

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COCHISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
WORK SESSION HELD ON  
TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2023**

A work session of the Cochise County Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, March 14, 2023, 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: Dan Coxworth, Development Services Director  
Susan Bronson, Planner

Chairman English called the meeting to order at 11:08 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 regarding the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding eligible projects.

Dan Coxworth introduced Susan Bronson, Planner, and she presented using a PowerPoint presentation. Ms. Bronson stated that the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) is a Federal program administered by Arizona Department of Housing. The criteria that must be met to qualify for the grant is that the project must benefit low and moderate income persons, eliminate slum or blight conditions or meet urgent needs related to health and safety. The projects that would qualify are housing, public facilities or services and planning, such as comprehensive plans. Ms. Bronson stated that 2023 is the year that Cochise County is due to receive CDBG funds of approximately \$498,000 and reviewed the public participation process. The public hearing date is March 28, 2023 and the project will be selected at that time. Staff recommends the Board consider doing the Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program which would be for owner-occupied properties with emergency repairs falling under this category. There is a maximum of \$15,000 per residence for emergency repair with no home insurance requirement. If the repair or rehabilitation goes beyond the \$15,000, home insurance is required.

In response to the Board, examples of what types of repairs could be completed for \$15,000 were given, such as roof repair, HVAC repair or mold remediation. Mr.

Coxworth stated they did not receive any suggestions from the public meeting. Discussion ensued regarding absentee property owners and code compliance issues. In response to the Board, Ms. Bronson stated that income requirement for this grant is 80% or less of the median income, which would be \$31,000 for a one-person household and a four-member household would be under \$44,400.

In response to the Board, Mr. Coxworth stated that the CDBG funds may be used for infrastructure projects, but \$500,000 would not help Elfrida or Bowie with their water problems. Vice-Chairman Judd stated that the transmission line will be helping Bowie with improving its water lines privately.

There was discussion regarding the best way to notify the public that there are funds available through the CDBG grant.

Chairman English stated that each Board member should speak with staff prior to the meeting on March 28th with any ideas on how the grant funds should be spent.

Mr. Bronson stated that there are state-specific and competitive grants for colonias that people can apply for.

The Board and Mr. Coxworth discussed the system to manage applications and tools to assist citizens applying for the grant.

In response to the Board, Ms. Bronson stated that staff would reach out to the Southeastern Arizona Government Organization (SEAGO) if they needed assistance administering the grant. Mr. Karwaczka stated that the focus needs to be to get the word out about the grant.

Chairman English adjourned the meeting at 11:38 a.m.

APPROVED:

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Ann English, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Tim Mattix, Clerk of the Board