

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COCHISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
WORK SESSION HELD ON  
TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2025**

A work session of the Cochise County Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, at 1:30 p.m. in the Board of Supervisors' Hearing 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: Stacy Fenhaus, Budget Manager

Chairman Antenori called the meeting to order at 1:37 p.m.

***ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION***

**Board of Supervisors**

1. Budget Work Session - Discussion of Flood Control District Funding Requests, Expenses and Revenue Projections for Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

Mr. Casey presented this item using a PowerPoint presentation. Mr. Casey addressed the Board's interest in using contingency funds to reduce or eliminate the floodplain tax. He explained that doing so would require reevaluating or cutting several upcoming projects already planned for construction or planning for the upcoming years.

The Board expressed concerns about spending large amounts of money on planning and monitoring activities that don't directly result in water production. The Board indicated a preference for investing funds in actual construction projects rather than in studies or assessments.

Vice-Chairman Crosby asserted that the local river effectively serves as the water table.

Chairman Antenori emphasized that while the San Pedro basin appears healthy, most attention and recharge efforts have been focused there. He advocated for low-cost, practical solutions like gabion walls to slow water flow and enhance groundwater recharge, rather than spending funds on concrete channels or excessive studies.

Mr. Casey clarified that the Riverstone project focuses on capturing runoff from hard surfaces in Sierra Vista to recharge water north of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

The Board and staff discussed recurring flooding issues across various basins, including Douglas, Benson, and San Pedro. The Board discussed shifting funding

and attention to the eastern part of the county, with concerns raised about the overuse of studies and a push for more direct road and drainage improvements.

The Board discussed potential solutions for water retention. The Board and staff discussed how current water management practices might be diverting resources from other areas, such as the Willcox and Douglas basins, to support the Fort and its water needs.

The Board discussed potential adjustments to the flood control budget. Ms. Gilman stated a work session is scheduled in June where flood control projects would be further reviewed.

Chairman Antenori adjourned the meeting at 2:01 p.m.

APPROVED:

---

Frank Antenori, Chairman

ATTEST:

---

Lara Loewenheim, Clerk of the Board