



# PARSONS POLICE DEPARTMENT

217 NORTH CENTRAL • PARSONS, KANSAS 67357

421-7062 ADMINISTRATION • 911 EMERGENCY • 421-7060 OTHER CALLS • 421-7081 FAX

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Animal Control Gets a Facelift**

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In December 2018 Parsons Police Chief Robert Spinks began to evaluate animal control in the City of Parsons. After seeing the process and conditions of equipment used to capture animals at large, the police department ordered a new slide-in animal control unit for the animal control truck, to better perform duties and keep the animals safe in the process.

Research and comparison of ACO vehicles and boxes was completed to find the best possible animal box for the city to implement. There were certain criteria that needed to be met. The storage areas had to have the capability to handle large dogs it had to have a separate small area for small animals such as cats and small dogs. It needed to have interior lights and the ability to store equipment. It was also a necessity for the box to have ventilation to keep pets and animals cool when it is hot.

The decision was made to purchase a slide in unit from Jones Trailer out of Woodson, Texas. The unit was delivered by the manufacturer to ensure safe delivery and give instructions on installation.

The new box unit was installed in the current Animal Control pickup and has all the features that were sought. There are two LED work lamps on the back of the unit to assist in picking up and loading animals in the dark as well as having interior lighting to keep officers and animals safe when taking them out of the transport unit. It also has an interior ventilation fan to keep temperatures reasonable in the summer to keep our communities' pets safe.

It is our mission to help lost and scared animals find their owners. We want to keep all the citizens in Parsons safe, and scared animals can sometimes act aggressively and out of character when approached. Spinks says, "we need to be good guardians to our pets and take care that they are healthy and loved. This improvement to our animal control efforts is just one more step forward for the police department and our community."

If you see a lost or stray animal and know where it belongs, please contact the owner first. Then contact the Police Department at 421-7060 please inform the Animal Control Officer or Police Officer where the animal belongs if known.

Accountability for our pets is a must' as good studious pet owners and stewards. Animal Control would like to remind everyone not to approach any animal that appears hurt or aggressive. Injured animals are more likely to bite to defend themselves.