

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COCHISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON  
Tuesday, August 18, 2014**

A special board meeting of the Cochise County Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, August 18, 2014 10:00 a.m. in the Board of Supervisors' Executive Conference Room, 1415 Melody Lane, Building G, Bisbee, Arizona.

Present: Patrick G. Call, Chairman; Ann English, Vice-Chairman; Richard R. Searle, Member  
Staff Michael J. Ortega, County Administrator; Jim Vlahovich, Deputy County Administrator;  
Present: Britt W. Hanson, Chief Civil Deputy County Attorney; Arlethe G. Rios, Clerk of the Board;  
Lois Klein, Finance Director; Mike McGinnis, Budget Manager

Chairman Call 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**

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***PUBLIC HEARINGS***

**Board of Supervisors**

1. Adopt the Tax Rates and Levies for Cochise County Taxing Entities as set forth in the attached Exhibits.

Mr. Michael Ortega, County Administrator, presented this item. Mr. Ortega said that this approval was part of the annual budget process. He added that the budget had been reviewed in detail over the last several months, but said that tax rates for school districts were prepared separately by those school boards then recommended for approval. He noted that after receiving several of the school budgets and proposed tax rates County staff had found errors. He recommended that the Board notify those schools boards that had errors and only approve recommended budgets.

Supervisor Searle asked if the County had heard back from the school boards with errors.

Mr. Britt Hanson, Chief Civil Deputy County Attorney, stated that the school boards certify the budgets submitted to the board and he did not recommend making any changes. He suggested that in the coming years the County begin working with the school boards and ask that they submit their budgets ahead of time so that the County may review.

Chairman Call opened the public hearing.

No one chose to speak and Chairman Call closed the public hearing.

Vice-Chairman English moved to adopt the Tax Rates and Levies for Cochise County Taxing Entities as set forth in the attached Exhibits as recommended by the governing boards.

Ms. Cathy Traywick, County Treasurer, clarified that the approval of the budgets has not changed, only the calculations for the tax rates.

Mr. Hanson added that the responsibility of the County was to levy taxes, not to approve or certify the board's budget or tax rate.

Ms. Susan Arndt, County Superintendent of Schools Business Manager, stated that the school districts calculate their tax rate from the budget parameters given to them by the State Auditor General's Office. She noted that the School's Office does review the information before it is submitted to Finance, but sometimes the deadlines are too close and some budgets do not get reviewed in detail.

Supervisor Searle asked Ms. Traywick if she agreed with the motion.

Ms. Traywick said she was concerned with the wording as tax bills need to be printed with the correct tax rates.

Mr. Ortega clarified that the exhibits are the corrected rates, but are based on the budgets the governing boards submitted.

Vice-Chairman English moved to adopt the Tax Rates and Levies for Cochise County Taxing Entities as set forth in the attached Exhibits, which are based on the budgets from the individual entities. Supervisor Searle seconded the motion.

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

Chairman Call adjourned the meeting at 10:33 a.m.

APPROVED:

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Patrick G. Call, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Arlathe G. Rios, Clerk of the Board