

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COCHISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2024**

A regular board meeting of the Cochise County Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, September 10, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. in the Board of Supervisors' Hearing Room, 1415 Melody Lane, Building G, Bisbee, Arizona.

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

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

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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 regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of August 27, 2024.
2. Approve a Proclamation designating September 17-23, 2024 as Constitution Week.
3. Approve a letter to the State Broadband Director, Sandip Bhowmick, supporting Allo Fiber's application for funding through the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program for all areas of Cochise County not designated under the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) program.
4. Approve an application for a Temporary Extension of Premises liquor license submitted by Alfonso Galindo for Palo Verde El Toro Steakhouse located at 3219B N. Washington Avenue, Douglas, AZ 85607, for the 9th Annual Palo Verde Stop N Go Cancer Awareness Fundraiser on October 12, 2024.
5. Accept a grant from the Legacy Foundation of Southeast Arizona as a pass-through for the Bowie Water District in the amount of 3,194.80.

Engineering & Natural Resources

6. Approve grant of easement to Arizona Public Service (APS) for parcel 408-34-008A for the new Land Port of Entry (LPOE) west of Douglas.

Finance

7. Approve demands and budget amendments for operating transfers.

Supervisor Judd made a motion to approve consent agenda items 1-7.
Vice-Chairman Crosby seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Development Services

8. Adopt Resolution 24-20 to select owner-occupied housing rehabilitation as the Cochise County CDBG Colonias Grant Application project.

Vice-Chairman Crosby made a motion to adopt Resolution 24-20 to select owner-occupied housing rehabilitation as the Cochise County CDBG Colonias Grant Application project. Supervisor Judd seconded the motion.

Susan Bronson, Planner I, presented this item using a PowerPoint presentation. Ms. Bronson stated the Arizona Department of Housing (ADOH) is offering a competitive Colonia Grant, available only once every two years. She stated the grant requires the project to be located in a Colonias and must address specific needs like safety, potable water, or sewer systems. She stated there was a public meeting held where support was shown for the selection of owner-occupied housing rehabilitation, which seems to be the most feasible option given the current readiness and documentation. Ms. Bronson stated the City of Bisbee is interested in participating and has been preparing a waiting list of pre-qualified applicants.

Chairman English opened the Public Hearing.

In response to the Board, Ms. Bronson stated that the ADOH defines "shovel ready". She explained that for large construction projects, the term means having completed engineering plans and the required National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents, along with other approvals before requesting of a release of funds.

In response to the Board, Ms. Bronson stated that each individual house requires a smaller environmental review, called Appendix A and discussed the challenges of designating communities like Pirtleville as Colonia to access grant funds, as they must meet ADOH standards.

Melissa Hartman, Planner, City of Bisbee, stated the owner-occupied rehab program offers significant benefits to homeowners; it provides up to \$25,000 for repairs, which are done by licensed contractors and inspected by licensed professionals. She stated the program helps create generational wealth by improving home conditions, focusing on health and safety, as well as essential repairs like roofs, windows, and electrical

systems. Ms. Hartman stated the City has seen positive outcomes with this approach, particularly in transforming neighborhoods, and is interested in expanding these benefits to the Bisbee area.

Nicole Welch, spoke in favor and discussed the reasons.

Chairman English closed the Public Hearing.

Chairman English called for the vote and it was approved 3-0.

ACTION

Development Services

9. Adopt Resolution 24-21 to authorize the submittal of a grant application and enter into an agreement for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Colonias funds for owner-occupied housing repair to the Arizona Department of Housing.

Supervisor Judd made a motion to adopt Resolution 24-21 to authorize the submittal of a grant application and enter into an agreement for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Colonias funds for owner-occupied housing repair to the Arizona Department of Housing. Vice-Chairman Crosby seconded the motion.

Susan Bronson, presented this item.

Chairman English called for the vote and it was approved 3-0.

Adult Probation

10. Approve Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Adult Probation Funding Agreement, as provided by the Arizona Supreme Court, Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), in the amount of \$2,213,799 effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

Item has been removed from the agenda and will be considered at a later date.

Juvenile Probation

11. Approve Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Juvenile Probation Funding Agreement, as provided by the Arizona Supreme Court, Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), in the amount of \$1,187,574, effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

Item has been removed from the agenda and will be considered at a later date.

STATE & FEDERAL LEGISLATION

12. Discussion and possible action regarding state and federal legislative matters listed or described in the attached County Supervisors Association Legislative Policy Committee Agenda, the Arizona Association of Counties (AACo) Legislative Policy Committee Agenda, and the proposed State budget, and other matters related thereto.

No legislation to discuss.

REPORT BY RICHARD G. KARWACZKA, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR -- RECENT AND PENDING COUNTY MATTERS

Mr. Karwaczka gave an update on the Cochise County Fair set for September 25th through September 29th.

SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

Report by District 1 Supervisor, Tom Crosby

Vice-Chairman Crosby urged the public to review propositions 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 311, 312, 314 and 315 and to become thoroughly familiar with them.

Report by District 2 Supervisor, Ann English

Chairman English announced Douglas will be hosting an International Independence celebration.

Report by District 3 Supervisor, Peggy Judd

Supervisor Judd announced the Lantern Festival in Benson at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday and on October 4th through 6th, Rex Allen Days in Willcox.

Chairman English adjourned the meeting at 10:23 a.m.

APPROVED:

Ann English, Chairman

ATTEST:

Lara Loewenheim, Clerk of the Board

