

COCHISE COUNTY

Jail District Public Outreach Committee (JDC)

August 5, 2022

9:00 am, BOS Executive Conference Room



Public Programs...Personal Service

COCHISE COUNTY

Agenda Item 1:
Introductions



Public Programs...Personal Service

COCHISE COUNTY

Agenda Item 2: Selection of Officers – Chair & Vice Chair of JDC



Public Programs...Personal Service

COCHISE COUNTY

Agenda Item 3:
Presentation on Open Meeting Law



Public Programs...Personal Service

What is the Open Meeting Law?

Set of laws that were intended to:

- Maximize public access to the governmental process.
- Open deliberations and proceedings to the public.
- Prevent public bodies from making decisions in secret.
- Found at A.R.S. §§ 38-431 through -431.09



Why JDC Must Comply?

“Public Bodies” – A.R.S. § 38-431(6)

- All councils, boards, commissions of the state or political subdivisions, ***including advisory committees appointed by the public body***
- Advisory Committees defined as ***for purpose of making a recommendation concerning a decision to be made or a course of conduct to be taken by the public body***



What Must a JDC Do?

- Provide notice of a meeting
- Have an agenda
- Meet in public
- Permit public to attend
 - Exception: authorized executive sessions
- Take all action in public
- Post meeting minutes or a recording.



What is a Meeting?

- A.R.S. § 38-431(4)
- “Meeting” is a gathering, in person or through technological devices, of a quorum of a public body to
 - Discuss
 - Propose
 - Deliberate
 - Take legal action



Executive Sessions

A.R.S. §§ 38-431.03(A)(9)

- “Discussions or consultations with designated representatives of the public body in order to discuss security plans, procedures, assessments, measures or systems relating to, or having an impact on, the security or safety of buildings, facilities, operations, critical infrastructure information and information technology maintained by the public body.”
- Public excluded
- Must vote to enter executive session
- Discussion is confidential
- No action permitted!



If it's not on the agenda...

- You cannot discuss it!
- New items must wait for a future meeting.



Electronic Communications

- Electronic communications are treated the same as any other form of communication between committee members.
- Electronic communications exchanged among a quorum of the committee that involve discussion, deliberations, or taking legal action on matters that may come before the committee constitute a meeting and thus violate the open meeting law



Social Events & Seminars

- Members may attend social events where other members are present
- If this happens, members must refrain from discussing JDC business
- If a quorum is present, member(s) should leave so that there is no longer a quorum.



COCHISE COUNTY

Agenda Item 4:
**Presentation on Overview of Duties
and Responsibilities**



Public Programs...Personal Service

What is the Purpose of a Jail District?

- To acquire, construct, operate, maintain, and finance county jails and jail systems.
(ARS 48 - 4001)



How to Establish a Jail District?

- The Board of Supervisors may adopt a resolution after a public hearing where people who wish to appear can state whether they are in favor of or against establishing the jail district.
- After the hearing, the Board must determine the Jail District serves the needs of public interest, convenience, and necessity.



How to fund a Jail District?

- Voter approval is needed for either a property tax or excise tax.



What is the Goal for the Jail District Committee?

- To provide a recommendation to either establish or not to establish a Jail District by listening, questioning, and discussing information obtained from the presenters and a tour of the jail.



COCHISE COUNTY

Action Item 5: Approve the Timeline



Public Programs...Personal Service

Proposed Timeline of Meetings

*All meetings are on Fridays at 9:00 am
unless otherwise noted*

- August 19, 2022
- September 2, 2022
- September 16, 2022
- September 23, 2022 - Jail Tour Day, 8am to 11am
- October 7, 2022
- October 21, 2022 (if needed)



COCHISE COUNTY

Action Item 6: Overview of the Criminal Justice System



Public Programs...Personal Service

Why Are People in Jail?

- Doing bad things (criminal acts)
- Violations of court ordered sentence
- Arrest Warrant



How Many Jails Do We Have?

- Bisbee Jail
- Willcox Jail Substation
- Sierra Vista Jail Substation



COCHISE COUNTY

Action Item 7:
Jail Operations and Staffing



Public Programs...Personal Service

Executive Session

- Discussion relating to security plans, procedures, measures and systems relating to the security and safety of a building and operations maintained by the Sheriff's Office.



Next Meeting of JDC

- Next meeting date is ...
- The agenda will include presenters on ...

