

Katherine Douglas

Public Comment - Group 1

6



From: betty skatoff <bskatoff@earthlink.net>
Sent: Saturday, May 10, 2025 10:51 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: SB County Animal Services

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Chair Capps and Members of the Board:

I have been volunteering at animal shelters for almost 30 years (mostly in the Bay Area).

When I moved here 9 years ago, I started volunteering at the SB County shelter in Santa Maria and I can say that I have seen great improvements and advances in the way the shelter manages their operation and cares about their mission. The current staff and volunteers at the shelter are totally dedicated, passionate and determined to provide the best care for the medical, emotional and behavioral needs of the shelter animals--ultimately to either return the animals to their homes or find them new loving homes. They are committed to innovation and new programs to find new and better ways to bring greater success to their operation.

Some might believe that they are "just animals". But companion animals have become an integral part of families and contribute to a happier, healthier life for those who love them.

Case in point...I happened to walk into the shelter lobby one day when a lost dog had just been reunited with his Mom. It was unbelievable to watch. The woman was sobbing uncontrollably and the dog was jumping all over her. What a special moment.

I know that budgets are tight but I want to implore you to consider that the shelter provides an incredibly valuable set of services to the community.

Thank you for listening.
Betty Skatoff, SB County Animal Services Volunteer

Katherine Douglas

From: Gail Teton-Landis <gail@teton-landis.org>
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2025 11:39 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment for Items 6 and 8

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Item 6.

Sarah Aguilar, her staff, and the many volunteers that help with Animal Services are doing a fantastic job. It takes big-hearted and dedicated people to work with animals. Their innovations such as play groups, day fostering and the pet pantries all point to the inspired work they are doing. The services they provide, such as microchipping, fostering and adoptions all make for happy, healthy pets and humans. I know this personally because, of our experience working with Sarah and Animal Services. When a man in Solvang had a debilitating stroke, he was placed in a rehabilitation home in Santa Barbara. His dog had already been sent to the North County shelter. Sarah went out of her way to bring Amber, his dog, down from Santa Maria to Santa Barbara so that the owner could see her, with the hope of finding a foster who would take the dog to visit her owner regularly. My husband and I fostered Amber, and I did indeed bring her to visit her owner once a week. How fortunate are we to have people, such as Sarah who, when someone doesn't have family that can help, such as the man from Solvang, can step-in and act with intelligence and compassion.

Please fully support their work.

Thank you

Item 8

As the birthplace of the environmental movement, it is time for Santa Barbara County to phase out oil and gas production/facilities. Santa Barbara County has a goal to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions in half by 2030, but it can't meet that goal without phasing out these facilities. We also need to include oil and gas production in the climate action plan that tracks our greenhouse gas emissions because otherwise what we are recording

there's no relationship to the reality of what is happening in our county. If LA County can do this, then we can too.

Thank you

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gail".

Gail Teton-Landis
(She/Her)
Santa Barbara County
gail@teton-landis.org
(805)448-2572