

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COCHISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SPECIAL/EXECUTIVE MEETING HELD ON
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2025**

A special meeting of the Cochise County Board of Supervisors was held on Friday, February 7, 2025 at 11:30 a.m. in the Board of Supervisors' Executive Conference Room, 1415 Melody Lane, Building G, Bisbee, Arizona.

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

Staff Present: Sharon Gilman, Interim County Administrator
Joe Casey, Interim Deputy County Administrator
Lara Loewenheim, Clerk of the Board

Attendees: Marisol Renteria, Interim Elections Director

Chairman Antenori called the meeting to order at 11:30 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

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 or legal action regarding Cochise County's Petition for Review, and the Plaintiffs' Cross Petition for Review, both currently 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.

Vice-Chairman Crosby made a motion to 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 regarding Cochise County's Petition for Review and the Plaintiff's Cross Petition for Review both currently before the Arizona Supreme Court in the matter of Daniel LaChance et al., v. Cochise County, et. al., CV-24-0150-PR. Chairman Antenori seconded the motion.

Chairman Antenori called for the vote and it was approved 2-0 (Gomez Absent).

The Board moved into Executive Session at 11:32 a.m.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 12:30 p.m. All Board members were present.

Vice-Chairman Crosby made a motion to direct our attorney to withdraw the Petition to Review. Supervisor Gomez seconded the motion.

Supervisor Gomez acknowledged merit in Mr. LaChance's lawsuit, expressing concerns about the 25-year tax, the all-mail May election, and the lack of a public vote. Ms. Gomez supported the jail's construction, the decision to withdraw the petition was based on these factors and an effort to ensure proper process.

Vice-Chairman Crosby acknowledged that the appeals court ruled in Mr. LaChance's favor and recognized the possibility of compromise on key issues, including concerns about voter disenfranchisement.

The discussion confirmed that a settlement with LaChance could be an option to reach a resolution that satisfies all parties.

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

Chairman Antenori adjourned the meeting at 12:31 p.m.

APPROVED:

Frank Antenori, Chairman

ATTEST:

Lara Loewenheim, Clerk of the Board