

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COCHISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
WORK SESSION HELD ON
FRIDAY, JANUARY 8, 2021**

A work session of the Cochise County Board of Supervisors was held on Friday, January 8, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. in the Board of Supervisors' Executive Conference Room, 1415 Melody Lane, Building G, Bisbee, Arizona.

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

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
Tammi-Jo Wilkins, Emerg Preparedness Specialist
Judy Lynn, Interim Director, Emergency Services
Lisa Marra, Elections Director
Anita Baca, Housing Authority Director
Elda Orduno, HR Director
Xochitl Orozco, Attorney III, Legal Advocate Office
Sara Dent, Legal Defender
Tracey Romero, Courts HR Director
Rita Shipley, Superior Court Budget/Finance Director
Robin Rossbach, Courts Finance Division Manager

Chairman English called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.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

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Board of Supervisors

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

Ms. Alicia Thompson, Ms. Tammi-Jo Wilkins, and Ms. Judy Lynn presented this item. Ms. Thompson stated that staff presumes the increase in positive cases is directly attributable to the holidays. She provided the number of daily positive cases and deaths from January 1 through January 7, 2021. She gave an overview of the vaccine status, noted the number of doses received by week, and explained that the County

always orders the maximum number allowed by the state.

The Board asked about who determines if the cause of death is attributable to Covid-19, the County's partners in administering the vaccine, the various methods by which long-term care facilities receive the vaccine, and whether it is acceptable for people to go outside of their immediate residential area in the County to receive the vaccine. Ms. Thompson responded to the Board's questions, and stressed that the vaccines are for people who live and/or work in Cochise County. The Board and Ms. Thompson discussed pre-registration for the vaccine. Ms. Thompson noted that from January 9 through January 22, 2021, the vaccine will be available for individuals age 75 and older; beginning January 23, 2021, it will be made available to others in Phase 1B.

Ms. Wilkins stated that requests for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and test kits are increasing. She discussed working with the National Guard on logistics and delivery of the vaccine, and noted that the state is opening a call center to assist people. The County is also preparing to establish a call center as a standby.

The Board and staff discussed people aged 65 and over not being currently eligible to receive the vaccine, and noted that the County is following guidelines set by the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Ms. Lynn stated that Emergency Services ensures that Health and Social Services have the necessary resources, and monitors for strain on the emergency response system. Ms. Thompson stated that Emergency Services is working to ensure that public safety agencies have situational awareness, such as of Points of Distribution (PODs) locations.

The Board asked about the status of the Public Information Officer (PIO) that was previously discussed; Ms. Lynn responded.

In closing, Ms. Thompson stressed that the County PODs are for those who live and/or work in Cochise County; those who do not are turned away. Ms. Wilkins stated that staff is working with the state to get an allocation of the vaccine specifically for the Department of Corrections, which would be in addition to the County's normal allocation.

Chairman English adjourned the meeting at 10:44 a.m.

APPROVED:

Ann English, Chairman

ATTEST:

Kim Lemons, Clerk of the Board