		5,764
Foster Pantry		4,101
Shelter Laundry		5,438
Pay-It Forward Fund		23,330
Florida Animal Friend Fund		13,885
Talley Vaccine Fund		3,901
Elizabeth Irby Fund		3,919
Alley Cat Allies Grant		2,537
•		105,718
Donations not tracked as restricted funds		49,442
Total Restricted Funds	<u>\$</u>	155,160

Available cash and investments totaled \$1,128,594 as of December 31, 2022. Therefore, the Society had sufficient assets available to satisfy donor requirements as of December 31, 2022.

### VI. Financial Reporting

#### **PROCEDURES:**

1. Reviewed the Society's process for the reconciliation of balance sheet accounts on a monthly basis and the related preparation of month-end financial statements. This would include timely completion, approval by management and presentation to the Board of Directors.

#### FINDINGS:

We noted that the Board Treasurer was actively involved in the monthly reconciliation of the Society's balance sheet accounts, routinely assisted the Society's staff bookkeeper in entering information in the accounting software, and was responsible for generating the month-end financial statements. In addition, we noted the Board Treasurer reviewed the financial information with the Board of Directors, as documented in the board meeting minutes. No formal approval by management was noted.