

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE
COCHISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SPECIAL MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2012 @ 11:30 A.M.
IN THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS EXECUTIVE CONFERENCE ROOM
LOCATED AT 1415 MELODY LANE, BUILDING G, BISBEE ARIZONA**

Chairman Searle called the Special Meeting of the Board of Supervisors to order at 11:30 a.m. All three supervisors attended: Richard Searle, Chairman; Pat Call, Vice-Chairman; Ann English, Supervisor. Also attending were Mike Ortega, County Administrator; Jim Vlahovich, Deputy County Administrator, James Conlogue, Presiding Superior Court Judge; Eric Silverberg, Court Administrator; Terry Bannon, Civil Deputy County Attorney; and Arlethe Rios, Assistant to the Clerk of the Board.

ACTION

ITEM 1

Discussion and direction on presentation by Judge James Conlogue on innovative Court cost savings programs and how they relate to the County's Cost Savings Program.

Mr. Michael Ortega, County Administrator, stated that at a recent Court meeting he heard Judge Conlogue's report and thought it would be of value to have him give a presentation to the Board.

This item was presented by Judge James Conlogue, Presiding Superior Court Judge. Judge Conlogue gave the Board an update on the Early Resolution Court (ERC) Program and discussed other cost savings programs like Deferred Incarceration Sanction, Consolidated Arraignment and Probation Calendars, Standardized Extradition Process, and the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative, that have been established by the judicial offices. He stated that the direct success of the programs were due to employee innovativeness and partnerships with other departments in the County. He also noted that jail costs were among the highest savings for the County as a result of these programs.

Mr. Ortega said that according to the numbers provided by the Courts and Jail staff approximately \$1,500,000 was saved in costs annually since the start of the ERC program including the jail, indigent defense and court related expenses.

Supervisor English stated that if employees came up with innovative ideas a percentage of the money saved should go back to the employees involved with the idea.

Judge Conglogue said that was the reason for his presentation, to recognize court employees for their ideas and efforts by compensating them with a one time \$500 distribution.

Mr. Ortega reviewed the rules established with the County's cost saving program and stated that with the number of judicial employees the onetime distribution could cost the general fund \$100,000. He explained that he would look specifically at compensating those employees involved that do not work for judicial and discuss the special revenue fund employee compensation with Mr. Silverberg.

Supervisor English made a motion to approve the use of funds from the County's Cost Saving Program for the ERC program and the other judicial cost savings programs for a distribution to be \$500 for each court employee and a maximum of \$150,000 of general funds for other related costs. Vice-Chairman Call seconded the motion.

Chairman Searle called for the vote; approved 3-0.

There being no further business before the Board, Chairman Searle adjourned the meeting at 12:17 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
Richard Searle, Chairman

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