

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COCHISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
WORK SESSION HELD ON  
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2020**

A work session of the Cochise County Board of Supervisors was held on Friday, December 4, 2020, at 2:00 p.m. in the Board of Supervisors' Executive Conference Room, 1415 Melody Lane, Building G, Bisbee, Arizona.

Present: Thomas E. Borer, Chairman; Ann English, Vice-Chairman; Peggy Judd, Supervisor, telephonic

Staff Present: Richard G. Karwaczka, County Administrator  
Sharon Gilman, Associate County Administrator  
Brian McIntyre, County Attorney  
Kim Lemons, Clerk of the Board  
Tim Mattix, Deputy Clerk of the Board

Attendees: Alicia Thompson, Health & Social Services Director  
Craig Janiszewski, Emerg Preparedness Specialist  
Judy Lynn, Interim Director, Emergency Services  
Tammi-Jo Wilkins, Emerg Preparedness Specialist  
Amy Hunley, Clerk of the Superior Court  
Vicki Barton, Chief Deputy Clerk, Clerk of the Superior Court  
Susana Stark, Legal Secretary Supervisor, County Attorney  
Philip Leiendecker, Assessor  
Niltza Flores, Associate Court Administrator  
Lisa Marra, Elections Director  
Elda Orduno, HR Director  
Jennifer Graeme, Associate HR Director  
Joe Casey, IT Chief Information Officer  
Amadee Ricketts, Library Director  
Anita Baca, Housing Authority Director  
Tracey Romero, Courts HR Director  
Jackie Watkins, Eng & Natural Resources Director  
Melissa Wirthlin, Constable

Chairman Borer called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.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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***ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION***

**Board of Supervisors**

1. Discussion and Possible Direction on the current status of the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Ms. Alicia Thompson, Mr. Craig Janiszewski, Ms. Tammi-Jo Wilkins, and Ms. Judy Lynn presented this item. Ms. Thompson stated that Covid-19 is escalating and staff wanted to bring awareness to what is being done by Health and Social Services and Emergency Services. Since December 1, there have been 319 community cases, with 225 awaiting investigation. The Health Department does not have the capacity for contact tracing. Mr. Janiszewski spoke of various partnerships and their importance. Ms. Wilkins stated that Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) received by the County is disbursed to hospitals and long-term care facilities as first priority, and then to ambulance services and others, such as dentists. 29 ventilators are pre-staged at hospitals, with six in use. The County has a large supply of youth cloth masks; these masks and BinaxNOW™ test kits are being distributed to schools.

The Board and Ms. Wilkins discussed in further detail the test kits and their distribution.

Mr. Janiszewski spoke about the phased vaccine distribution; health care workers and long-term care facility residents and staff are in the first phase. There was further discussion about the vaccine, distribution, and availability through pharmacies.

Ms. Thompson discussed communication and messaging methods. There was discussion about including radio stations in Mexico in the messaging, finding a way to get information through to people, and whether the current trend can be attributed to anything specific. In response to the Board, Mr. Janiszewski provided additional information about the phased distribution of the vaccine, including who may be included in the various phases.

The Board decided to meet on Friday, December 11, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. to receive updates and get information out to the public about the Covid-19 pandemic.

Ms. Lynn provided updates from Emergency Services and discussed the supply of food having increased; efforts to monitor the health of, and access to PPE by, first responders; and, protests at the Arizona Department of Health Services and connecting with the intelligence community to help with awareness. She also spoke about ensuring that security needs are met when the vaccine is being distributed and the possibility of a public declaration, which could be a public information tool.

The Board discussed public information and messaging further, the importance of educating and getting information to the public, and the pros and cons of a declaration.

Ms. Lynn noted that as this is a declared disaster across the state, she could submit a request to bring in someone to help draft public information; the message would still be the County's and approved by the County, but the person could help draft the information and provide ideas to distribute it in ways that would reach people. The Board expressed support for requesting this resource and discussed the importance of getting accurate and timely information out to the public.

Chairman Borer adjourned the meeting at 2:42 p.m.

APPROVED:

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Thomas E. Borer, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Kim Lemons, Clerk of the Board