

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COCHISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
REGULAR MEETING HELD ON  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2024**

A regular board meeting of the Cochise County Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. in the Board of Supervisors' Hearing Room, 1415 Melody Lane, Building G, Bisbee, Arizona.

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

Absent: Ann English, Chairman

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

Vice-Chairman Crosby called the meeting to order at 10:04 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**

***CALL TO THE PUBLIC***

Radford Hyde Radford Hyde addressed concerns about election issues in Cochise County.

Tricia Gerrodette commented on recent election concerns, emphasizing the importance of understanding the process.

***CONSENT***

**Board of Supervisors**

1. Approve the Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of October 29, 2024.
2. Approve the 2025 Cochise County calendar reflecting the schedule of the Regular Board of Supervisor meetings for the calendar year 2025, the 2025 holidays and pay days, and authorize the Clerk of the Board to post the Public Notice of the 2025 meeting schedule.

## **Engineering & Natural Resources**

3. Approve grant of revised utility easement to Arizona Public Service (APS) for parcel 408-34-008A for the new Commercial Land Port of Entry (LPOE) west of Douglas, for the consideration of One Dollar (\$1.00).
4. Grant a non-exclusive ingress, egress and regress easement of the southern 60 feet of County Assessor Parcel Number (APN) 40843008A to the United States, through the General Services Administration.

## **Finance**

5. Approve demands and budget amendments for operating transfers.

## **Health & Social Services**

6. Approve Amendment 1 of Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) CTR070113 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Overdose Data to Action (OD2A) revisions, between the Arizona Department of Health Services and Cochise Health and Social Services, in the amount of \$80,000, effective September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2028.

Supervisor Judd made a motion to approve items 1-6 on the consent agenda. Vice-Chairman Crosby seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

## ***PUBLIC HEARINGS***

### **Development Services**

7. Adopt Resolution 24-28 authorization to use Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) colonias funds from the Arizona Department of Housing (ADOH) for owner-occupied housing rehabilitation/emergency home repair program.

Supervisor Judd made a motion to adopt Resolution 24-28 authorization to use Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) colonias funds from the Arizona Department of Housing (ADOH) for owner-occupied housing rehabilitation/emergency home repair program. Vice-Chairman Crosby seconded the motion.

Vice-Chairman Crosby opened the public hearing and no one chose to speak.

Vice Chairman Crosby closed the public hearing.

Susan Bronson, Planner II, presented this item using a PowerPoint presentation. Mr. Bronson explained that the Arizona Department of Housing requested additional time for public input regarding the Colonia Grant project. Ms. Bronson noted that the Board of Supervisors had selected owner-occupied housing rehabilitation for the grant application, and no new comments have been received since then.

Supervisor Judd expressed strong support for the owner-occupied housing

rehabilitation project, highlighting its importance in addressing community needs.

Vice-Chairman Crosby called for the vote and it was approved 2-0.

## **ACTION**

### **Board of Supervisors**

8. Approve the sales of the September 23, 2024 through October 4, 2024, Tax Deed Land Auction held online through Public Surplus of parcels listed on Exhibits A and B and authorize the Clerk of the Board to post the remaining unsold properties for sale on an over-the-counter basis (see Exhibit C).

Supervisor Judd made a motion to approve the sales of the September 23, 2024 through October 4, 2024, Tax Deed Land Auction held online through Public Surplus of parcels listed on Exhibits A and B and authorize the Clerk of the Board to post the remaining unsold properties for sale on an over-the-counter basis (see Exhibit C). Vice-Chairman Crosby seconded the motion.

Lara Loewenheim, Clerk of the Board, presented this item. Ms. Loewenheim requested the Board for approval of the sales from the September 23 to October 4, 2024, tax deed land auction. She stated the online auction, conducted through Public Surplus, generated \$445,500 in sales, which will be directed to the County Treasurer to update the tax roll. Ms. Loewenheim stated the authorization was sought to list the remaining unsold parcels for sale on an over-the-counter basis, including updating the interactive map and making them available to the public.

Vice-Chairman Crosby called for the vote and it was approved 2-0.

### **County Schools**

9. Approve grant agreement between the Legacy Foundation and Cochise County Schools for the Behavioral Health Position Funding Assistance project, in the amount of \$25,000, effective November 12, 2024.

Supervisor Judd made a motion to approve grant agreement between the Legacy Foundation and Cochise County Schools for the Behavioral Health Position Funding Assistance project, in the amount of \$25,000, effective November 12, 2024. Vice-Chairman Crosby seconded the motion.

Dr. Jacqui Clay, School Superintendent, presented this item. Dr. Clay stated the current behavior health staff, which included four people, was affected when their grant ended on September 30. She stated there is a new \$2.7 million grant that has been secured, it won't be available until January, prompting the need for interim support. She stated the Legacy Foundation was asked to partner in funding one position, which would help manage communication between small schools and support mental health services until the new funding arrives. She stated the county's match for this effort will be approximately \$30,000.

Vice-Chairman Crosby called for the vote and it was approved 2-0.

## Development Services

10. Adopt Resolution 24-29 to authorize the submission of an application for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Colonias funds to fund owner-occupied housing rehabilitation for qualifying Cochise County residents.

Supervisor Judd made a motion to adopt Resolution 24-29 to authorize the submission of an application for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Colonias funds to fund owner-occupied housing rehabilitation for qualifying Cochise County residents. Vice-Chairman Crosby seconded the motion.

Susan Bronson, Planner II, presented this item. The Board had no further questions.

Vice-Chairman Crosby called for the vote and it was approved 2-0.

## Health & Social Services

11. Approve Contract 25-03-HEA-01 between Cochise Harm Reduction (CHR) and Cochise County Health & Social Services (CCHSS), for Syringe Exchange Services in support of the Justice Reinvestment Fund established through an act of Legislation in the amount of \$145,000 effective November 12, 2024, through October 31, 2025.

Supervisor Judd made a motion to approve Contract 25-03-HEA-01 between Cochise Harm Reduction (CHR) and Cochise County Health & Social Services (CCHSS), for Syringe Exchange Services in support of the Justice Reinvestment Fund established through an act of Legislation in the amount of \$145,000 effective November 12, 2024, through October 31, 2025. Vice-Chairman Crosby seconded the motion.

Rafael Melendez, Health Department Deputy Finance Director, presented this item. Mr. Melendez stated the organization provides essential supplies like syringes, blankets, and sleeping bags to people in need. He stated they currently have around 6,000 participants, and their services include distributing 150,000 syringes over previous years, along with other health and comfort supplies. He stated the service is crucial as Cochise Harm Reduction is the only group in the area capable of providing these specific services, and they do so on a widespread county basis, reaching individuals wherever they are.

Vice-Chairman Crosby called for the vote and it was approved 2-0.

## Human Resources

12. Approve revised Human Resources Policy 2213, Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) and Procedure 2213.1 Family and Medical Leave Act, as written in the attachments, effective November 12, 2024.

Supervisor Judd made a motion to approve revised Human Resources Policy 2213, Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) and Procedure 2213.1 Family and Medical Leave Act, as written in the attachments, effective November 12, 2024. Vice-Chairman Crosby seconded the motion.

Jennifer Graeme, Human Resources Director, presented this item. Ms. Graeme stated

the main change was the removal of the option to extend the required 480 hours of unpaid protective leave, which was deemed not in the best interest of Cochise County. She stated the rest of the revisions were minor updates to reflect current operations and clarify the process.

Vice-Chairman Crosby called for the vote and it was approved 2-0.

## **Information Technology**

13. Approve the five-year Software as a Service Agreement (SaaS) and related exhibits, with Tyler Technologies for Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) software, for a total one-time fee of \$2,611,969, with recurring fees of \$321,484 per year, effective December 1, 2024, through November 30, 2029.

Supervisor Judd made a motion to approve the five-year Software as a Service Agreement (SaaS) and related exhibits, with Tyler Technologies for Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) software, for a total one-time fee of \$2,611,969, with recurring fees of \$321,484 per year, effective December 1, 2024, through November 30, 2029. Vice-Chairman seconded the motion.

Joe Casey, Associate County Administrator, presented this item. Mr. Casey stated the focus of the system is to improve payroll and HR management across the county. He stated this final step seeks approval of the contract itself for the implementation of the system.

Vice-Chairman Crosby called for the vote and it was approved 2-0.

## **STATE & FEDERAL LEGISLATION**

14. 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**

Richard Karwaczka thanked the public for their patience while the county is tabulating the votes in the election department. The Department is making sure everyone's vote is counted.

## **SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS**

### **Report by District 1 Supervisor, Tom Crosby**

Vice-Chairman Crosby stated he is in opposition to voting machines and referenced a November 28, 2022, hearing on certifying the 2022 election results in Cochise County. He highlighted the statement from the Chair that certification was "nondiscretionary", labeling it contradictory and citing it as the reason for facing criminal charges.

**Report by District 2 Supervisor, Ann English**

**Report by District 3 Supervisor, Peggy Judd**

Supervisor Judd expressed gratitude for the patience shown throughout the election challenges, acknowledging the difficulties faced by the Elections Department, including the bomb threat and machine failures. Supervisor Judd emphasized the importance of appreciating the efforts of the staff involved, encouraging the public to offer support and recognition.

Vice-Chairman Crosby adjourned the meeting at 10:35 a.m.

APPROVED:

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Tom Crosby, Vice-Chairman

ATTEST:

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Lara Loewenheim, Clerk of the Board