James Anthony - ASUS/WAO Information on Pigs As Requested.

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From:

To:

<james.anthony@oag.state.tx.us>

Date:

6/11/2007 2:56 PM

Subject:

ASUS/WAO Information on Pigs As Requested

CC:



Mr. Anthony: Reference your email of 6-5-07.

Because of the flood in 2002 specific individual records for these particular pigs are not available. Our record keeping procedure, of course, has now changed. We now keep duplicate records, one set with us and one set with one of our veterinarians, Dr. Ehrlund. The information here is based on our best memory of events that occurred 7-8 years ago and are accurate to the best of our belief. The pigs were in our possession for about 1 year. We were not equipped to care for that many pigs. Originally, we had agreed to take only 30 pigs but, ended up with 98 pigs. We had to build a large temporary fenced area for them. The pigs were in our possession and cared for during 1999-2000 for approximately 1 year. At that point the pigs were relocated to an individual who had done labor work for us, and he, in turn, kept some of the pigs and gave some of the pigs to members of his family who had sufficient fenced land to allow the pigs to roam. These were potbellied pigs. Our animal care staff that were present during this period will certify that these stated transactions are correct.

As to the \$5,000. To the best of our knowledge we may have received \$5,000 from the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) for the care and welfare of these pigs. During the 1 year period the cost for housing and feeding of these pigs was far in excess of \$5,000. During that period 1999-2000, as you know, we did not track this type of donation. This has changed and we now do track all donations specifying use for a specific function or project. We concur that this tack of tracking was appropriately considered as part of the problem and your concerns are certainly justified by pointing out errors that were unintentionally made in the past. However, as we have also discussed, we firmly believe that we have learned a vast amount of non profit administrative knowledge from your investigation conclusions and that we are working hard to make sure the same, or other, mistakes do not occur in the future.

We would like to think that you will concur in our beliefs, and will agree with us, that we now must look to the future and move forward in our efforts to provide care and welfare for the animals in our possession.

Sumner D. Matthes Vice President ASUS/WAO

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