

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COCHISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SPECIAL/EXECUTIVE MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2025**

A special meeting of the Cochise County Board of Supervisors was held on Monday, January 6, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the Board of Supervisors' Executive Conference Room, 1415 Melody Lane, Building G, Bisbee, Arizona.

Present: Tom Crosby, Vice-Chairman; Kathleen L. Gomez, Supervisor; Frank Antenori, Supervisor

Staff Present: Sharon Gilman, Interim County Administrator
Joe Casey, Interim Deputy County Administrator
Paul Correa, Chief Civil Deputy County Attorney
Lara Loewenheim, Clerk of the Board

Attendees: David Stevens, County Recorder
Marisol Renteria, Interim Elections Director
Lori Zucco, County Attorney

Vice-Chairman Crosby called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

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

ACTION

Board of Supervisors

This executive session is authorized under A.R.S. § 38-431.03, Subsection (A)(3) and (4).

1. Discussion and possible direction regarding Cochise County's Petition for Review before the Arizona Supreme Court in the matter of Daniel LaChance, et al., v Cochise County, et al., CV-24-0150-PR.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-421.03 (A)(3) and (4), the board may go into executive session for legal advice with the attorney of the public body to consider its position and instruct attorneys regarding the public body's position in pending litigation.

Supervisor Antenori made a motion to go into executive session pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-421.03 (A)(3) and (4), the board may go into executive session for legal advice with the attorney of the public body to consider its position and instruct attorneys regarding the public body's position in pending litigation. Supervisor Gomez seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Lori Zucco, County Attorney, explained that she reached out to the State Bar Ethics Hotline and were advised that she has a conflict of interest due to her husband being the trial judge. She stated the conflict extends to her staff, including Mr. Correa. She

mentioned that Mr. Morgan, the attorney of record on the appeal, is available to attend the executive session and update the group on the litigation.

Paul Correa, Chief Civil County Attorney, made a comment to ensure that when the meeting returns from executive session, it is that both Ms. Zucco and himself left the session and the time of departure was 9:04 a.m. noted.

The Board moved into Executive Session at 9:06 a.m.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 9:50 a.m. All Board members were present.

Supervisor Antenori made a motion to approve the termination of legal representation and the contract for Craig Morgan of Sherman and Howard in the matter of Daniel LaChance, et al., v Cochise County, et. al., CV-24-0150-PR. Supervisor Gomez seconded the motion.

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

Supervisor Antenori made a motion to retain legal counsel Timothy Lasota in the matter of Daniel LaChance, et al., v Cochise County, et. al., CV-24-0150-PR. Supervisor Gomez seconded the motion.

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

The Board moved into Executive Session at 9:51 a.m.

The Board came out of the Executive Session at 10:04 a.m. All Board members were present.

Supervisor Gomez made a motion to direct legal counsel Timothy Lasota to file a motion seeking a continuance of the Supreme Court petition to review in the matter of Daniel LaChance, et al., v Cochise County, et. al., CV-24-0150-PR. Supervisor Antenori seconded the motion.

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

Vice-Chairman Crosby adjourned the meeting at 10:04 a.m.

APPROVED:

Tom Crosby, Vice-Chairman

ATTEST:

Lara Loewenheim, Clerk of the Board