

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COCHISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
WORK SESSION HELD ON
TUESDAY, JUNE 27, 2023**

A work session of the Cochise County Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, June 27, 2023, at 10:30 a.m. in the Board of Supervisors' Hearing Room, 1415 Melody Lane, Building G, Bisbee, Arizona.

Present: Peggy Judd, Chairman; Tom Crosby, Vice-Chairman; Ann English, Supervisor

Staff Present: Richard G. Karwaczka, County Administrator
Sharon Gilman, Deputy County Administrator
Christine Roberts, Chief Civil Deputy County Attorney
Lara Loewenheim, Deputy Clerk of the Board

Chairman Judd called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

ANY ITEM ON THIS AGENDA IS OPEN FOR DISCUSSION

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Board of Supervisors

1. Discussion and possible direction regarding county animal welfare and shelters.

Ms. Gilman presented this item using a PowerPoint presentation and answered questions from the Board throughout. Ms. Gilman reviewed the current agreements the County has regarding animal control. The Board gave the Sheriff responsibility for Animal Control Officers (ACOs) to enforce ordinances and state laws; there are 5 Animal ACOs for the entire County. Intergovernmental Agreements (IGAs) with the cities of Douglas (Douglas) and Willcox (Willcox), and a Professional Service Agreement with the Humane Society of Southern Arizona (HSSA). Chairman Judd requested that the Board get periodic updates on the IGAs. Ms. Gilman explained that the County has an IGA with Douglas to provide services to the County ACOs and Douglas abides by their own protocol and state law and if a complaint was received regarding Douglas, the County would reach out to Douglas for a response.

Ms. Gilman reviewed the terms of the IGA with Douglas and stated that Douglas is responsible for the operations and the ACOs and the County maintain control of the animals that are impounded for law enforcement purposes. Ms. Gilman stated that Douglas is currently exploring funding options for a new shelter.

Ms. Gilman reviewed the terms of the IGA with Willcox and stated that Willcox provides day to day maintenance on the County-owned building. Ms. Gilman stated that the cost of services is more in Willcox because it is more heavily used and Willcox provides some maintenance.

Ms. Gilman reviewed the terms of the Service Agreement with HSSA, which is transportation of animals from the Douglas Animal Shelter to their facility in Tucson for adoption. The Board and Ms. Gilman discussed vaccination of animals and the commitment of HSSA. Ms. Gilman reported that the CEO of HSSA, Steve Farley, has

agreed update the Board on HSSA activities in September.

Ms. Gilman gave a project update on the County Shelter in Bisbee, which will be a partnership with the HSSA for the operation of the facility. Ms. Gilman stated that this project would include a clinic that would provide vaccination and spay and neuter services. Ms. Gilman stated that a Request for Supplier Qualifications (RFSQ) was posted in February, submissions have been reviewed and are in discussion with an architecture firm regarding the scope of the project. The contract will be brought to the Board for approval after County Attorney's office review and United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) approval. In response to the Board, Ms. Gilman stated that this is a grant from USDA for a Cochise County Animal Shelter related to the remodeling of the Tovreaville Road facility in the amount of 1.1 million, which requires matching funds.

Chairman Judd stated that she is advocating for a facility in the northwestern part of the County due to distance of transportation of animals and limited access and hours of current facilities.

There was extensive discussion amongst the Board regarding the need for an upcoming work session to discuss animal welfare and shelters.

Chairman Judd adjourned the meeting at 11:05 a.m.

APPROVED:

Peggy Judd, Chairman

ATTEST:

Sharon Gilman, Interim Clerk of the Board