

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COCHISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
WORK SESSION HELD ON
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2022**

A work session of the Cochise County Board of Supervisors was held on Friday, February 4, 2022, 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; Tom Crosby, Supervisor

Staff Present: Richard G. Karwaczka, County Administrator
Sharon Gilman, Deputy County Administrator
Paul Correa, Deputy County Attorney
Tim Mattix, Interim Clerk of the Board
Camila Rochin, Public Information Officer

Attendees: Alicia Thompson, Health & Social Services Director
Vicky King, Director of Nursing
Martha Montano, Epidemiologist
Ginger Dixon, Epidemiologist
Daniel Williamson, Epidemiologist

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.

Dr. Thompson, Ms. Montano, Ms. King, Ms. Dixon, and Mr. Williamson presented this item using a PowerPoint presentation.

Dr. Thompson reviewed an article released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) regarding the efficacy of vaccination and boosters on hospitalization and death rates. She also gave an overview of the Google Scholar website (<https://scholar.google.com>) as a resource.

Ms. Montano presented on COVID-19 trends in both Arizona and the County, including positive test rates, cases, hospitalizations, and deaths. She noted the affect of the Omicron variant on total positive test cases. Ms. Montano briefly discussed Omicron variants BA.1 and BA.2, their similarities, differences, and the proportion of Omicron genomes in sequenced tests.

Ms. King reviewed County vaccination statistics, including data by age group, gender, and by total population. She reviewed vaccine consent forms, including distribution and review with the patient. Prior to vaccination, fact sheets are given to patients, the patient must sign, and a pre-vaccination checklist must be completed. She reviewed the free test kits provided by the federal government, including how to order them, mask recommendations and information on various mask types.

Ms. Dixon presented on the comparison of adult and child vaccine-breakthrough and non-breakthrough cases. She noted that both hospitalization and deaths of adults are higher for non-breakthrough cases.

Mr. Williamson presented on school-related cases. Cases have increased, and 48% of all total cases for the semester were in the last two weeks. Currently, 22 schools are meeting the outbreak definition.

The Board and staff discussed the accuracy of data from different sources, and the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS). The status of the vaccine approval by the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) was also reviewed. Vaccination availability and the proportion of vaccinations within the County provided by private clinics and pharmacies was discussed.

Chairman English adjourned the meeting at 10:47 a.m.

APPROVED:

Ann English, Chairman

ATTEST:

Tim Mattix, Interim Clerk of the Board