PROCEEDINGS OF THE
COCHISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SPECIAL MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2011 @ 11:00 A.M.
IN THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS EXECUTIVE CONFERENCE ROOM
LOCATED AT 1415 MELODY LANE, BUILDING G, BISBEE ARIZONA

NOTE: This meeting is a rescheduled meeting.
The originally scheduled Special Meeting on January 4, 2011 was not held.

Chairman Call called the Special Meeting of the Board of Supervisors to order at 11:05 a.m. All three supervisors were present: Pat Call, Chairman; Ann English, Vice-Chairman; Richard Searle, Supervisor. Also attending were Mike Ortega, County Administrator; Jim Vlahovich, Deputy County Administrator and Katie Howard, Clerk of the Board.

ACTION
Board of Supervisors

1. Review deferred 2010-11 Fiscal Year Decision Packages; discussion and possible action following presentation of the County Administrator's recommendations.

Mr. Ortega presented this item, using a PowerPoint presentation and stated that there was $7.6m in fiscal year 09-10 carryforward. There was a large expense out of new revenue in the amount of approximately $3.0m from previously approved Decision Packages. There were also a couple of other big expenditures, including $200,000 allocated each year for computer replacement fund. In addition to that, last year there was an additional $200,000 allocated to the backbone (IT infrastructure) project. Last year, BOS approved $1.8m for Highways also. The current year budget is carrying $4.0m for designated projects ($3.2m for Douglas project; $800,000 for other capital projects). CASS will have about $338,000in undesignated funds at this point.

He then showed the Board a slide which shows how the $3.0m in Decision Packages is broken down. He stated that the Department Directors with DPs are here today except for the Sheriff which he said he would cover.

He reminded the Board that he had requested departments to submit issues that they needed to have addressed in the near term. This is the opportunity for the Board to consider those requests. He added that this is a list of projects that we can afford, and are important to keep facilities up. He explained that the spreadsheet is broken down by ½ ct Sales Tax projects; Special Revenue funds and General Fund projects.

Supervisor Searle expressed frustration with the implementation of the Building Code and requested a placeholder to hire contractors to review the Building Code; Mr. Ortega suggested setting aside $25,000 and said he would bring back to the Board a separate conversation specific to the Building Code and what the Board wants to do.

Mr. Ortega then turned to the Facilities projects. Supervisor Searle had questions on #2 and #13. These were discussed. Ms. Karen Ferrara asked re: Item #1 for courthouse; LH Hamilton clarified that this figure does not include an engineer's costs; just to repair ceiling. Chairman Call asked re: #7, saying that he had no problem putting money to repairing structures, but he does have questions regarding remodeling kitchens and replacing carpets. He said he believes that in this sort of economic environment, the Board needs to spend money on things that are going to save us money. LH Hamilton stated that safety played a major factor in the recommendation for the carpet. The carpet and the kitchen remodel are not unreasonable requests. Carpet is a trip hazard—company that installed carpet did not place it correctly and went out of business one year later. The kitchen is a convenience versus a safety issue. Mr. Ortega suggested that they can delay the kitchen remodel; the Board agreed.

Chairman Call also asked re: #10 – moving court admin to unused portion (3rd floor) of the admin building. Ms. Ferrara explained that this was a request from the former Clerk and that it was a difficult decision. The Courts are so minimally staffed at this point, it would make sense to put it off. However, in discussions with Mr. Hamilton, this is a good time to get construction services—not a critical issue right now.

Mr. Ortega recommended approving the public defender request for furnishings for the conference room. The Sheriff's request is an ongoing discussion regarding remanded juveniles. Typically house 8-12 in the jail at any time; but because of separate housing requirements, it uses up a 24-bed pod. Also, there are ongoing costs ($500,000) to staff the facility. This Decision Package is for the reconstruction of Foothills facility and for staffing. The Sheriff has been talking with Pima Co. (costs are $90 per day); and I have been talking w/ Santa Cruz Co., he said. It would be <$300,000 to house them at Santa Cruz County versus a capital expenditure for improvements to Foothill and to staff facility. We have also considered buying space in Santa Cruz County, he told the Board. Foothills would be retrofitted to house adult prisoners and Colonia de Salud is used for adults. Plan is to move adults to Foothills and house juveniles at Colonia de Salud. Mr. Hamilton stated that the costs increase by 35-40% if plan were to house juveniles at Foothills because fire suppression and compressor would be required then (but are not required for adults).

Chairman Call clarified that we would not be using Colonia de Salud for housing adults; Mr. Hamilton confirmed. Chairman Call asked about whether the Board should spend the money to also provide fire safety at Foothills to give the County the flexibility to house either adults or juveniles at Foothills.

Mr. Ortega observed that after one year and lots of analysis, Foothills is much less expensive to construct than Tovreauville so discarded that idea. The capacity of Foothills is 18-19. The rules are that you cannot house remanded juveniles with non-remanded juveniles. We are having serious dialogues on this issue and there are high costs associated. Supervisor Searle commented that the remanded juveniles are housed at Bisbee, using a 24-bed pod and we would be spending $500,000 to gain six beds. Mr. Ortega stated that the 24 adult spaces would be freed in Bisbee. The 18 currently in Colonia de Salud would move to Foothills—that's a wash. So we would be spending $500,000 to gain 24 beds. Vice-Chairman English asked about progress toward expanding existing jail system in Bisbee. Mr. Ortega stated that they have schematics but haven't gone further because of the costs.

Mr. Ortega went on to report that the Sheriff's evidence computer crashed and he approved the expense to replace it; that money has already been spent. Chairman Call confirmed that the Sheriff currently uses Foothills for evidence storage; if we use space for housing inmates, would we be creating a problem for evidence storage for the Sheriff? Mr. Ortega confirmed that this was true.

Mr. Ortega then turned to the three Judicial Decision Packages, saying he is requesting approval; there were no questions.

Turning to Court Services and Court Administration, Mr. Ortega explained that the big ticket item is the server, but clarified that this is a placeholder and not a request before the Board today. Requests for Highways and Fleet, he said, he had approved ordering shelves ($12,000) because to wait would have cost us considerably more. He mentioned the CASS virtual office costs. The Sheriff's Decision Package for a replacement generator was due to a catastrophic failure of the generator that occurred for Administration and Sheriff's personnel. Supervisor Searle asked regarding the size of generator, pointing out that $220,000 is a lot of money for a generator. The actual generator is $61,000 but the total costs also include a 41kw battery backup. Brian Adamson, IT staff, explained that the Sheriff asked for battery backup and a generator, for redundant backup. The commercial power system failed and the generator backup failed. Chief Rothrock requested a battery backup that would run dispatch for 2-4 hours in event of a complete power failure. Mr. Hamilton explained that we are not looking at the generator at the jail. Current generator at the jail does not have sufficient capacity to also run administration and dispatch.

Chairman Call stated that the County has a liability issue. Mr. Ortega observed that the failure that occurred was a perfect storm. In conversations with IT, Facilities, Fleet and the Sheriff, I suggested building in some redundancy to ensure maintaining the communications, especially 9-1-1. Brian (IT) explained that the battery back-up is designed to take over in event of complete failure. Supervisor Searle stated that the cost breakdown is : $93k for installation and engineering; $61k is for generator and $63k is for battery back-up. Chairman Call stated that this is overkill, l especially in this economy. Mr. Ortega stated that we will move forward to exclude the battery backup.

Mr. Ortega spoke of the request by the Sheriff to convert or transfer 2 Part Time analysts to the General Fund in the sex offender unit and stated that he is again recommending against that. The Sheriff has significant concern with that. They are currently funding these positions out of other grant money. For the time being they are funded from a different grant but they don't know how long they will be funded. They may want to have more dialogue with you.

Mary Gomez reviewed differences in costs for the virtual office proposal; the net Year-1 costs are $6k; however, the ongoing savings are the same.

Mr. Ortega recapped the discussion with the Board today, saying that the recommendation is to approve all Decision Packages on page one (except for #7 and # 10) and on #13, to do that in phases (spending up to $20k this year). For the two proposals under the Sheriff's, for Foothills/Colonia de Salud, there would be no action taken. He added that he would bring back #s 7 and 10 in later budget cycles, if the department wants to pursue.

Regarding the Special Revenue Funds, Mr. Ortega said they would exclude the $200k for the server. Ms. Ferrara suggested that the courts need to revisit proposal. On the IT/Fund 450 requests, he said, they would exclude the battery backup. He said the personnel requests from Sheriff's would be denied.

Supervisor Searle moved to approve Mr. Ortega's recommendations as just outlined. Vice-Chairman English seconded the motion and it was appproved3-0.

There being no further business before the Board, Chairman Call adjourned the meeting at 12:13 p.m.

APPROVED: ______________________________
Patrick G. Call, Chairman

ATTEST: ______________________________
Katie A. Howard, Clerk of the Board