

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COCHISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
WORK SESSION HELD ON
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2021**

A work session of the Cochise County Board of Supervisors was held on Thursday, February 25, 2021, at 11:00 a.m. in the Board of Supervisors' Executive Conference Room, 1415 Melody Lane, Building G, Bisbee, Arizona.

Present: Ann English, Chairman; Tom Crosby, Supervisor, telephonic
Absent: Peggy Judd, Vice-Chairman
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
Attendees: Alicia Thompson, Health & Social Services Director
Craig Janiszewski, Emerg Preparedness Specialist
Camila Rochin, Public Information Officer
Judy Lynn, Emergency Services Director

Chairman English called the meeting to order at 11:00 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. Thompson, Mr. Janiszewski, and Ms. Rochin presented this item. Ms. Thompson stated that the County received last week's vaccine doses as well as this week's allocation, for a total of 7,400 doses. Copper Queen Hospital in Bisbee is anticipating to vaccinate 900 people today; another vaccine Point of Distribution (POD) in Sierra Vista, Fry Fire Department, will be held on Saturday, with 800 people anticipated to be vaccinated.

In response to the Board, Ms. Thompson stated that both PODs are using the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) vaccination registration portal, and discussed a new vaccine finder from the federal government for retail pharmacy locations. She discussed the difficulties of having multiple portals, and noted that third-party vendors are trying to create a one-stop shop for a vaccine finder. A new grant opportunity through the Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) could be used for a software solution. She discussed areas of concern with potential third-party solutions; staff will meet with two different vendors in

the near future.

Ms. Thompson stated that the County will be receiving 3,400 vaccine doses next week. While the number of vaccines allocated to the County has been consistent recently, vaccine distribution is not yet at a point where appointments can be scheduled more than one week in advance. The Board noted that last week's shipment was not received, resulting in canceled appointments.

Mr. Janiszewski reported that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is expected to make a decision on the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine tomorrow. At this time, it is not known if it would be allocated to rural communities. He reviewed the number of Covid-19 cases in the County, which are continuing to decline, with an average of 18 new cases per day over the past week. The Board and staff discussed the declining number of cases. Ms. Thompson stated that mitigation efforts cannot be relaxed yet, and discussed the importance of wearing masks and social distancing. The Board and staff discussed the decreasing number of cases further, and the percentage of individuals who have received one or both doses of the vaccine.

Ms. Rochin reported on public outreach efforts, and noted that staff is releasing information on Facebook. The Board and staff discussed communicating with school districts to reinforce messages to children. Ms. Thompson stated that staff is working on getting approval from the Legacy Foundation to change the scope of work on an existing grant to use the funding for a media campaign.

Chairman English adjourned the meeting at 11:18 a.m.

APPROVED:

Ann English, Chairman

ATTEST:

Kim Lemons, Clerk of the Board