

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COCHISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2023**

A regular board meeting of the Cochise County Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, March 14, 2023 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, 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

Chairman English called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

ANY ITEM ON THIS AGENDA IS OPEN FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

THE ORDER OR DELETION OF ANY ITEM ON THIS AGENDA IS SUBJECT TO MODIFICATION AT THE MEETING

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Kara Harris thanked Supervisor Crosby and Vice-Chairman Judd and requested changes to the voting system be placed on the agenda as soon as possible.

Randall Limbach thanked Supervisor Crosby and Vice-Chairman Judd and asked that the Board postpone the May Jail District election and nominate Supervisor Crosby as Chairman.

Linda Marie Coonts asked the Board to nominate Supervisor Crosby for Chairman and discussed the reasons.

Allison Morse spoke in support of the Attorney General's lawsuit against the Board and discussed the Election Director position.

Alfred Kern discussed his concerns about the maintenance of various roads.

Dan LaChance spoke regarding election related items he would like to see on the agenda and requested Chairman English be replaced as Chairman.

Johnny Wilson spoke against the current election process and requested Supervisor Crosby be appointed Chairman of the Board.

Steven Dickenson was called upon but did not speak.

Radford Hyde spoke against the current election process and discussed the reasons.

Jean Giuffrida spoke against the Attorney General's lawsuit against the Board and discussed the reasons.

Hoang Quan spoke against the current election process.

Joseph Patterson spoke against the current election system and discussed the reasons.

CONSENT

Board of Supervisors

1. Approve the Minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of February 28, 2023.

This item was removed from the consent agenda for separate consideration.

Supervisor Crosby made a motion to approve item 1 on the consent agenda. Vice-Chairman Judd seconded the motion.

Supervisor Crosby discussed Chairman English's comments regarding his vote against the Health Department's fee increases during the February 23, 2023 Regular Board of Supervisors meeting that were not included in the minutes.

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

2. Approve Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the Arizona State Board of Equalization for property tax reviews and appeals, effective February 28, 2023 through February 27, 2024.

County Sheriff

3. Approve Amendment 1 to Agreement M22-0051 between the Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs (DEMA), Cochise County and the Cochise County Sheriff's Office (CCSO), effective October 1, 2022 through December 31, 2024, previously approved by the Board on December 13, 2022.
4. Approve Amendment 1 to Agreement M22-0062 between Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs (DEMA), Cochise County, and the Cochise County Sheriff's Office (CCSO), effective October 1, 2022 through December 31, 2027, previously approved by the Board on December 13, 2022.
5. Approve amended Agreement between Western Sky Aviation, LLC dba Western Sky Helicopters (Western Sky Helicopters) and Cochise County on behalf of the Cochise County Sheriff's Office, per Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs Agreement M22-0062, to provide helicopter services for a period of five (5) years.

Court Administration

6. Approve Fiscal Year 2023 Fill The Gap Funding Agreement, as provided by the Arizona Supreme Court, Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 in the amount of \$31,945.
7. Approve Fiscal Year 2023 grant funding/reimbursement between the Cochise County Superior Court and the Arizona Department of Economic Security for reimbursable paternity and child support activities in the amount of \$13,236.93, effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.
8. Approve Federal Fiscal Year 2023 grant funding/reimbursement between the Cochise County Superior Court and the Arizona Department of Economic Security for reimbursable access and visitation activities, in the amount of \$31,839.99, effective October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023.

Finance

9. Approve demands and budget amendments for operating transfers.

Supervisor Crosby made a motion to approve items 2-9 on the consent agenda. Vice-Chairman Judd seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

ACTION

County Schools

10. Approve Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between Coconino County, through the Coconino County Education Services Agency, and Cochise County School Superintendent for the Literacy Capacity Building Grant, in the amount of \$260,056.03, effective January 1, 2023 through May 9, 2027.

Vice-Chairman Judd made a motion to approve Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between Coconino County, through the Coconino County Education Services Agency, and Cochise County School Superintendent for the Literacy Capacity Building Grant, in the amount of \$260,056.03, effective January 1, 2023 through May 9, 2027. Supervisor Crosby seconded the motion.

Dr. Jacqui Clay, School Superintendent, presented this item. Dr. Clay stated that 37% of students can read at the 3rd grade level and to combat this they are going to train their teachers in literacy for reading. In response to the Board, Dr. Clay stated that Coconino and Yavapai County worked together to write the grant.

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

[Correction: The term of the IGA is January 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024.]

Health & Social Services

11. Approve Amendment 1 to Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) CTR055990, COVID-19 Health Disparities, to extend the agreement through May 30, 2024.

Supervisor Crosby made a motion to approve Amendment 1 to Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) CTR055990, COVID-19 Health Disparities, to extend the agreement through May 30, 2024. Vice-Chairman Judd seconded the motion.

Supervisor Crosby stated that he did not see the original IGA posted for the public. Supervisor Crosby made a motion to table this item until the next regular meeting. The motion failed for a lack of a second.

Elizabeth Robinson, Deputy Health Director, presented this item. Ms. Robinson stated this agreement will extend the service agreements with community agencies that they partner with. She reviewed all of the partner agencies. This IGA builds a Community Health Worker network in Cochise County. This also funds 3.1 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) positions that work with the unhoused population.

Chairman English stated that 13 people did not wish to speak but were in opposition to this item and 0 in favor.

In response to the Board, Ms. Robinson stated that these funds have been primarily used to support community health workers with resources for health literacy for any kind of health topic and provides a Telehealth access location in Sierra Vista.

Chairman English called for the vote and it was approved 2-1 (Crosby opposed).

Human Resources

12. Approve the Cochise Combined Trust premium rate structure for medical, dental and vision benefits for fiscal year 2023-2024.

Vice-Chairman Judd made a motion to approve the Cochise Combined Trust premium rate structure for medical, dental and vision benefits for fiscal year 2023-2024. Supervisor Crosby seconded the motion.

Jennifer Graeme, Associate Human Resources Director, presented this item using a PowerPoint presentation. Ms. Graeme described the various medical plans and reviewed the percentages of employees that participate in each plan and the 2023-2024 plan changes. She reviewed various changes to the plans for this next fiscal year. In response to the Board, Ms Graeme stated that the trust makes decisions based on claims history and as the high deductible has no proposed increase, this will relieve the burden on the taxpayer. Ms. Graeme stated that the greatest increase would be for an individual that elects the Exclusive Provider Organization (EPO) for a family, which would increase by \$12.83 per pay period.

Chairman English called for the vote and it was approved 2-1 (Crosby opposed).

STATE & FEDERAL LEGISLATION

13. Discussion and possible action regarding state and federal legislative matters listed or described in the attached County Supervisors Association Legislative Policy Committee Agenda, the Arizona Association of Counties (AACo) Legislative Policy Committee Agenda, and the proposed State budget, and other matters related thereto.

Chairman English stated that the Board received information on this item. No Board action was taken on this item.

REPORT BY RICHARD G. KARWACZKA, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR -- RECENT AND PENDING COUNTY MATTERS

This item was discussed after the summary of current events.

Mr. Karwaczka reported that the first Open House Meeting for the Jail District will be March 27 at Cochise College in Sierra Vista at 6:00 p.m. which will give the public more information about the Jail District. Mr. Karwaczka clarified that this is not a Bond but a 1/2 cent sales tax.

SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

Report by District 1 Supervisor, Tom Crosby

Supervisor Crosby deferred his report.

Report by District 2 Supervisor, Ann English

Chairman English deferred her report.

Report by District 3 Supervisor, Peggy Judd

Vice-Chairman Judd stated that the Cochise Country Fest will be March 17-19 at the 4Ever Ranch in Benson.

Chairman English adjourned the meeting at 11:03 a.m.

APPROVED:

Ann English, Chairman

ATTEST:

Tim Mattix, Clerk of the Board