

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COCHISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON  
MONDAY, AUGUST 15, 2022**

A special meeting of the Cochise County Board of Supervisors was held on Monday, August 15, 2022 at 10:00 a.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, Deputy County Administrator  
Christine Roberts, Chief Civil Deputy County Attorney  
Tim Mattix, Clerk of the Board  
Camila Rochin, Public Information Officer

Attendees: Lisa Marra, Elections Director  
Daniel Duchon, Budget 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**

Chairman English stated that agenda item 2 will be considered first at today's meeting.

***PUBLIC HEARINGS***

**Board of Supervisors**

1. Adopt the Tax Rates and Levies for Cochise County Taxing Entities as set forth in the attached Exhibits.

This item was considered second.

Vice-Chairman Judd made a motion to adopt the Tax Rates and Levies for Cochise County Taxing Entities as set forth in the attached Option 1, Exhibits 1-4, which states the County Tax Rate is 2.6747, or it remains flat. Supervisor Crosby seconded the motion.

Chairman English opened the Public Hearing.

Mr. Karwaczka stated that two options are being presented today: one to keep the County tax rate flat, and another for a 2% increase. The motion before the Board is to keep the tax rate flat. The assessed valuations increased and Truth in Taxation Hearings were previously held.

Supervisor Crosby distributed a handout and discussed the median household income in the County; the Flood Control District tax rate of 0.2597; inflation; and, his opinions regarding property taxes and Public Safety Personnel Retirement System Board (PSPRS) unfunded liabilities.

Supervisor Crosby made a motion to amend Option 1, Exhibit 2, to reduce the Flood Control District tax rate from 0.2597 to zero percent, and that the Flood Control District operate on its contingency and cash carry-forward budget. The motion failed for lack of a second.

The Board discussed their thoughts in support of and in opposition to raising taxes and the work of the Flood Control District.

No one chose to speak and Chairman English closed the Public Hearing.

Chairman English called for the vote and it was approved 3-0.

## **ACTION**

### **Board of Supervisors**

2. Accept the elections results certified and submitted by the Cochise County Elections Department as the official canvass for the Primary Election held on August 2, 2022.

This item was considered first.

Vice-Chairman Judd made a motion to accept the elections results certified and submitted by the Cochise County Elections Department as the official canvass for the Primary Election held on August 2, 2022. Supervisor Crosby seconded the motion.

Ms. Marra presented this item and distributed a handout. The election followed legal guidelines and no abnormalities or defects in the process were found. She reviewed various highlights: election program testing; Logic and Accuracy Testing (L&A); number of registered voters; turnout percentages; early voters by mail, in person, and by emergency voting; and, the number of individuals who voted at the 17 Vote Centers on Election Day. The phone bank was open on Election Day from 4:30 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. and no serious complaints were received. She outlined the release of election results on Election Day. She reviewed the number of early ballots received on Election Day at the Vote Centers. The number of Provisional Ballots decreased significantly from previous elections, with a total of 126 cast and 94 accepted by the County Recorder's Office. She reviewed Provisional Ballot requirements.

She reviewed the hand count by the party chairs, noting that it was a 100% match; the post-election L&A had the same results as the pre-election L&A. She reviewed the process of electronic adjudication for write-in candidates. Ten poll worker training classes were held, with a member of each political party attending a class of their choosing. The poll worker handbook and training video are posted online. Ms. Marra recognized the various organizations who opened their facilities for the election and County staff for their assistance.

The Board and Ms. Marra discussed the number of early ballots dropped off on Election Day and the impact of legislation that helped to reduce the number of Provisional Ballots.

Chairman English called for the vote and it was approved 3-0.

Chairman English adjourned the meeting at 10:26 a.m.

APPROVED:

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Ann English, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Tim Mattix, Clerk of the Board