

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COCHISE COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT
MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY, JULY 25, 2023**

A meeting of the Cochise County Flood Control District was held on Tuesday, July 25, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. in the Board of Supervisors' Hearing Room, 1415 Melody Lane, Building G, Bisbee, Arizona.

Present: Peggy Judd, Chairman; Tom Crosby, Vice-Chairman; Ann English, Supervisor

Staff Present: Richard G. Karwaczka, County Administrator
Sharon Gilman, Deputy County Administrator/Interim Clerk of the Board
Christine Roberts, Chief Civil Deputy County Attorney
Lara Loewenheim, Deputy Clerk of the Board

Chairman Judd called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

ANY ITEM ON THIS AGENDA IS OPEN FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

THE ORDER OR DELETION OF ANY ITEM ON THIS AGENDA IS SUBJECT TO MODIFICATION AT THE MEETING

CONSENT

Board of Supervisors

1. Approve the Minutes of the Flood Control District meeting for July 11, 2023.

Supervisor English made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Item 1.
Vice-Chairman Crosby seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Engineering & Natural Resources

2. Hold a public hearing of the Flood Control District to receive public comment on proposed updates to the Cochise County Floodplain Regulations.

Chairman Judd opened the Public Hearing.

Supervisor English made a motion to adopt the proposed changes to the Flood Control District Floodplain Regulations. Vice-Chairman Crosby seconded the motion.

Tanya Bok spoke in opposition to this item and discussed the reasons.

Jackie Watkins, Engineering and Natural Resources Director, presented this item using a PowerPoint presentation. Ms. Watkins stated that the changes were to comply with the updates from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) and as stated in State Statute, and to comply with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Community Rating System which gives County residents a 5% discount in flood insurance. She stated that most of the changes are the agricultural definitions and agricultural requirements. The change to accessory structures are defined in the Federal Statutes which FEMA is requiring. Mr. Watkins stated that 3 additional people have submitted comments and these will be presented to the Board with the final version of the Floodplain Regulations in September. In response to the Board, Ms. Watkins stated that the last time the Floodplain regulations were updated was in 2015.

The Board and Ms. Watkins discussed eligibility and discounts on flood insurance as a result of these changes. Ms. Watkins stated that the new habitable structures will be required to be 1 foot above grade. She stated that most of the homes flooded last year were not in a mapped flood zone.

Vice-Chairman Crosby stated that FEMA is not in the constitution and anything justified by them is a Federal overreach. He expressed concern with the discount on flood insurance being a subsidy and all the FEMA regulations not being available for review. In response to Vice-Chairman Crosby, Ms. Watkins stated that the Regulations can control the development in a floodplain but will not prevent or control flooding.

Ms. Roberts stated that a motion was made to approve, this is not needed and can be struck.

Vice-Chairman Crosby made a motion to strike the previous motion. Supervisor English seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Chairman Judd closed the Public Hearing.

Chairman Judd adjourned the meeting at 10:14 a.m.

APPROVED:

Peggy Judd, Chairman

ATTEST:

Sharon Gilman, Interim Clerk of the Board