



**Communications/SCGTV Office**  
2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way  
Building C, Room 301  
Viera, Florida 32940

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**TO:** Jim Liesenfelt, Interim County Manager  
**FROM:** Don Walker, Director of Communications  
**SUBJ:** Citizen Efficiency and Effectiveness Recommendation #2025012

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CEER #2025012, titled New Management for County Animal Control, was received by the County from Karen Plunkett.

**Citizen Statement:**

Management of the animal shelter needs improvement. There are fewer kennels for the dogs now that the county shelter in Titusville is closed. No extra kennels were added to the south shelter to accommodate the extra intake of dogs. This has resulted in the kennels being doubled up and dogs being exposed to hot sun, smaller spaces and less exercise.

This management never provides extra programs to assist citizens with pet issues such as spaying and neutering or microchips, all which would not only help the citizens and their pets but also help keep intake to the shelter lower. This management also can takes days before they show stray cats and dogs on their website. If the animals were shown right away there is a better chance of keeping the population down in the shelter. This management has an unfavorable program of doing an adoption lottery on the last day of stray hold rather than trying to match the right pet with the right home. Our shelter has an unusually high rate of adoption returns, as a result. Also, the lottery is so unfavorable that many people are so disappointed in being a loser that they will not go back again to adopt. For every full adoption lottery that is held there are nine losers. Not the way to win over the public.

**Citizen Recommendation:**

If the Brevard Humane Society in Cocoa or the SPCA in Titusville would manage the county shelter, the image of the shelter would improve greatly. We already see outreach from these organizations. They show they care about the animals in their care by trying to match them up with adopters as well as the kennels are kept so much cleaner and pleasant. There is just no doubt that they would improve things for the animals and the citizens of Brevard. They have way more experience in running a shelter

**Staff Analysis:**

This recommendation was forwarded to the Brevard County Sheriff's Office on 2/17/25.



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**Staff Recommended Action:**

Pursuant to BCC-95, Section III.C.2, the County Manager summarily recommends that the Board of County Commissioners reject CEER #2025012 as Brevard County Animal Shelters are not under the Board's jurisdiction.

CC: Frank Abbate, County Manager

## Horst, Rachel

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**From:** CEER@brevardfl.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2025 4:37 PM  
**To:** Horst, Rachel  
**Subject:** A new CEER Recommendation has been submitted as ID #2026012

### Recommendation # 2026012

Dear CEER Administrator,

Speak Up Brevard Recommendation ID #2026012 has been submitted. Please login to the CEER Application to start the recommendation evaluation workflow.

#### Contact Information:

##### Group/Organization

**Name** Karen Plunkett  
**Address** 2223 Spring, Cocoa FL 32926 6418  
**Phone** (321) 693-1252  
**Email** lancenkaren1@earthlink.net  
**Alternate Email**

#### Recommendation Information:

**Recommendation ID** 2026012  
**Recommendation Title** New management for county animal shelter  
**Areas Affected** County animal shelter - not animal enforcement  
**Department Affected** ANIMAL SERVICES & ENFORCEMENT DEPARTMENT  
**Current problem** Management of the animal shelter needs improvement. There are fewer kennels for the dogs now that the county shelter in Titusville is closed. No extra kennels were added to the south shelter to accommodate the extra intake of dogs. This has resulted in the kennels being doubled up and dogs being exposed to hot sun, smaller spaces and less exercise. This management never provides extra programs to assist citizens with pet issues such as spaying and neutering or microchips, all which would not only help the citizens and their pets but also help keep intake to the shelter lower. This management also can takes days before they show stray cats and dogs on their website. If the animals were shown right away there is a better chance of keeping the population down in the shelter. This management has an unfavorable program of doing an adoption lottery on the last day of stray hold rather than trying to match the right pet with the right home. Our shelter has an unusually high rate of adoption returns, as a result. Also, the lottery is so unfavorable that many people are so disappointed in being a loser that they will not go back again to adopt. For every full adoption lottery that is held there are nine losers. Not the way to win over the public.

**Recommendation**

If the Brevard Humane Society in Cocoa or the SPCA in Titusville would manage the county shelter, the image of the shelter would improve greatly. We already see outreach from these organizations. They show they care about the animals in their care by trying to match them up with adopters as well as the kennels are kept so much cleaner and pleasant. There is just no doubt that they would improve things for the animals and the citizens of Brevard. They have way more experience in running a shelter

**Attachments**

No Documents were attached.

Please do not reply to this e-mail, as it will go to an unmonitored mailbox.