

Hello, my name is Rita Jessen. I live in the city of Winona.

I'm here today to comment about the puppy mills in Winona County.

Thank you for allowing a discussion about this issue.

I read the staff report....I and my friends have numerous questions, such as:

- What does the county know about dog breeding and canine health?
- Permit conditions vary widely - how can this be fixed?
- What are compliance measures?
- Why does the staff defer all animal welfare to the state and federal government, which has been proven to be ineffective?

I respectfully ask three things:

1. An in-depth study be done to look at this industry and the effect on the animals and the community.
2. A moratorium be adopted to stop new permits.
3. And that the public and canine health experts be allowed to participate in any discussion and recommendations.

Thank you.