

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COCHISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
WORK SESSION HELD ON  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2022**

A work session of the Cochise County Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, October 11, 2022, at 11:00 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

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

Attendees: Joe Casey, Chief Information Officer  
Jonathan Rutherford, Chiricahua Community Health Centers  
Billy Seamans, Fry Fire District

Chairman English called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.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. Discussion and possible direction on the utilization of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding with briefings on completed, on-going and future projects.

Mr. Rutherford presented information from the Chiricahua Community Health Centers (CHCC) using a PowerPoint presentation. CHCC has seen 207 unique patients: 167 are active cases and 40 cases have completed the program, moved away, or did not want further treatment. He reviewed the current staff composition and planned hirings. The score measuring patient quality of life improvement is expected to demonstrate continued improvement.

Ms. Gilman presented information from the County using a PowerPoint presentation. She reviewed the Guiding Principle for use of ARPA funding. She reviewed eligible and ineligible uses of ARPA funds. The County must obligate the \$24.5 million in ARPA funding by 2024 and spend it by 2026. The following expenditures were made: \$1.8 million for payroll costs; \$1.6 million for mental health services; \$1.3 million on Physical Plant Changes for Public Facilities; \$67,250 on environmental health inspection fee waivers for small businesses and non-profits; and, \$2.4 million on other public health expenses uses.

Mr. Seamans briefed the Board on the Countywide Emergency System installation, which is underway for Phase 1. County Information Technology installed the system in 14 buildings to date, with Phase 1 go-live anticipated for November 2, 2022. Phase 2 go-live is anticipated in February, 2023. In response to the Board, Mr. Seamans stated response times are crucial in public service and hopes the new system will improve call processing and emergency units' response times.

Ms. Gilman reviewed Board-approved projects, including a Public Health Finance Officer who manages the grants within the Health Department and Cybersecurity Tools. The County could take \$10 million as the automatic allowable amount for revenue replacement. The remaining \$9.2 million may be used for payroll expenses to offset the General Fund; those funds can then be used for County operating expenses in IT, Health and the Animal Shelter Remodel project. Proposed expenses for Water, Sewer and Broadband Infrastructure include \$5 million for the Commercial Port of Entry Water/Wastewater Construction, and over \$2 million for construction or to match grant funding for Broadband Last Mile or other projects. Mr. Casey gave a brief overview of the Broadband feasibility study, noting that it will be presented to the Board in the coming months.

Ms. Gilman summarized the ARPA budget, noting total obligation, total transfer for payroll, and proposed obligations.

In response to the Board, Mr. Casey said IT security was in a good place, and Ms. Gilman confirmed that the Commercial Port of Entry is the water project in Douglas.

Chairman English adjourned the meeting at 1:02 p.m.

APPROVED:

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Ann English, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Tim Mattix, Clerk of the Board