

# COCHISE COUNTY

## Second Special Meeting Regarding Southeastern Arizona Communications Center Contractual Agreement Amendments

Edward Gilligan, County Administrator

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*Public Programs...Personal Service*

## Regional Communications Center Purpose

- Provide better public service through improved dispatch services across the County
- Improve efficiencies and realize an economy of scale to reduce overall cost of dispatch services to multiple jurisdictions



## SEACOM Structure is a Strength

- Equitable – principals and partners each have one vote on the Board
- All public safety leaders in member organizations have a voice on the Operations Committee
- The Center is professionally managed by an Executive Director



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# The Problem

- The current agreement fails to define the structure in a manner consistent with the intent of parties to the contract
- Many public safety leaders, including the Sheriff, feel marginalized



## Recommendation

- Do not move forward with the amendments as drafted
- Consider further amendments
  - Allow member organizations to select one representative to the Board of Directors
  - Require approval of the governing bodies of the principals to ratify the funding metric and increases to the total operating budget



## Recommendation Continued

- Consider further amendments
  - Work with the City of Sierra Vista to identify support functions which could be transferred from the County to the City
  - Require SEACOM to retain independent legal counsel
  - Maintain the advisory nature of the Operations Committee and the ability of committee members to elect a chairperson



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### County impact

- Expanded fiscal oversight
- The Board of Supervisors would select a representative to serve on the SEACOM Board
  - Consider appointing Sheriff Mark Dannels to that role
- Less responsibility for support functions

