

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COCHISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
WORK SESSION HELD ON  
Monday, June 9, 2014**

A work session of the Cochise County Board of Supervisors was held on Monday, June 9, 2014 9:00 a.m. in the Board of Supervisors' Executive Conference Room, 1415 Melody Lane, Building G, Bisbee, Arizona.

Present: Ann English, Chairman; Richard R. Searle, Vice-Chairman; Patrick G. Call, Supervisor

Staff Present: Michael J. Ortega, County Administrator

Jim Vlahovich, Deputy County Administrator

Arlenthe G. Rios, Clerk of the Board

Lois Klein, Finance Director

Mike McGinnis, Budget Manager

Karen Riggs, Community Development Director

Marty Haverty, Solid Waste Management Director

Chairman English called the meeting to order at 9:00 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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***INTRODUCTIONS***

***ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION***

**Board of Supervisors**

1. Discussion and possible direction regarding an Overview of the Fiscal Year 2014/2015 Budget, specifically: Follow-up to previous budget discussion; Annual Work Plan for Fiscal Year 2014-15 for Highways & Flood Control; and the Solid Waste budget.

Mr. Ortega summarized questions that had been asked by all the supervisors in previous budget discussions. He stated that the expenditure limit was \$64 million, which is a big concern because major projects might not be able to get started due to the cost. He clarified that the expenditure limit had nothing to do with the County's finances, but was in place by statute.

Chairman English asked if this topic could be brought up in legislature to increase the limit.

Mr. Ortega stated that other counties were facing the same issue and he had several ideas on how to proceed with projects if the expenditure limit was an issue.

Mr. McGinnis went over some changes to the library budget and noted that they were looking for cost-saving ideas to reduce spending.

Mr. Ortega continued with the Highways & Floodplain budget. He stated that there had been major changes on how the budget was crafted in order to show a detailed view of where money was spent and noted that there would be a \$1,800,000 cash carry forward for fiscal year 2014/2015 to use in case of an emergency situation.

Mr. Riggs stated that the highway budget had not changed and the work plan had been finished. She highlighted the purpose, staffing levels, equipment replacement schedule, options for additional funding, and the Flood Control District (FCD) tax rate. She noted that staff would be doing public outreach meetings in project areas countywide to explain the projects.

Mr. Ortega discussed staffing issues and stated that a new salary structure was being created with an emphasis on performance.

Ms. Riggs said that revenue projections were holding steady and noted that the Highway User Revenue Funds should increase statewide in the coming years. She stated that one major project was upgrading roads due to increased traffic in the Sierra Vista area.

Supervisor Call asked what type of road work was being done with the City of Sierra Vista.

Mr. Ellis said that only minor road repairs were being done at a cost of \$300,000.

Chairman English asked if overtime charges would be applied for any projects not covered in the work plan.

Mr. Ortega said that anything not added to the list would mean dropping another project since the budget is already put together and other projects mean additional costs.

Ms. Riggs went over the FCD tax rate and stated that an estimated \$80,000 of revenue was brought in at the current rate.

Vice-Chairman Searle stated that he would not be opposed to raising the rate.

Ms. Riggs highlighted the FCD 5-year plan and stated that the focus would be on recharge projects, mapping studies, rain gage studies, bridge inspections by the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), and finding ways to partner with highways on projects. She noted that a lot of FCD projects were not new, but were repairs or maintenance on old projects due to monsoon damages.

Mr. Ortega stated that since heavy fleet impacted highways and flood control he wanted Mr. Haverty to discuss recent changes in his department.

Mr. Haverty said that a consulting company had been hired to do an efficiency analysis which gave us a report with direction and major areas of improvement. He noted that a major area of improvement was the density of the landfill, which is now being studied. He highlighted other changes at the landfill and said he was working on streamlining several processes to save on costs.

Mr. Ortega said that the budget was ready and that he would notify the Board of any changes before the tentative budget adoption on July 21.

Chairman English adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

APPROVED:

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Ann English, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Arlethe G. Rios, Clerk of the Board