

# COUNTY OF STOKES



## ADMINISTRATION

Post Office Box 20 • 1014 Main Street • Danbury, NC 27016 • [www.co.stokes.nc.us](http://www.co.stokes.nc.us)

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### OFFICIAL STATEMENT

August 23, 2024

RE: Recent Shelter Inspection and Construction of New Animal Shelter

On August 5, 2024, the NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services conducted an inspection at the Stokes County Animal Shelter. At the conclusion of the visit, the Shelter received a disapproved inspection result. The inspector listed several items as non-compliant surrounding three dogs in the care of the Shelter. Two of the dogs she listed were being treated for a cough. Staff treated each of the dogs but failed to document that the medicine was given. The isolation of the sick dogs was also not observed at that time. During their treatment, no other animals became sick. The third dog listed was given the proper medication, but documentation failed to be completed. This dog also had an ulcer above its eye that needed to be treated. The red-tinted water the inspector mentioned resulted from stained pans due to iron being in the water and the use of the pans over several years. The County conducted water tests, and the results showed no abnormalities and water was approved for consumption. There were absolutely no animals left suffering in kennels at any time. The Animal Control Staff and I take our jobs very seriously and the necessary changes have been made to make sure that these things don't happen in the future.

Regarding the planned construction of a new Animal Shelter: Project Manager Glenda Pruitt and Interim Manager Amber Brown had a meeting with Freeman Kennett Architects on July 17, 2024. The architect group had staffing changes and requested a meeting to introduce the new project manager. They reviewed the plans, and the architect group is continuing to work on the schematic design and construction documents. The County has reviewed the preliminary project schedule, and tentatively, bid documents are planned to go out in February of 2025 for the construction of the new animal shelter. The Finance Department has been in touch with the County's financial advisors, and they are working on a timeline for the deadlines for Local Government Commission (LGC) application which will primarily determine the bid advertisement date.

Amber Brown  
Stokes County Interim Manager