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Sarah Mayer

Public Comment - Group 2

From: ~~denise@wegotpuppies.com~~
Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2024 10:06 PM
To: Villalobos, David
Subject: Rooster Ordinance
Attachments: roosters 3121 Avena Rd 2.jpg; rooster 3333 Avena Rd 2.jpg

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.

January 3, 2024

Dear Madams and Sirs and Chairman Williams,

I am writing today with concerns of the ever-growing population of roosters that are being housed in Cebada Canyon. I never thought I would be dealing with a complaint of over 100 roosters being housed on individual properties. This only spells out one thing, "cock fighting". To me this is right up there with dog fighting, raising an animal for one specific reason, to fight, cruelty to the max.

This all started with one property 3121 Avena Rd, when the property was purchased from Bobby Fedor who's cannabis growing operation burned to the ground in 2022. So Let's start a rooster operation!

Who would have thought in Santa Barbara County we would be talking about this and now addressing an ordinance. The people housing the roosters are now changing their story to say they are showing the birds. If this is the case, let's see 4-H show pictures. All parents proudly display pictures of their kids at 4-H with their animals, be it a goat, pig, cow or a chicken.

These Roosters are not for breeding or showing. People don't usually like roosters around because they can over breed a hen and end up killing her. People do not buy eggs for consumption that are fertile.

If they are breeding these roosters for resale, running a business in our neighborhood, then they need to obtain a CUP through the county. Plus there are workers at these locations tending to the birds, this is not a "family operation", it's a business.

The other morning, I was up early letting my dogs out around 6 am, the cacophony of roosters crowing was so loud and coming from every direction. The crowing goes on all day, anything sets them off. There is one property 2 doors down, he has several roosters and that small amount is crowing all day.

Anyone with chickens knows that they attack RATS. They are after the chicken feed. If you are living next to one of these properties, good chance they will be infested with rats as well. These roosters are housed in cages close enough to encourage aggression. These are small enclosures.

In today's market/mind set, everything is "range free", grass fed, down to us using paper straws. These birds are kept in cages 24/7.

There are 3 locations now in our canyon that have numerous birds (over 100), too many for just a family consumption of eggs and chickens.

This noise nuisance is something that is directly affecting the housing prices, the noise nuisance must be disclosed when selling a house.

I ask you to please reduce the number of roosters to the max of 5 per property. This is very generous, considering no one even needs 5 roosters.

California passed proposition 12 effective January 2022 that all chicken are to be cage free, but it is up to the individual cities/counties to regulate their own rules on the amount of chickens allowed on properties.

If roosters are allowed to roam free they would kill each other, so I ask again why so many caged roosters?

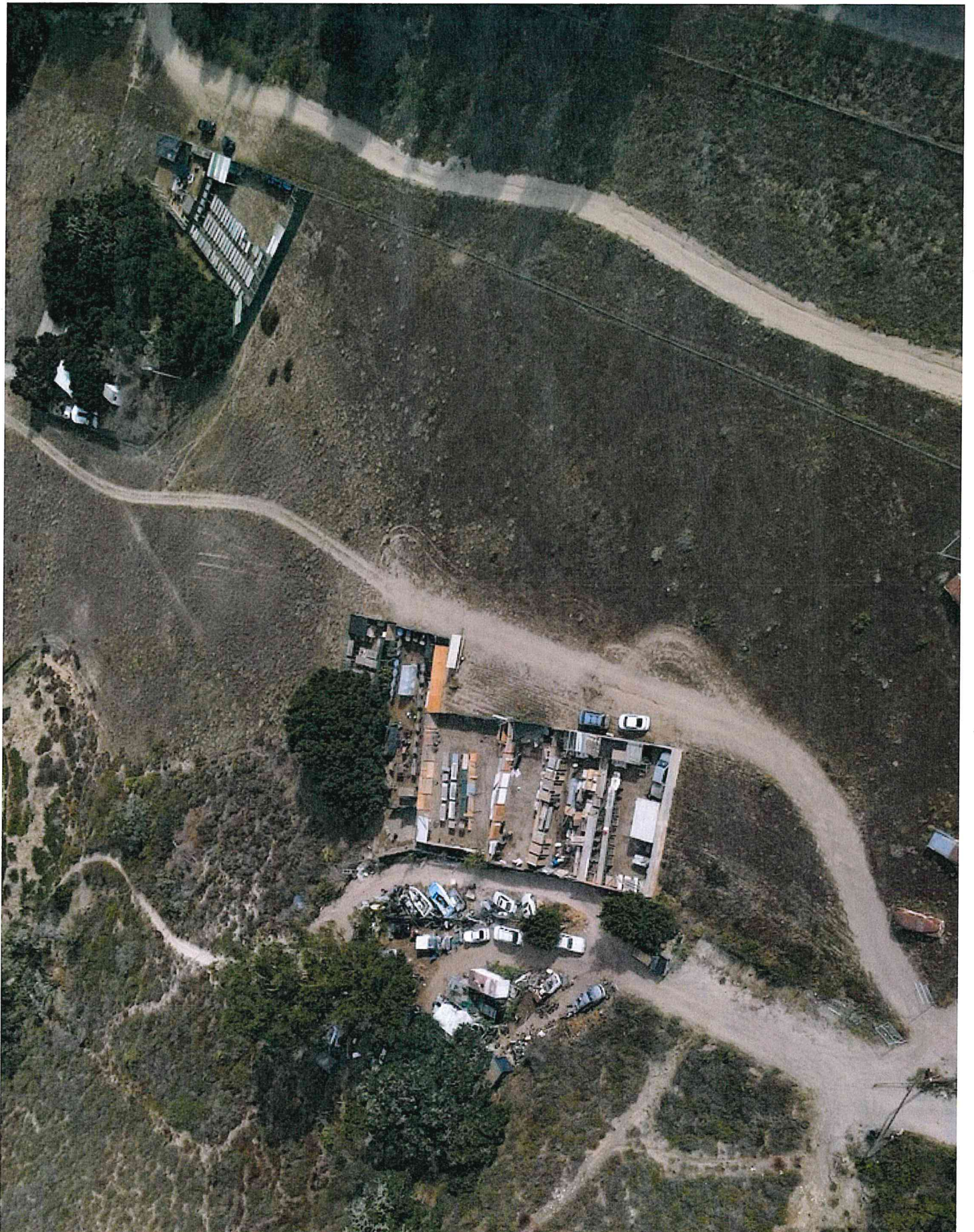
Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this ever-growing problem.
“Please keep my name and address confidential for fear of retribution.”

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Canyon Spring Ranch Poodles





Sarah Mayer

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 4, 2024 11:14 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: David Villalobos - Rooster Ordinance

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Supervisor Villalobos,

While the Rooster Ordinance is a step in the right direction I respectfully request you consider additional conditions to discourage those who seek to operate illegal cockfighting operations under the guise of raising chickens.

My wife was born and raised in New Mexico, a state that has been plagued with cockfighting operations, even after it was finally outlawed. The crime and noise that go hand in hand with cockfighting creates ongoing problems for neighbors and communities as well as animal control and law enforcement. Some of our rural areas in Santa Barbara County can easily be used as secluded, nighttime cockfighting locations.

The enclosed article from the LA Times is about a fairly recent cockfighting operation in Riverside County.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my concerns. Please do not publicly disclose my name.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
Santa Ynez.

https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&ved=2ahUKEwjsgcqhscSDAxUwi-4BHVjWAFmQFnoECckQAQ&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.latimes.com%2Fcalifornia%2Fstory%2F2022-08-09%2F143-roosters-euthanized-riverside-county-sheriffs-bust-illegal-cockfighting-event-jurupa-valley&usg=AOvVaw14xjG8j_gyld44zpD_y0CU&opi=89978449

Sent from my iPad

Sarah Mayer

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 4, 2024 1:41 AM
To: Das Williams; sbcob; Joan Hartmann; Bob Nelson; Laura Capps; sbcob; Steve Lavagnino
Subject: Fwd: Rooster ordinance
Attachments: ROOSTER ORDINANCE.pdf; CHAPTER 4.1. KEEPING OF ROOSTERS.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Please see attached and forward to Supervisor Hartman, Supervisor Nelson, Supervisor Williams, Supervisor Capps and Supervisor Lavagnino.

We ask to keep our name, physical address and email address confidential for fear of retribution.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Chapter 4.1 attachment is example from The County of Solano.

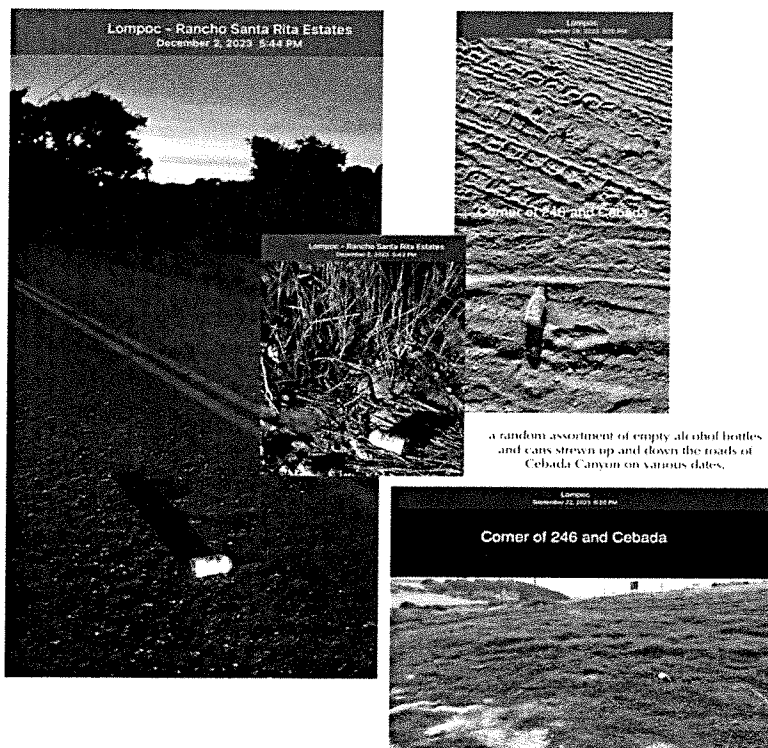
January 4th, 2024

Dear Honorable Supervisors,

We are writing to address the upcoming rooster ordinance and asking you to reduce the number of roosters allowed on AG1 and AG2 properties. Large collections of roosters also known as cocks, are prevailingly used for the nefarious sport of cock fighting. As of 2021 cockfighting is an illegal crime in all 50 states... It is also illegal to be a spectator at fights in 43 states, possess or sell birds for fighting in 39 states and to possess animal fighting paraphernalia in 29 states. California penal code 59 makes it a misdemeanor offense to engage in cockfighting, defined as causing cocks (roosters) to fight or be injured for amusement or profit and conviction is punishable by up to one year in jail and up to \$10,000 in fines.

Besides being cruel to animals, cockfighting is closely connected to other crimes such as gambling, drugs and acts of violence. Bets on the fights can range from a few hundred to thousands of dollars, depending on the reputation of the breeder's birds. Attendees can sometimes even purchase box seats the way you would for a sporting event.

Illegal weapons have also been found at cockfights because of the large amounts of cash present, and law enforcement raids across the country have established that cockfights are well attended by gang members, further encouraging violence and illegal drug use. To avoid suspicion, organizers regularly move the events to new locations. Despite these unsettling facts, cockfights often inspire a party-like atmosphere in which entire families gather, including children. Locally we have found collections of empty beer cans and other empty alcoholic beverages strewn along the winding canyon roads and specifically on the corner of Hwy 246 and Cebada Canyon Road.



Cock fighting is brutal animal cruelty, a disregard for animal population control and an audible nuisance at all hours of the day and night.

Roosters crow all day long and even at night, it's not simply a dawn alert. They crow anytime they feel their power threatened (like when you enter the coop, when they hear a car start up, when a dog barks, when a diurnal or nocturnal predator is nearby, when another rooster crows, when the radio turns on... the crow situation is endless and exhausting.

Out of a fear of retribution, we ask to remain anonymous.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

CHAPTER 4.1

KEEPING OF ROOSTERS

§ 4-100.	Purpose
§ 4-110.	Definitions
§ 4-120.	Rooster keeping
§ 4-130.	Tethering prohibited
§ 4-140.	Violations and penalties

Sec. 4.100. Purpose

The intent of this chapter is to limit the number of roosters that may be kept on a single parcel, to eliminate the potential for a public nuisance, illegal cockfighting and the raising of birds to be used for cockfighting and for the protection of the health and safety of the residents of Solano County.

(Ord. No. 1719, §1)

Sec. 4.110. Definitions

The following terms are defined for purposes of this chapter:

- (a) Rooster means any male chicken who is:
 - (1) Six months or older; or
 - (2) Has full adult plumage; or
 - (3) Capable of crowing.
- (b) Law enforcement officer means the Sheriff or any person authorized to act on his or her behalf in the enforcement of this chapter.
- (c) Public office means the Agricultural Commissioner or any person authorized to act on his or her behalf in the enforcement of this chapter and the Animal Care Manager or any person authorized to act on behalf of Animal Care Services in the enforcement of this chapter.

(Ord. No. 1719, §1)

Sec. 4.120. Rooster keeping

(a) No person shall keep, maintain or harbor five or more roosters on any property within unincorporated Solano County. This section shall not apply to commercial poultry ranches whose primary commodity is the production of eggs or meat for sale as permitted by the County, public or private schools as registered with the California Department of Education, FFA or 4-H sponsored projects, or to legitimate poultry

hobbyists as approved in writing by the Agricultural Commissioner or any person authorized to act on his or her behalf.

(b) The limit imposed under subdivision (a) is suspended until September 1, 2011, to allow a property owner and any person occupying or leasing the property or the property of another reasonable time to reduce the number of roosters kept on their property.

(c) Each individual bird beyond the four rooster limitation constitutes a separate violation.

(d) Rooster enclosures shall have a minimum set back from adjacent residences of 50 feet.

(e) Nothing in the foregoing is to be construed as approving the keeping of any poultry in contravention of any statute, zoning ordinance, or other law.

(f) At all times, roosters shall be provided:

(1) Access to water and shelter from the elements (rain, wind, direct sun, etc.);

(2) Sufficient room to spread both wings fully and to be able to turn in a complete circle without any impediment and without touching the side of an enclosure; and

(3) Clean and sanitary premises that are kept in good repair.

(g) The Agricultural Commissioner may establish written regulations and standards necessary to carry out the intent of this chapter and may condition any approval based on compliance with the written regulations and standards. Failure of any property owner and any person occupying or leasing the property or the property of another to comply with any of the provisions of this chapter or applicable law, or the regulations and standards of the Agricultural Commissioner shall constitute good cause for the denial of any approval, either original or renewal, or for its revocation.

(Ord. No. 1719, §1)

Sec. 4.130. Tethering prohibited

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person shall maintain any rooster by means of a tether attached to an object. Each individual bird so tethered constitutes a separate violation.

(Ord. No. 1719, §1)

Sec. 4.140. Violations and penalties

(a) Any law enforcement officer or public officer may issue a Notice to Appear Citation to the property owner and any person occupying or leasing the property or premises of another for violation of this chapter.

(b) A property owner and any person occupying or leasing the property or premises of another, who violates any provision of this chapter is guilty of an infraction. Each day, or any portion, a violation exists may be a new and separate offense. The first three violations on the same property within one year may be considered infractions and may be punished as follows:

(1) For conviction of the first citation, a fine of up to one hundred (\$100.00) dollars for each violation, plus any additional penalties assessed by the court;

(2) For conviction of the second citation, a fine of up to two hundred (\$200.00) dollars for each violation, plus any additional penalties assessed by the court;

(3) For conviction of the third citation, a fine of up to five hundred (\$500.00) dollars for each violation, plus any additional penalties assessed by the court. [Government Code section 25132.]

(c) If the number of convictions of this chapter on the same property exceeds three, the property owner and any person occupying or leasing the property or premises of another is guilty of a misdemeanor and may be punished as follows:

(1) By a fine of not more than five hundred (\$500.00) dollars;

(2) By imprisonment in the County jail for a term of not more than six (6) months; or

(3) By both such fine and imprisonment.

(d) Notwithstanding subdivisions (a), (b) and (c), the District Attorney may file a misdemeanor for any violation of this chapter. In addition, the County Counsel may seek any legal or equitable relief as permitted under law.

(Ord. No. 1719, §1)

Sarah Mayer

From: LAURIE GENTRY <dogpackleader@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 3, 2024 5:40 PM
To: Villalobos, David
Subject: Santa Barbara County Rooster Ordinance

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 Mr. Villalobos,

I'm writing to you as a homeowner on Wild Oak Road in Cebada Canyon, regarding my concerns over the rooster situation. There are numerous reasons why this is a problem for us.

1. There is no good reason for anyone to own more than 4 or 5 roosters. It is well known that keeping large quantities of roosters means cockfighting. The sport is extremely cruel and most definitely animal abuse. These birds are usually kept in small, confined spaces, which are often inadequately sheltered and unsanitary. Again, this is inhumane. They are sentient beings that feel cold, heat, pain, etc.
2. The constant crowing generates noise 24/7. Although we are not adjacent to the rooster properties, we can often hear the crowing echoing across the canyon. It must be constant torture for the neighbors directly adjacent.
3. I think it is safe to say that most everyone living in Cebada Canyon is there to enjoy the quiet and the 'normal' sounds of nature. Not the noise pollution generated by hundreds of roosters crowing all day and night.
4. Neighbors have had difficulty selling their property because the roosters have to be disclosed. Who would willingly and knowingly buy a property knowing what you'd be listening to all day and night? As you might expect, this has affected property values in the canyon.
5. Cebada Canyon (and Tepusquet Canyon) are EDRN's. The breeding and sale of roosters is a business, is it not? In which case, it should require a CUP to operate. Any project or business in an EDRN "should not be detrimental to the comfort, convenience, general welfare, health and safety of the neighborhood".

Thank you for considering these points.

Respectfully,
Roy and Laurie Gentry