

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COCHISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SPECIAL/EXECUTIVE MEETING HELD ON
FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 2025**

A special meeting of the Cochise County Board of Supervisors was held on Friday, March 21, 2025 at 10:00 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, telephonic; Kathleen L. Gomez, 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: Billy Cloud, County Recorder
Marisol Renteria, Interim Elections Director
Timothy La Sota, Outside Counsel

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

ACTION

Board of Supervisors

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

1. Discussion, direction and possible legal action regarding the ongoing litigation and potential settlement and settlement offer by the County regarding Daniel LaChance 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 pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03 (A)(3) and (4), the board may go into executive session Discussion, direction and possible legal action regarding the ongoing litigation and potential settlement and settlement offer by the County regarding Daniel LaChance v. Cochise County, et al., CV-24-0150-PR. Supervisor Gomez seconded the motion.

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

The Board moved into Executive Session at 10:03 a.m.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 10:54 a.m. All Board were present.

Supervisor Gomez made a motion to direct Mr. La Sota to complete the settlement agreement with Mr. LaChance, including the following binding settlement offer points to suspend the collection of the tax until a new election is held in November 2025, to agree to pay \$130,000 to Plaintiff, Daniel LaChance and to agree that it is contingent upon approval of the joint motion to voluntarily dismiss. Vice-Chairman Crosby seconded the motion.

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

Supervisor Gomez emphasized that the Board remains committed to building a new jail. She stated an election in 2025 is planned to bring the matter back to the public for input. She stated the goal is to complete the project without creating a tax burden for 25 years.

Chairman Antenori stated that the Board is committed to ensuring proper procedures, especially regarding elections. He emphasized the importance of confirming public support for funding the jail through a sales tax. He stated the goal is to eliminate any doubt about the community's backing before moving forward.

Chairman Antenori adjourned the meeting at 10:57 a.m.

APPROVED:

Frank Antenori, Chairman

ATTEST:

Lara Loewenheim, Clerk of the Board