

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COCHISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
WORK SESSION HELD ON
Tuesday, February 13, 2018**

A work session of the Cochise County Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, February 13, 2018 at 1:30 p.m. in the Board of Supervisors' Executive Conference Room, 1415 Melody Lane, Building G, Bisbee, Arizona.

Present: Chairman Ann English; Vice-Chairman Patrick G. Call
Absent: Member Peggy Judd
Staff Present: Edward T. Gilligan, County Administrator
Kim Lemons, Deputy Clerk of the Board
Amanda Baillie, Public Information Officer
Elda Orduno, Civil Deputy County Attorney
Attendees: Marty Haverty, Community Development Director
Dan Coxworth, Development Services Director
Cathy Traywick, Treasurer
Steve Jones, Solid Waste Finance Manager
Jason Faccio, SW Operations Superintendent
Dora Flores, Zoning Administrator
Chris Saylor, Code Compliance Officer

Chairman English 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

INTRODUCTIONS

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Board of Supervisors

1. Discussion and possible direction of proposed change to the way Free Dump Day is provided to Cochise County residents and to update the Board on the markets for recyclable material.

Mr. Haverty outlined the latest version of the changes to the Free Dump Day Program. The Rate Review and Advisory Board (RRAB) is recommending that the Board approve a change to the method of service delivery for Free Dump Days. They voted unanimously that a "voucher" system be employed where each resident would be given a voucher that allows

them to dispose of one load of trash per year at no cost to the resident. The popularity of the existing program has led to several issues; mainly site congestion which creates severe safety issues for both the public and employees; operational burdens resulting in several weeks to catch up with the flow of trash and costs that are difficult to measure resulting in an excessive overtime burden. The new delivery method would create a more efficient, safe administration of the program. The voucher can be sent out with the tax notice in September to residential households only. It cannot be reproduced, but is transferrable. It would be numbered and surrendered at the time of use for tracking purposes.

The cities of Sierra Vista and Benson would still host their own community day, handled through their Public Works, the County would provide roll off containers, limiting participation.

The Board and staff discussed the logistics of the program, vehicle type versus load weight; training of solid waste attendants; and mailing a postcard versus a voucher. One free vehicle load, one-ton limit, one time per year (one load, one ton, one trip.)

Ms. Traywick's department will handle the cost of a separate mailer to launch the initial program using a postcard produced in-house. The only cost would be 34 cents for postage per postcard and paper costs. She estimated 45,000 parcels at a cost of \$15,000-\$20,000 for the first mailing.

The Board asked to see a draft of the postcard first and are interested in creating an outreach campaign to promote.

Mr. Gilligan complimented Mr. Jones for being persistent with keeping the idea of changing the Free Dump Day program going over the years; Mr. Haverty for giving it wings; and Ms. Traywick for assisting with the postcard production. The Board agreed.

In conclusion, the draft postcard will be sent via email to the Board within the next week.

Mr. Haverty moved on to the next topic: the status of the recycling market and strategy to alleviate the shortfall of expenses exceeding costs.

The County receives recycling materials from the City of Sierra Vista, Fort Huachuca, a couple of private recyclers, and drop off sites from rural transfer stations. It is collected in Sierra Vista then transported to a recycling center in Tucson. It worked great until about a year and one-half ago when the recycling market took a nose-dive worldwide. The RRAB approved the City of Sierra Vista paying the difference for the County's solid waste system transport costs and what we receive in revenue from recycling. The County cost is \$53 per ton; revenue received is \$10 per ton; and the City of Sierra Vista is paying \$43 per ton.

Mr. Haverty spoke with a broker in California representing China. Tucson is subsidizing the recycling program \$13 per ton. The recycling market is in real trouble and dying quick. China is in an industrial revolution, and has initiated EPA controls and restrictions that has put the recycling market in a tailspin. Most likely, soon, the market will die. One solution would be to remove cardboard and metal (revenue generating recyclables) and everything else collected would be considered trash. Also, keep the recycle stream going and when, or if, the market recovers, reinstate the original recycling process.

Mr. Gilligan said right now with no return on recycling it is \$53 per ton to haul to Tucson or add an additional \$29 to go straight to the landfill.

Mr. Haverty wanted to inform the Board of the status of the recycling market in preparation for any Board action that may need to happen in the future.

Chairman English adjourned the meeting at 2:25 p.m.

APPROVED:

Ann English, Chairman

ATTEST:

Kim Lemons, Deputy Clerk of the Board