

MAYOR THOM BOGUE  
VICE MAYOR TED HICKMAN  
COUNCILMEMBER STEVE BIRD



COUNCILMEMBER DEVON MINNEMA  
COUNCILMEMBER SCOTT PEDERSON  
CITY TREASURER WESLEY ATKINSON

July 12, 2018

The Honorable John B. Ellis, Presiding Judge  
Solano County Superior Court  
Department 23, Room 306  
600 Union Avenue  
Fairfield, CA 94533

**Re: 2017-2018 Grand Jury Report Entitled: Animal Care/Animal Control**

Dear Judge Ellis:

As required by California Penal Code section 933.05, the City of Dixon (the "City") Police Department submits to you the following responses to the findings and recommendations received from the Solano County Civil Grand Jury regarding the above-referenced Civil Grand Jury Report.

**FINDINGS:**

**Finding 1:** Members of Solano Animal Control Authority (SACA) indicated concern with the contract and lack of cooperation from Humane Animal Services (HAS) in providing appropriate fiscal information.

**Response:** The City agrees with the finding.

**Finding 2:** Licensing is the law, not a choice. All interviewed enforcement agencies admitted that implementing licensing laws is a low priority.

**Response:** The City agrees with the finding.

**Finding 3:** Animal Care/Animal Control services in Solano County are not consistent or easily accessed.

**Response:** The City partially disagrees with the finding. It is true that Animal Care/Animal Control services in Solano County may not be consistent between agencies. However, the City has no influence as to how other cities handle such services. As with other services, it is a jurisdiction-by-jurisdiction decision on how to handle Animal Care/Animal Control services. The City can only speak to and

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influence the delivery of services within our jurisdiction. To that end, it is our belief residents within the city of Dixon do receive consistent Animal Care/Animal Control services.

**Finding 4:** There is no effective program in Solano County to ensure animal license enforcement and compliance.

**Response:** The City agrees with the finding.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**Recommendation 1:** SACA, the contracting party, review, renegotiate and rethink the existing contract. SACA send out requests for proposals to find an agency that provides appropriate fiscal information.

**Response:** SACA is in the process of implementing the recommendation. SACA requested proposals for contracted animal control service. Two providers submitted proposals. Those were from the Solano County Sheriff's Office and Humane Animal Services. A determination has not been made at this time. The timeframe for the final decision is expected to be less than six months.

**Recommendation 2:** Law enforcement agencies review policies and ensure that pet owners are aware of and follow the state, county and city regulations.

**Response:** The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the near future. The City and Dixon Police Department are in the process of updating their web pages. It is the City's intent to include public information related to pet licensing, as well as Animal Control/Animal care services. That information would include the law(s) pertaining to pet licensing and the process to license pets. The timeframe to completion is six months.

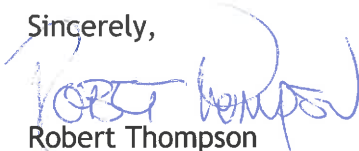
**Recommendation 3:** The cities in Solano County develop a communication system that connects all responding agencies and allows citizens to access needed assistance with a single call.

**Response:** The City will not implement the recommendation because it is not reasonable. Although it is true that Animal Care/Animal Control services are not consistent throughout Solano County cities, the City has no control or input as to how other cities or the County handle such services. For other services, there is not a current communication system that connects all responding agencies and allows citizens to access needed assistance with a single call. It would not be reasonable to do so for Animal Care/Animal Control services.

**Recommendation 4:** The cities and the county collaborate on a plan to address license enforcement and compliance.

**Response:** This recommendation requires further analysis. The City of Dixon will encourage member agencies of the Solano County Animal Control Authority, as a body, to develop strategies to address these issues. It is the intention of the Dixon delegate to SACA to bring this issue forward on behalf of the City of Dixon.

Sincerely,



Robert Thompson  
Chief of Police