

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COCHISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
WORK SESSION HELD ON
Tuesday, May 5, 2015**

A work session of the Cochise County Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, May 5, 2015 3:00 p.m. in the Sheriff's Conference Room, 205 N. Judd Drive, Bisbee, Arizona.

Present: Patrick G. Call, Chairman; Ann English, Vice-Chairman
Absent: Richard R. Searle, Member
Staff Present: Michael J. Ortega
Jim Vlahovich, County Administrator
Lauri Owen, Civil Deputy County Attorney
Arlethe G. Rios, Clerk of the Board
Mark Dannels, County Sheriff
Thad Smith, Deputy County Sheriff

Chairman Call called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.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

INTRODUCTIONS

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Board of Supervisors

1. Budget Work Session - Discussion of County budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 specifically: the Sheriff's Office.

Sheriff Dannels stated that he would have Deputy Sheriff Thad Smith go over a presentation and then he would be happy to answer any questions.

Deputy Sheriff Thad Smith said he would be going over the current budget, the office's environment, internal review, and future projections.

Deputy Sheriff Smith explained the revenues collected by the Sheriff's Office and said that projected revenues were set at \$498,900 and the amended revenues were at \$530,100 due to some unexpected revenue streams. He moved on to expenditures and broke them down by fund line: Sheriff Administration, Jail, Patrol, and Investigations. He said that the total projected expenditures were at \$14,882,852.88.

He noted that the Sheriff Assist Team had some money coming from the general fund, but they were working on moving to them being completely grant funded.

Jail Commander Kenneth Bradshaw noted that the biggest expenditures in the jail were meals, clothing, and bedding. He added that the jail has been under funded and the general fund has to make up the difference in order to cover these inmate costs.

Deputy Sheriff Smith said that the budget expenditures for the current fiscal year were consistent with past fiscal years.

He moved on and listed current grants used by the Sheriff's Office: Stone Garden, High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA), Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Grant (BYRNE), National Forest Security grant, Governor's Office of Highway Safety (GOHS), Attorney General's Victim Witness (AGVW) grant, Department of Public Safety (DPS) Border Security (BSE) for a total \$1,632,543. He said that the Stone Garden grant was the biggest grant bringing in \$1,200,583. He stated that the purpose of the grant was to provide local law enforcement agencies the tools to combat human/drug trafficking and associated crimes. He then listed the benefits:

- Increase proactive enforcement/patrol without negatively affecting scheduling.
- Increase proactive enforcement/patrol with minimal impact on general fund.
- Provides ability, with minimal cost to general fund, to meet our goal of 24/7 coverage.
- Most important, provides a higher quality of service to the citizens of Cochise County by enabling CCSO to specifically deal with ongoing crimes and issues associated to the border. Provides overtime to pay for extra targeted area details.

He noted that although the Stone Garden grant does not completely reimburse for mileage, the County is getting a lot of benefit from the other aspects of the grant. He said because of the Board's concern he would be making changes to the procedures in which deputies operate when they are on duty for Stone Garden. He added that the monies brought in by the Stone Garden grant equate to four, full-time employees.

He explained the funding received from donations and grants for the Sheriff's Office for the last five years for a total of \$14,641,687.41. He noted that there was still \$4,700,000 pending for this year and listed the equipment/projects acquired through the donations/grants. He added that the Sheriff's Office also had internal savings between vacation hours not taken and vacancies and that this did not include volunteer hours.

He summarized his presentation:

Fiscal Year (FY) 14/15: \$374,398.00 (Projected Budget Savings)

5 Year Average (AVG): \$431,210.00 (Budget Savings)

FY 14/15 Stone Garden (SG): \$90,000.00 (Projected Out of Pocket)

SG 4 year Avg: \$54,211.40 (Annual Out of Pocket)

SG 4 Year Expense to County: \$216,845.63

SG 4 Year Return on Investment (ROI): \$2,432,746.37 (Equivalent to 6 FTE's)

Total Donations: \$14,641,687.41 (4yrs)

Unused Vacation: 1.49 FTE's (Equivalent)

Vacancy Avg: 5.5 months (Sworn, Detention, Communications)

Mr. Ortega explained that staff's main concern was the liability that is acquired through overtime on the Public Safety Retirement System (PSRS).

Vice-Chairman English said that the Board's responsibility is to ensure that the County is

financially stable and this type of liability makes that stability vulnerable.

Deputy Sheriff Smith said that he did not think that the grant overtime was the cause of the retirement system's instability, but correlated it to the economy, officer vacancies, and cost of living adjustments.

Mr. Ortega said that any overtime contributes to the system's liability.

Deputy Sheriff Smith noted that grants like Stone Garden help fill full time positions that otherwise would be vacant.

Sheriff Dannels added that overtime is a huge recruiting tool and helps market deputy positions.

Vice-Chairman English asked if overtime is limited for deputies.

Deputy Sheriff Smith said that they have begun to limit overtime hours a deputy can work and will be requesting a modification of reimbursement for the mileage in the Stone Garden grant, but noted that investigation detectives are not limited as they have to keep working on cases until they are solved.

Chairman Call asked how many vacancies there were for deputy positions.

Sheriff Dannels said that there were currently two positions vacant.

Mr. Ortega said that although positions are vacant, the County still contributes to the retirement of those vacancies.

Sheriff Dannels said he would be happy to assist with any information to research the PSRS and the liability related to it.

Deputy Sheriff Smith briefly introduced the idea of a financial crimes unit. He said that a private donor had committed to fund in full for 3 years as a pilot program. He also said that the Sheriff's Office was not asking for any additional funding for the upcoming fiscal year.

The Board thanked Sheriff Dannels for the continued partnership.

Chairman Call adjourned the meeting at 4:49 p.m.

APPROVED:

Patrick G. Call, Chairman

ATTEST:

Arlethe G. Rios, Clerk of the Board