

# BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MICHAEL SANCHEZ, DISTRICT 1  
KEVIN GOSS, DISTRICT 2  
SHARON THRALL, DISTRICT 3  
LORI SIMPSON, DISTRICT 4  
JEFF ENGEL, DISTRICT 5



September 18, 2018

The Honorable Janet Hilde  
Presiding Judge  
Superior Court of California, County of Plumas  
520 Main Street, Room 104  
Quincy, CA 95971

Re: **RESPONSE TO 2017-2018 PLUMAS COUNTY GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT**

Dear Judge Hilde,

Please find the Plumas County Board of Supervisors response and comments to the 2017-2018 Plumas County Grand Jury final report written below:

## CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES REPORT

### **FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:**

#### Findings:

**Finding F1:** *"The 2017-2018 Plumas County Civil Grand Jury finds that there is no written Child Protective Services policy and/or procedures when a Foster Care Juvenile must be immediately removed from a Foster Care Home, placing the Foster Care Juvenile and/or members of the Foster Care Home in a precarious situation."*

**Response:** The members of the Plumas County Board of Supervisors agree with this finding.

#### Recommendations:

**Recommendation R1.** *"The 2017-2018 Plumas County Civil Grand Jury recommends that Board of Supervisors direct the Child Protective Services to create a workable, written policy and/or procedure when a Foster Care Juvenile needs to be immediately removed from a Foster Care Home."*

**Response:** This response has not yet been implemented, but will be within the next six months. The Board will direct the Child Protective Services to create a workable, written policy and/or procedures when Foster Care Juvenile needs to be immediately removed from a Foster Care Home.

## PLUMAS COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES

### **FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:**

#### **Findings:**

**Finding F1:** *"The 2017-2018 Plumas County Civil Grand Jury finds that an inoperable crematorium may be costing the County lost revenues from private cremations and adding to the operational costs of the Animal Shelter. Currently euthanized animals are stored in a freezer until disposed at a Nevada landfill."*

**Response:** Since this Finding does not address budgetary or personnel matters over which the Board of Supervisors has some decision-making authority, the Board respectfully declines to further respond. However, the Board of Supervisors did approve a contract for the repair and service of the crematorium on May 5, 2018 with American Crematory Equipment Company.

**Finding F2:** *"The 2017-2018 Plumas County Civil Grand Jury finds that the emergency power generator for the Animal Shelter is ineffective since it is not connected to the building. Furthermore, an operation manual is not available and employees are not trained on the operation of the generator."*

**Response:** Since the Finding does not address budgetary or personnel matter over which the Board of Supervisors has some decision-making authority, the Board respectfully declines to further respond.

**Finding F3:** *"The 2017-2018 Plumas County Civil Grand Jury finds that the security camera systems recording features are unusable due to a lost password preventing access to the system."*

**Response:** Since this Finding does not address budgetary or personnel matter over which the Board of Supervisors has some decision-making authority, the Board respectfully declines to further respond.

**Finding F4:** *"The 2017-2018 Plumas County Civil Grand Jury finds that the Animal Shelter security camera system is ineffective because the monitor showing the live feed from the six security cameras is located in a storeroom."*

**Response:** Since this Finding does not address budgetary or personnel matter over which the Board of Supervisors has some decision-making authority, the Board respectfully declines to further respond.

**Finding F5:** *"The 2017-2018 Plumas County Civil Grand Jury finds that reports and records required by the State of California are manually recorded into a notebook rather than by computer making for an arduous and time-consuming process for employees."*

**Response:** Since this Finding does not address budgetary or personnel matter over which the Board of Supervisors has some decision-making authority, the Board respectfully declines to further respond.

**Finding F6:** *"The 2017-2018 Plumas County Civil Grand Jury finds that using jail inmates at the Animal Shelter is not practical because inmates cannot be properly supervised."*

**Response:** Since this Finding does not address budgetary or personnel matter over which the Board of Supervisors has some decision-making authority, the Board respectfully declines to further respond.

**Finding F7:** *"The 2017-2018 Plumas County Civil Grand Jury finds the Animal Control Supervisor is not included in the Sheriff Department budget process."*

**Response:** The members of the Plumas County Board of Supervisors believe the Animal Control Supervisor is included in the budget, including the current FY 2018-2019 budget process which the Board is currently conducting.

**Finding F8:** *"The 2017-2018 Plumas County Civil Grand Jury finds that the Animal Shelter's operational efficiency may improve with an office policy and procedure manual."*

**Response:** Since this Finding does not address budgetary or personnel matter over which the Board of Supervisors has some decision-making authority, the Board respectfully declines to further respond.

**Recommendations:**

**Recommendation R1.** *"The 2017-2018 Plumas County Civil Grand Jury recommends the Board of Supervisors commission a cost analysis study to determine which is the most cost effective, using the crematorium for cremations or disposing of animals at a landfill."*

**Response:** This recommendation requires further analysis. The Board of Supervisors approved a contract for the repair and service of the crematorium on May 1, 2018. As such, the Board will need to determine if the crematorium is still out of service and/or whether arrangements have been made to repair the crematorium prior to commissioning a cost analysis study. It is expected a determination can be made as to whether a cost analysis is needed within 60 days.

**Recommendation R2.** *"The 2017-2018 Plumas County Civil Grand Jury recommends the Board of Supervisors to direct the County Facility Services Department to connect the Animal Shelter generator to the building. Test the emergency operation, and develop operating instructions to train Shelter personnel in the use of the generator."*

**Response:** The Board of Supervisors will direct the Facility Services Department to connecting the generator to the building. It is expected the Recommendation will be implemented by the end of Fiscal Year 2018-2019.

**Recommendation R3.** *"The 2017-2018 Plumas County Civil Grand Jury recommends the Board of Supervisors direct the Department of Facility Service to resolve the password issue."*

**Response:** The Board of Supervisors will direct the Facility Service Department to investigate and resolve, if possible, any password issues with the security camera system. It is expected the Recommendation will be implemented by the end of Fiscal Year 2018-2019.

**Recommendation R4.** *"The 2017-2018 Plumas County Civil Grand Jury recommends the Board of Supervisors direct the Department of Facility Service to relocate the security camera system monitor to the front desk and relocate cameras for optimum surveillance."*

**Response:** The Board of Supervisors will direct the Facility Service Department to investigate the ability of relocating the security camera system monitor to the front desk and relocating any cameras needed for optimum surveillance, and if feasible, moving the monitor to the front desk and any cameras to optimum locations. It is expected the Recommendation will be implemented by the end of Fiscal Year 2018-2019.

**Recommendation R5.** *"The 2017-2018 Plumas County Civil Grand Jury recommends the Board of Supervisors authorize funds to purchase an Animal Shelter management computer program."*

**Response:** This response requires further analysis. The Board is currently engaged in the final budget process for the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 budget. The Sheriff's Office would need to locate a vendor and budget the cost of the software into its Fiscal Year 2018-2019 budget. Given the short timeline between this response and the mandatory date for adoption of the County's budget, it is not expected that this item will be included in the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 budget.

### Plumas County Jail

#### **FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:**

##### Findings:

**Finding F1.** *"The 2017-2018 Plumas County Civil Grand Jury finds that the current jail is antiquated and inadequate to meet the needs of today's inmate population."*

**Response:** The members of the Plumas County Board of Supervisors agree with this finding.

**Finding F2.** *"The County has been awarded a grant of 25 million dollars by the State of California to build a new jail."*

**Response:** The members of the Plumas County Board of Supervisors agree with this finding.

##### Recommendations:

**Recommendation R1-2.** *"The 2017-2018 Plumas County Civil Grand Jury recommends the Board of Supervisors, the Sheriff's Office and all other County Departments continue to work effectively*

*with the State to ensure the 25 million dollar granting process continues to move forward smoothly for the building of the new jail."*

**Response:** The Board of Supervisors responded to this recommendation on June 5, 2018 and that response is reiterated by the Board of Supervisors again in response to the Grand Jury Final Report. The Board of Supervisors agrees to continue working effectively with the State and to encourage all County Departments to continue to work toward the goal of successfully navigating the 25 million dollar granting process with the ultimate goal of building a new jail. The Board of Supervisors agrees the new jail is a needed addition for the County.

Respectfully submitted,

PLUMAS COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

By:   
Jeff Engel, Chair

cc: 1. Plumas County Clerk  
2. 2018-2019 Plumas County Grand Jury