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Searching for news in Watkins, Bennett, Strasburg, Byers, Deer Trail and Agate

Wednesday, October 22, 2025

33 dogs taken from home north of 'Burg

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

STRASBURG — Almost three dozen canines were removed from reportedly horrific living conditions after local and state animal protection officers and Adams County Sheriff's deputies converged on a property about 10 miles north of Strasburg Oct. 15.

At about 11 a.m. Wednesday, authorities arrived at 9990 Defoe St., about a half-mile east of Strasburg Road.

Neighbors in the immediate area reported to *The I-70 Scout* that a large number of law enforcement and animal hauling vehicles had staged at 88th Avenue and Strasburg Road about 10 a.m.

According to an Adams County Sheriff's announcement, deputies supported Adams County Animal Management and Colorado Department of Agriculture Animal Health Division officers in following through with an inspection warrant under the

auspices of the state's Pet Animal Care & Facilities Act (PACFA) Program.

"During the investigation, 33 dogs were discovered living in poor conditions — the home was found to be filled with feces, creating a significant health hazard," the sheriff's office statement said. "Several dogs were also confined in kennels without access to water."

After determining the conditions were too severe for the canines, sheriff's office detectives obtained and executed a search warrant, which allowed their removal from the property.

Adams County Animal Management personnel transported the hounds to the west side Riverdale Animal Shelter near the Adams County Fairgrounds in Brighton for care and evaluation.

Officials with the shelter said the Strasburg situation is part of a growing trend of large-scale pet confisca-

**SEE DOGS RESCUED
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SUBMITTED PHOTO

Sheriff's deputies and investigators and animal management officers with Adams County gather at a staging area at the intersection of 88th Avenue and Strasburg Road before executing a search warrant and removing 33 dogs from a home a couple of miles away on Defoe Street Oct. 15.

Strasburg Grows Talent!



CARL STEITZ/For The Scout

Eighth-grader Lucille Garrett serenades her Venus flytrap with a rendition of "Grow for Me" from the 1986 scary comedy "Little Shop of Horrors" during the Strasburg Schools Talent Show at Mountain View Fellowship Oct. 10. **SEE PAGE 10.**



STEVEN VETTER/The I-70 Scout

Bennett's wastewater facility on the northwest corner of town is going through an almost \$30 million expansion to more than double its per-day capacity.

Bennett trustees balk at proposed \$1.2M add-on to wastewater project

by **Steven Vetter**
Managing Editor

BENNETT — Residents aren't the only ones with complaints about town of Bennett utility infrastructure projects as members of the board of trustees last week made it known they aren't happy with a recent engineering contractor's request for a significant change to ongoing wastewater expansion.

"I'm a little perturbed, I guess I'll say, that this wasn't addressed early on when we were in the design and bid period," said Bennett Mayor Pro Tem Kevin Barden after town staff presented a \$1.213 million change order for the municipality's wastewater reclamation expansion project during the Oct. 13 town board meeting. "[That's] roughly 4% of the overall project, that's a pretty damn big change order."

The additional expense regards the pro-

posed installation of four power conditioners to provide cleaner, more consistent electricity in all four buildings at the town's wastewater facility.

According to Bennett Capital Projects and Utilities Director Daniel Pershing, the town's engineering firm AQUA Engineering did not include the power massagers in the original project.

Barden, a construction industry veteran, took exception to the oversight.

"Why wasn't this considered when we did the design for the new plant or, even at the very least, put it out as a bid alternate?" he asked. "There's a lot of mark-up put on that for our contractor, I mean he's getting his change order pricing. Don't get me wrong, I feel the need for these conditioners — it's the right thing to do, the best thing to do. What I'm upset with is the process, the way

SEE CHANGE ORDER SCRUTINY

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