

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COCHISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SPECIAL/EXECUTIVE MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2021**

A special meeting of the Cochise County Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, November 16, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. in the Board of Supervisors' Hearing Room, 1415 Melody Lane, Building G, Bisbee, Arizona.

Present: Ann English, Chairman; Peggy Judd, Vice-Chairman; Tom Crosby, Supervisor

Staff Present: Richard G. Karwaczka, County Administrator
Sharon Gilman, Associate County Administrator
Christine Roberts, Chief Civil Deputy County Attorney
Kim Lemons, Clerk of the Board
Camila Rochin, Public Information Officer

Attendees: Sheriff Mark Dannels

Chairman English called the meeting to order at 1:00 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

ACTION

1. Roundtable interview of candidates to fill the vacancy for remainder of the term for Legislative District 14 Representative due to the resignation of Becky Nutt. Candidate names as submitted by the Republican Party in Cochise County Legislative District 14: Lupe Diaz, Brian McKeighen, and Robert Montgomery.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3), the Board may go into executive session for legal advice from the attorney of the public body regarding the process of appointing a replacement to fill the vacancy in Legislative District 14.

Mr. Karwaczka stated that Sheriff Dannels will select the name/order of the candidates one, two and three. He outlined the process of five-minute introductions for each candidate, followed by each Board member asking each candidate three separate questions, giving them three-minute to answer, rotating which candidate will answer first.

Chairman English noted that she received only two of the requested packets from the candidates. Mr. Karwaczka confirmed that only two were received.

Drawing from a hat, Sheriff Dannels selected Mr. Robert Montgomery as Candidate 1; Mr. Brian McKeighen as Candidate 2; and Mr. Lupe Diaz as Candidate 3.

Chairman English gave additional instructions to the candidates on the process for today's interviews and the use of a timer for their responses.

Mr. Montgomery, Candidate 1; Mr. McKeighen, Candidate 2; and Mr. Diaz, Candidate 3 introduced themselves.

Chairman English began with the following question.

1. At the Legislature, it is important to have the courage to represent what is best for your district even when you are pressured by your peers. Tell us about a time when you had to make a tough decision because you believed it was the right thing to do even if that decision was unpopular.

Candidate 1, Candidate 2, and Candidate 3 answered.

Vice-Chairman Judd asked the following question.

2. Please give us a few examples of where you have served in a leadership role, elected position or on a community, regional or state board. What was your responsibility there and what did you learn from that experience?

Candidate 2, Candidate 3, and Candidate 1 answered.

Supervisor Crosby asked the following question.

3. In your opinion, what is the #1 problem with the political system in Arizona?

Candidate 3, Candidate 1, and Candidate 2 answered.

Chairman English asked the following question.

4. Tell us about the most important accomplishment of your career.

Candidate 1, Candidate 2, and Candidate 3 answered.

Vice-Chairman Judd asked the following question.

5. Legislative issues are often difficult and complex. As a legislator, how would you approach researching and learning a new issue? Where might you get your information and who might you seek advice from on a subject that you may have limited knowledge?

Candidate 2, Candidate 3, and Candidate 1 answered.

Supervisor Crosby gave the candidates time to read the following excerpt. He then read the following excerpt and question.

The following is an excerpt of the US Constitution:

New States may be admitted by the Congress into this Union; but no new State shall be formed or erected within the Jurisdiction of any other State; nor any State be formed by the Junction of two or more States, or Parts of States, without the Consent of the Legislatures of the States concerned as well as of the Congress. The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State (Article 4, Section 3).

6. In your opinion, does this section of the Constitution apply to the San Pedro River

National Conservation Area? Why or why not?

Candidate 3, Candidate 1, and Candidate 2 answered.

Chairman English asked the following question.

7. What are your legislative priorities or legislation you are seeking to pursue?

Candidate 1, Candidate 2, and Candidate 3 answered.

Vice-Chairman Judd asked the following question.

8. We all have people that we look up to, who have excelled in areas important to us. Please tell us about someone who you look up to or someone who has served as a positive example or mentor to you.

Candidate 2, Candidate 3, and Candidate 1 answered.

Supervisor Crosby gave the candidates time to read the following excerpt. He then read the following excerpt and question.

The following is an excerpt of the US Constitution:

The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government, and shall protect each of them against Invasion; and on Application of the Legislature, or of the Executive (when the Legislature cannot be convened), against domestic Violence. (Article 4, Section 4)

9. In your opinion, what is meant by “a Republican form of Government”?

Candidate 3, Candidate 1, and Candidate 2 answered.

Chairman English said this concludes the interviews. The Board will take into consideration the information provided and will convene in a Special Meeting on Friday, November 19, 2021 at 1:30 p.m., to select, discuss, and appoint a candidate to fill the Legislative District 14 Representative vacancy. She thanked the candidates for their time.

Chairman English adjourned the meeting at 2:21 p.m.

APPROVED:

Ann English, Chairman

ATTEST:

Kim Lemons, Clerk of the Board