



**OFFICE OF THE
COCONINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

SPECIAL SESSION MINUTES

May 5, 2022

8:00 a.m. – Special Session
(Budget Discussions)

Present: Chair Patrice Horstman, Vice Chair Jeronimo Vasquez, Supervisor Judy Begay and Supervisor Matt Ryan were present in person. Supervisor Lena Fowler was present virtually via Zoom technology.

Also Present: County Manager Steve Peru, Deputy County Manager/Public Works Director Lucinda Andreani, Deputy County Manager Sue Brown, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors Lindsay Daley and Deputy Clerk of the Board Valerie Webber were present virtually via Zoom meeting technology.

Chair Patrice Horstman called the Special Session meeting to order at 8:34 a.m.

1. Reserved for Discussion regarding FY23 Budget - 8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

County Manager Peru provided opening statements.

2. County Administration Department Budget Presentation & Discussion – 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Deputy County Manager Sue Brown provided a presentation that introduced County Administration Department staff and highlighted newly titled and filled positions.

County Manager Peru and Deputy County Manager Sue Brown answered questions asked by individual Board members related to the transfer of the Elections Department and Sustainability Program staff to County Administration Department and, additional questions regarding the Sustainability Program.

Public Affairs Director Trey Williams addressed the Board and highlighted the accomplishments of the Public Affairs Department during the last fiscal year, which included communications during several County emergencies and legislative advocacy on behalf of the Board of Supervisors. He outlined goals for the Public Affairs Department this next fiscal year and spoke about the importance of continued collaboration with County departments.

Individual Board members spoke about the importance of the work done by Public Affairs and thanked Director Williams for his accomplishments.

Special Assistant to the County Manager Corey Ringenberg addressed the Board and spoke about plans to continue to try to recruit a new Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) coordinator and the goals and importance of addressing criminal justice issues.

Individual Board members thanked Mr. Ringenberg for the work he has done and spoke about the importance of continued support of CJCC. Assistant Ringenberg answered questions about the services starting as a result of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding investments.

Elections Director and Assistant County Manager Eslir Musta addressed the Board and spoke about accomplishments to date since transfer of the Elections Department under County Administration.

Individual Board members thanked Director Musta for the work he has done and spoke about the importance of elections and transparency. Director Musta answered questions asked by individual Board members related to election practices.

Sustainability Program Manager Amande Acheson spoke about County wide efforts to promote sustainability. She answered questions answered by individual Board members regarding obstacles such as educating the public on the importance of climate change.

Individual Board members thanked Manager Acheson for the work she does and spoke about the importance of understanding sustainability and climate change.

WIOA Executive Director Billy Francis briefly spoke about efforts to build the workforce development team and the opportunities they provide. He outlined goals of the program and diversity of the team being built. Upon inquiry from Vice Chair Vasquez, he explained that the greatest challenge is educating the public on the possibilities provided by the WIOA team.

Individual Board members thanked Director Francis for the work he does and spoke about the importance of having a diverse workforce team.

Economic Development Manager Chris Pasterz briefly spoke about the work done with business owners, non-profits, academic institutions and Navajo Nation Chapters in applying for grants to build out economic capacity. Upon inquiry from Vice Chair Vasquez, he explained that the greatest challenge is continued focus on the fact that jobs are tied to affordable housing and the need for programs that address housing and job problems. Upon inquiry from Supervisor Begay, he said more important than adding another full-time employee, is working to leverage funding by matching money to access additional federal grants and programs.

Individual Board members thanked Manager Pasterz for the work he does and spoke about the importance building economic development.

Chair Horstman called for a break at 10:21 a.m. and reconvened open session at 10:35 a.m.

3. Clerk of the Board/Board of Supervisors Department Budget Presentation & Discussion – 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Clerk of the Board Lindsay Daley addressed the Board and outlined accomplishments of the Clerk of the Board's Office in the past year and spoke about goals and challenges faced since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Individual Board members thanked Clerk Daley and her staff for their hard work and spoke about the importance of their support of the Board.

4. Superintendent of Schools & Forest Fee Allocation Budget Presentation & Discussion – 10:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Finance Director Siri Mullaney outlined requirements for expending Secure Rural Schools Act, Title I School Allocations and Title II Resource Advisory Committee allocations.

Superintendent of Schools Cheryl Mango-Paget outlined proposed allocations for expending Secure Rural Schools Act, Title I funding for FY23.

Deputy County Manager Lucinda Andreani highlighted Secure Rural Schools Act, Title I allocations for road maintenance and capital projects in FY23 and proposed Title II Resource Advisory Committee funding for projects on federal lands. She further described recent RAC approved County projects.

Superintendent of Schools Cheryl Mango-Paget further outlined accomplishments made by the Superintendent of Schools Office and county schools in FY22. She highlighted grants received, programs provided, the Departments values and vision and services provided.

Superintendent of Schools Business Manager Flora Hatch provided an overview of the Superintendent of Schools current overall budget and the impact to general fund of forest fee transition scenarios. She reviewed proposed service improvement requests for FY23.

Superintendent of Schools Cheryl Mango-Paget spoke about the legislative landscape and ways the Board could advocate for schools.

Finance Director Siri Mullaney provided clarification on indirect cost recovery back to the Superintendent of Schools Office.

Superintendent of Schools Cheryl Mango-Paget answered questions asked by individual Board members regarding the County's proposed compensation package.

Individual Board members provided feedback on the information presented.

County Manager Peru noted it is frustrating when making financial decisions but it is important to know what the future looks like so staff can look at how to expand the general fund moving forward.

Chair Horstman called for a break at 12:39 p.m. and reconvened open session at 1:19 p.m.

5. Adult Probation Department Budget Presentation & Discussion – 1:00 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

Adult Probation Director Sarah Douthit introduced the vision and mission statement of the Adult Probation Office and outlined the services provided and FY22 successes and challenges. She outlined their goals and plans.

County Manager Peru outlined various reasons staff is unable to recommend funding Adult Probations proposed FY23 service improvement requests.

Adult Probation Director Sarah Douthit answered questions asked by Vice Chair Vasquez regarding the staff recommended employee compensation proposal and the length of time vacancies have been open.

Individual Board members provided feedback on the information presented.

Supervisor Judy Begay left the meeting at 1:55 p.m.

6. Juvenile Court Department Budget Presentation & Discussion – 1:45 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Juvenile Court Services Director Casey Lightfoot outlined the services provided by Juvenile Court.

Supervisor Ryan left the meeting at 2:00 p.m. and returned at 2:05 p.m.

Juvenile Court Judge Angela Kircher continued with a presentation explaining the challenges the court went through during the COVID-10 pandemic.

Juvenile Court Services Director Casey Lightfoot continued with the presentation by describing services provided by Juvenile Court.

Delinquency Division Manager Walt Spokes explained the services provided by the division and spoke about delinquency referrals and the number of youth that were committed to the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC).

Juvenile Court Detention Division Jeremy Russell spoke about the average daily population at the juvenile detention center and the average length of stay as well as services provided to juvenile detainees.

Program and Treatment Division Manager Sidney Boyer highlighted the services provided by the division and provided data related to youth in out-of-home placements and classes provided by the Transition School.

Lead Juvenile Probation Officer Sean Kennedy displayed a presentation of the Hope Center transformation.

Supervisor Begay returned to the meeting at 2:18 p.m.

Juvenile Court Services Director Casey Lightfoot further outlined in-house and community services offered to juvenile probationers.

Deputy Director Israel Garcia described the Bravo House renovation, success of the Transition School and the Page Tse' Yaato Satellite Office.

Juvenile Court Services Director Casey Lightfoot highlighted potential challenges on the horizon and possible solutions and the Court's vision.

Individual Board members provided feedback on the information presented and expressed their appreciation for staff at Juvenile Court. She answered questions related to services being provided by utilizing ARPA funding, the collaboration they do with schools to provide services for juveniles and their current vacancy rate.

Judge Kirchner answered questions regarding virtual court proceedings.

7. Constables Budget Presentation & Discussion – 2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Constable Linda Kruczynski spoke about the number of warrants issued and services provided by the Constables in the past two years and their service improvement request for increased wages.

Special Assistant Corey Ringenberg provided statutory requirements that outline fees paid to Constables.

Finance Director Siri Mullaney explained there will be an additional \$500 that will be allocated and can be used for temporary wages.

Constable Linda Kruczynski continued explaining the reason for the requested wage increase.

Williams Precinct Constable Gregory King spoke about the area covered by the Williams Precinct and highlighted service improvement request for a pay increase.

Special Assistant Corey Ringenberg clarified statutory requirements of the position, noting the Williams Precinct did not meet the criteria, it is just shy as the position was vacant for some time. He added the recommendation from the County Manager is the maximum allowed statutorily.

Individual Board members provided feedback on the information presented.

Chair Horstman called for a break at 3:19 p.m. and reconvened open session at 3:31 p.m. Supervisor Lena Fowler was not present.

County Manager Peru introduced the next two items.

8. Public Works Flood Control District & Forest Initiatives Budget Presentation & Discussion – 3:15 – 4:00 p.m.

Deputy County Manager/Flood Control District Administrator Lucinda Andreani introduced staff and provided a presentation that highlighted strategic priorities of the Flood Control District. She spoke about the continued need to invest in forest restoration to reduce the impact of disasters to communities and outlined the impact to property tax base and County funds due to many disasters since 2010. She continued describing critical goals of the Flood Control District and unique opportunities to leverage federal funding.

Supervisor Lena Fowler returned to the meeting virtually at 3:37 p.m.

Forest Restoration Director Jay Smith continued with the presentation by speaking about the consequences and realities of not investing in forest restoration. He outlined the Forest Restoration Strategic Plan.

Administrator Andreani spoke about the critical goal to fund Museum Fire and Schultz Fire, flood mitigation and repairs due to the Tunnel Fire.

County Engineer Chris Tressler continued the presentation by addressing the critical goals of implementing FEMA special flood hazard area projects to reduce public safety threats and improve communities, the need to begin planning for projects in partnerships with jurisdictions, and the need to develop a program where the district partners with jurisdictions that administer their floodplains.

Administrator Andreani addressed possibilities for meeting the critical goals in order to address the demands and needs and outlined the Flood Control District's FY23 personnel funding requests.

Forest Restoration Director Jay Smith noted that will all the new positions being requested, staffing is at 11% of the revenue. He reviewed FY23 proposed operations funding requests and strategic capital investments request.

Administrator Andreani spoke about funding that is needed to fund the outlined critical goals, which included a brief history of the district property tax levy. She highlighted staff recommendations to increase the Flood Control District rate to meet the current and future goals.

Public Works Administrative Division Manager Jeremy Floyd briefly reviewed the Flood Control District 10-Year Plan, pointing out estimated expenses, revenues and reimbursements.

Administrator Andreani continued highlighting messaging that there needs to be a major decision that will impact citizens, communities and the environment for decades. She answered questions regarding the tax levy, the Tunnel Fire burn scar and resources needed to continue flood mitigation.

Forest Restoration Director Jay Smith spoke about fire/flood insurance rates that are very high due to the area.

Individual Board members provided feedback on the information presented and expressed the importance of flood mitigation and forest restoration.

9. Public Works Community Wildfire Defense Program Budget Presentation & Discussion
– 4:00 p.m. -5:00 p.m.

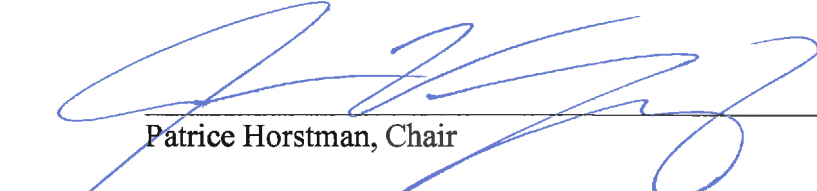
This item was not addressed by the Board.

There being no further discussion, Chair Horstman adjourned the Special Session meeting at 5:11 p.m.

COCONINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

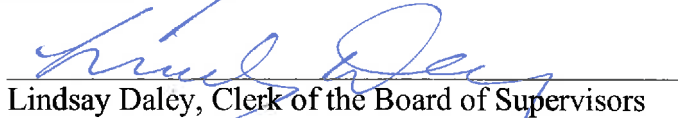
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Patrice Horstman, Chair

ATTEST:



Lindsay Daley, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

