

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COCHISE COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT  
HEARING HELD ON  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2023**

A meeting of the Cochise County Flood Control District was held on Tuesday, November 14, 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  
Christine Roberts, Chief Civil Deputy County Attorney  
Lara Loewenheim, Deputy Clerk of the Board

Attendees: Joaquin Solis, Floodplain Administrator  
Mark Apel, Environmental Project Coordinator

Chairman Judd called the meeting to order at 10:06 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**

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***CALL TO THE PUBLIC***

No one chose to speak.

***CONSENT***

**Board of Supervisors**

1. Approve the Minutes of the Flood Control District meeting for October 10, 2023.

Supervisor English made a motion to approve consent agenda item 1.  
Vice-Chairman Crosby seconded the motion.

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

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

### **Engineering & Natural Resources**

2. [Item tabled from the October 10, 2023 Flood Control District Meeting] Adopt Flood Control District Ordinance FCD 052-23 approving the revisions to the Floodplain Regulations.

Supervisor English made a motion to remove from the table the item from the October 10, 2023 meeting. Vice-Chairman Crosby seconded the motion.

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

Chairman Judd opened the Public Hearing and no one chose to speak.

Joaquin Solis, Floodplain Administrator, presented this item using a PowerPoint presentation. Mr. Solis stated that the Floodplain Regulations were first adopted in 1984 and were last updated in 2015. He stated that regulations are being updated to comply with the State of Arizona Floodplain Management Model Ordinance, the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and the Agricultural Structures and Accessory Structures. Mr. Solis discussed proposed changes aligning with Arizona flood plain management ordinances and FEMA requirements for agricultural and accessory structures. He stated that revisions were made to flood hazard reduction provisions, including requiring new habitable structures to have a minimum elevation to mitigate flood risks, particularly in Zone X areas. Mr. Solis stated that these measures aim to increase credits in the Community Rating System (CRS).

In response to the Board, Mr. Solis stated that in the 2015 International Residential Code, which the Development Service Department adheres to, it is stipulated that elevations must be at least six inches above ground level and slope away from the top of the wall.

Mr. Solis stated that agricultural structures are included in non-residential construction regulations, emphasizing that FEMA requirements apply universally to all constructions in flood hazard areas. He outlined two flood-proofing options: dry flood-proofing, which involves sealing structures at ground level, and wet flood-proofing, allowing water into accessory structures to prevent damage. Mr. Solis stated that these measures aim to mitigate flood risks and ensure compliance with safety standards.

Mr. Solis stated general land disturbance refers to significant changes made to land, often seen in large-scale developments. He stated implementation of regulations to ensure that developments don't disrupt natural water pathways or increase flood risks. Mr. Solis stated there are efforts to enhance flood insurance discounts for residents through initiatives like the Community Rating System, aiming to mitigate risks associated with land development and flooding.

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

**ACTION**

**Engineering & Natural Resources**

3. Approve Annual Joint Funding Agreement 24ZFJFA00080100 between the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and Cochise County, to conduct hydrologic investigations and data collection, in the amount of \$97,265, effective October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024.

Vice-Chairman Crosby made a motion to approve Annual Joint Funding Agreement 24ZFJFA00080100 between the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and Cochise County, to conduct hydrologic investigations and data collection, in the amount of \$97,265, effective October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024. Supervisor Ann English seconded the motion.

Mark Apel presented this item. Mr. Apel gave the history of the Annual Joint Funding Agreement, marking the 19th year of collaboration to collect hydrologic data in the upper San Pedro Basin. He noted the data is crucial for various projects, including modeling efforts and conservation initiatives like the Sentinel Landscapes and the Cochi Conservation Recharge Network.

Chairman Judd called for the vote and it was approved 2-1. (Crosby opposed)

Chairman Judd adjourned the meeting at 10:22 a.m.

APPROVED:

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Peggy Judd, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Sharon Gilman, Interim Clerk of the Board