

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COCHISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
WORK SESSION HELD ON
FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 2021**

A work session of the Cochise County Board of Supervisors was held on Friday, April 23, 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
Christine Roberts, Chief Civil Deputy County Attorney
Kim Lemons, Clerk of the Board
Camila Rochin, Public Information Officer

Attendees: Craig Janiszewski, Emerg Preparedness Specialist
Martha Montano, Epidemiologist
Tammi-Jo Wilkins, Emerg Preparedness Specialist
Nathalie O'Shea, Administrative Assistant
Judy Lynn, Emergency Services Director

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.

Mr. Janiszewski, Ms. Montano, Ms. Wilkins, Ms. O'Shea, Ms. Rochin, and Ms. Lynn presented this item. Ms. Montano provided information on the UK COVID-19 variant and the number of variant cases in the County. She discussed the need for vaccinations and reviewed the number of COVID-19 cases in the County in the past two weeks, noting that the cases have plateaued, rather than decreased. Face masks at schools are no longer an Arizona Department of Health Services requirement; however, most schools are still requiring them. In response to the Board, Ms. Montano confirmed that staff will alert the Board if clusters of cases are identified.

Mr. Janiszewski provided an update on COVID-19 vaccines. He reviewed the number of doses administered in the County, the utilization rate, and the numbers of people who have received the first dose and who are fully vaccinated. He discussed vaccine hesitancy, and noted that it is a statewide, and national, trend. A team from the Health and Social Services department is going into the community and helping register

people for the vaccine; additionally, staff is assisting callers with registration. He provided an update on vaccine Points of Dispensing (PODs), and noted that almost all providers are now accepting walk-in registrations. In response to the Board, he clarified that the number of vaccinations administered includes pharmacies, but the number of doses ordered does not.

Ms. Wilkins provided an update on volunteer management and the status of the Medical Reserve Corps; in response to the Board, Ms. Wilkins provided detailed information about the volunteers' background and experience and the type of work that they can do. Ms. O'Shea noted that staff is hoping to have the volunteers trained by the American Red Cross, to assist as needed with disaster response.

Ms. Lynn stated that there is no new information from Emergency Services to report.

The Board discussed people having the choice to get vaccinated, the plateau of cases and reopening, and continuing to hold the COVID-19 Work Sessions every two weeks. In response to the Board, staff confirmed that they have not released information to the media about the number of cases in various communities.

Ms. Rochin gave an update on staff's partnership with the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension. A live Zoom event will be held on April 27, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. with Dr. Erik McLaughlin, Health and Social Services Medical Director, with up-to-date information on COVID-19, vaccines, and a Question and Answer section.

Chairman English adjourned the meeting at 10:23 a.m.

APPROVED:

Ann English, Chairman

ATTEST:

Kim Lemons, Clerk of the Board