

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COCHISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
WORK SESSION HELD ON  
FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 2021**

A work session of the Cochise County Board of Supervisors was held on Friday, March 5, 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, telephonic

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  
Tammi-Jo Wilkins, Emerg Preparedness Specialist  
Camila Rochin, Public Information Officer  
Judy Lynn, Emergency Services Director  
Mark Wager, Presenter

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**

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***ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION***

**Board of Supervisors**

1. Presentation by Mark Wager on Cochise County COVID-19 Symptoms and Comorbidities and discussion and possible direction on the current status of the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Ms. Thompson, Mr. Wager, Mr. Janiszewski, Ms. Wilkins, Ms. Rochin and Ms. Lynn presented this item. Ms. Thompson introduced Mr. Wager, who presented this item using a PowerPoint presentation. Mr. Wager explained that  $R_0$  is the number of people who become sick after coming into contact with an infected person. In the study period of March 12, 2020 through November 30, 2020, the  $R_0$  in the County was 1.04. He noted that  $R_0$  can be used to indicate areas needing additional health messaging and to aid in investigating super-spreader events. He detailed the number and percentage of Covid-19 positive individuals with symptoms, including by age group, high-risk occupations, and comorbidities, and summarized his findings.

Mr. Janiszewski reported that the number of cases are continuing to decline and reviewed

hospitalizations and deaths by age group. The County is using the state's hybrid phased vaccination model, which includes those aged 55 and over, and essential workers of any age. The County received 1,200 doses of the Johnson & Johnson (J&J) vaccine; it will be used for essential workers, leaving the Moderna and, if received, Pfizer, vaccine for those in the prioritized age groups. The Board and staff discussed who will be administering the J&J vaccine and the planning involved in reaching the homebound population.

Ms. Wilkins reported that the demand for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) has diminished. Staff is building a volunteer management system for a Medical Reserve Corps. Ms. Wilkins detailed the volunteer program; there are currently 29 volunteers.

Ms. Thompson stressed the importance of testing, which helps minimize the spread of infection, and of continuing to wear masks. In response to the Board, she gave an update on contact tracing efforts.

Ms. Lynn provided an update on efforts to vaccinate Border Patrol personnel; Border Patrol has been integrated into the County's Points of Dispensing (PODs). She discussed partnership efforts to ensure that Border Patrol has tools and resources available.

Ms. Rochin reported on public outreach efforts, including a recent press release about moving to the hybrid vaccination model; the press release was shared in local media and outlets in broader Arizona. The Board and Ms. Rochin discussed a recent Governor's Executive Order (EO), concerning reopening schools, and effective ways to provide information to students.

The Board continued to discuss the EO, and its impact on schools in the County. Supervisor Crosby read an excerpt of the EO, listing Counties with schools having a high transmission rate; Cochise County was not listed. Ms. Thompson stated that a staff epidemiologist who is assigned to schools will report at next week's meeting.

Chairman English adjourned the meeting at 10:42 a.m.

APPROVED:

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Ann English, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Kim Lemons, Clerk of the Board