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March 6, 2022

Deputy Michelle Reid  
Alpena County Animal Control  
Alpena, MI 49707

Dear Deputy Reid,

I'm writing to give my support for your plans to refurbish the old Alpena jail into an animal sheltering facility. As you may know, I have worked in animal welfare for over 30 years across the country with time spent as a Director with the ASPCA, San Diego Humane Society, and the Humane Society of Sedona. I also spent 10 years as the Executive Director of the Northwest Organization for Animal Help in WA where I led the efforts to build a new animal shelter from the ground up giving me knowledge and experience with a construction project like you are proposing.

In addition to my backing of this project for the betterment of the community, I also pledge to offer my volunteer support as needed with your planned refurbishing and opening of the new facility. I am impressed with your dedication and gladly join your efforts to continue your good work helping the animals in our community.

Respectfully,



Austin Gates