

Veterinary Assistant Advisory Minutes

February 25, 2014

Attendees:

Chris Snodgrass, Katie Mehin, Diane McCarthy, Lisa Donimari, Cliff Migal, Theresa Hurley and John Fain from Patterson Veterinary

Enrollment:

To date there are 75 students scheduled to register for the class starting in August of 2014. It has been decided that we are able to open two 1st year sections of 25 students each – 12:45 - 3:45pm & 4:00 - 7pm Monday through Friday.

The 75 students do not include senior students that want in the program. A new Attorney General opinion will permit senior students to start and not have to pay a fee after they graduate to complete the second year. This is a major leap forward.

Equipment:

The committee reviewed the major equipment and found all items to be in order. Theresa Hurley and John Fain w/Patterson Veterinary were in attendance to answer any questions. Several items are still left to purchase. We are waiting on a final drawing for the kennels. Patterson will stage the facility for West-MEC in June 2014. Estimated funds that include kennels is \$250,000-\$270,000.

Instructor Applications:

The committee reviewed the list of instructor applicants. The committee will get back to Cliff by March 4th with the list of applicants to be interviewed. The interview day is tentatively set for March 18, 2014.

Building Progress:

The committee viewed pictures of the progress with the facility. The roof is secured, metal interior studs are being placed, masonry work is topped out, and exterior steel canopies are in place. All systems are moving forward with an estimated temporary occupancy of mid-June, 2014.

Veterinarian Services:

Services of a veterinarian to assist with animal treatment, demonstrate surgeries, dispense drugs, etc. were discussed. It was determined that 6-8 days a month might be adequate. The committee suggested that we advertise in the AZ VMA newsletter. Cliff will work up a draft. It is estimated that a budget for a veterinarian would be in the neighborhood of \$25,000 - \$35,000 figuring 8 days a month for 10 months with an average salary of \$80,000 @260 days = \$307 per day. This is subject to further discussion. Several names of veterinarians were brought forward for discussion. Members will follow up. A reach out to Mid-Western University was placed on the table. Diane McCarthy will follow up.

Acquiring Animals:

We estimate that if we had 5 dogs/cats on each shift, plus exotics and other small animals that would be adequate for the program. 8-10 dogs/cats will meet our needs for year one. It was recommended that we work out a plan with Maricopa Animal Shelter and maybe the Sheriff's department. Cliff will follow up with Rodrigo.

The committee may contact Cliff to schedule a tour of the facility considering everyone's busy schedule.

The next meeting we will shoot for a **date in April** after interviews are complete and the building is in the dry wall stage.

Many thanks for all the great input!