

June McHuen

From: Dyatlovskaya Irina <~~irinad@english-russian.us~~>
Sent: Tuesday, January 17, 2023 9:54 AM
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Subject: Crisis in animal care in Contra Costa County

Dear Elected and Governmental Officials of Contra Costa County,

You are in charge of making sure that all residents of the county are safe and have access to all necessary services, you have a burden of responsibility for wellbeing and safety of all live beings of your county.

Yet, a serious crisis has been going on for days, weeks, months, years and it is getting worse.

Many residents of the Contra Costa County experiencing high stress, frustration, financial burden due to situation with animal care in our county.

Many animal residents of the county are put in harms ways either by their families or by governmental employees who supposed to provide safety for them.

First look at the faces of those dogs! And after that, please, read my message below.

SOS We will die if not rescued by 1/18 SOS

Bagel Basquiat Chance Ledger Jobe Oso

Vincent Sindri Rocky Precious Captain Reyna

Vinny Victor Poncho

ON EUTHANASIA LIST AT MARTINEZ SHELTER
FOSTERS NEEDED PLEASE CALL MARTINA ANIMAL RESCUE AT 916-996-5777

SOS WE WILL DIE IF NOT RESCUED BY 1/25 SOS

Marble **Moose** **Penguin** **Rio** **Big Sur**

Beauty **Tabu** **Jagger** **Mirasol** **Robin Hood** **Azula**

On euthanasia list at Martinez CA 94553
Fosters needed please call Martina Animal Rescue at (916)996-5777

All these dogs are on a death row. They are young dogs, old dogs, dogs that need medical help, many of them have been at CCAS just a little over a week.

Most of them are scared, feel stressed and uneasy, confused, haven't been taken out of cages (kennels) for a walk or had any interaction with human beings or other dogs. They didn't create the problem. They don't have a choice. Their only defense is growling, crying, barking, getting excited when they see someone come to them or out of deep fear (mostly) they use their only weapon: teeth. Humans do not give them ANY choices.

Rescue community has only a few days to save them. If we don't find placements, they will be killed.

Such lists are compiled by the administration of Contra Costa Animal Services weekly. Each week the list is getting longer: from 5 or 7 dogs has gone to 12 to 15 per week.

Multiply by 52 weeks. You can get real number of animals that would have been killed by so called "shelter" if not for the community: a few rescue groups and families or individuals who support saving animals vs killing.

If you look at the shelters stats for 2022 (<https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/77478/CCAS-December-22-Stats?bidId=>),

Total numbers of dogs intake to the shelter - 2589, 795 were reclaimed by owners, thus, intake of unclaimed dogs is 1809

Out of 1809 dogs THE CCAS adopted out 814

738 dogs have been transferred. Transfers are dogs that go to rescue groups (and sometimes other shelters).

CCAS "humanely euthanized" (killed) 229 dogs.

If rescue groups and the community didn't make everything possible and impossible to save dogs on the kill list, the number of "humanely euthanized" would have been approximately 552 more dogs (on average 11 dogs per week), and it would've made a number of killed dogs to 801 (or more).

What would "live release" rate be in that case? If 801 out of 1809 would have been killed, would it be 91%?

It is even harder situation with cats. Since I don't do cat rescue, I can't give an accurate picture.

We all pay our taxes and each city pays into the budget of CCAS.

We all sponsor the work of CCAS and want it to be the service all residents, both human and animals, deserve.

CCAS has many employees and staff to conduct its' work, to work with the community, they have communications director, shelter directors and deputy director, veterinarians, dog behavior specialists, facility and money to do the job. And they have volunteers!

Rescue groups and rescue individuals do not have access to taxpayers dollars, they are not paid for the work to save animals, they do it at their free time and with their own money. Community supports those efforts with donations and networking. And they take care (adopt out or care for as long as needed) almost 50% of all dogs that come to the shelter (and, actually, they also help in placing stray dogs and preventing dogs entering the shelter).

Wouldn't it be more productive and healthier if the community efforts were focused on creative possibilities to improve lives in our county, rather than on doing what governmental services supposed to do and spend personal money on what the governmental funds have been allocated for?

There are many issues that have to be brought to light and discussed re. management of CCAS, at the moment I am trying to draw your attention to the fact that many healthy adoptable animals are being killed and their lives (as well wellbeing of the human community members) are in jeopardy.

Considering that the governor of California is for making California "no kill state," he understands importance of it for the state and its citizens, and passed AB 132.

It is wrong for Contra County not to take immediate steps in the right direction.

Contra Costa Community needs support of elected officials and governmental entities to change the situation with ongoing crises with animal services.

I respectfully ask each of you:

1. Make a call to halt the killing of these 25 dogs over next two weeks to give rescue community time to find them placements
2. Help/request a moratorium on killing animals in the shelter (dogs and cats) and composing lists for "humane euthanasia") at least for a few weeks while figuring out a different approach to address an overpopulation of animals at the shelter
3. Go to the shelter and see for yourself how things are
4. Evaluate budget and operational practices of the CCAS
5. Inform members of your communities re. the situation with animal services and problems with animals care
6. Meet with rescue community to discuss the situation in depth and follow up with rescue groups and see the outcome of their work with saved animals
7. Establish Citizen Advisory Board with power to develop and revise CCAS/shelter operational policy and work
8. Work with the rescue community and CCAS to develop a plan to improve animal care in Contra Costa County, because it has a serious impact on overall health and well being of a community

Rescue community has a lot of information, ideas/suggestions, and a wealth of experience that can (and should) be utilized.

Sincerely,

Irina Dyatlovskaya
Contra Costa County resident

~~510-597-0072~~

P.S. I will be sending you information re. animals that face death in the county animal services , and maybe each of you can help to save at least one or two lives.

June McHuen

From: Lisa Kirk <lilika07@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 17, 2023 7:43 AM
To: Clerk of the Board
Subject: Please include this as a public comment into the Board of Supervisors packages.

<https://www.facebook.com/100002087322997/posts/pfbid0n8JcJyyK6qrDUd8oWSXn7gSzE9dEDCEiENvW8wif1tdavD2DgBi2rE1DtMTzHpBol/?sfnsn=mo&mibextid=6aamW6>

Good Morning Supervisors,

Attached is the euthanasia list for the large breed dogs at Contra Costa Animal Services.

I did connect with your animal service director Beth Ward and she did NOT receive the \$200,000 Grant from Petco Love for an animals for behaviorist to help evaluate these animals. Again nonprofits are doing the evaluation and the pulling. These are healthy dogs that are being euthanized for lack of evaluation by Animal Services and under a concept called Capacity for Care. Which is a the policy that has been adopted by the county.

Animal Services did receive a \$200,000 Grant to hire another marketing and communication person.

Which is a bit confusing considering you already have a position in Animal Services that is considered "media". This grant was under UC Davis Korets shelter medicine aka Cal animals. Apparently 59 million that was given by the governor through the state budget did allow for funding positions. This funding would be better realized if it was for vets and vet assistance.

Again there has been no additional funding to assist the public with spay and neuters of their animals creating this large overpopulation of domestic animals in this County.

Please share this list with your constituents so that these lives can be saved.

Thank you Lisa Kirk Contra Costa SPCA