

The Board met in a Regular Meeting at the Santa Cruz County Complex, 2150 N. Congress Drive, Room #120, Nogales, AZ. Present: Rudy Molera, Chairman; John Fanning, Vice-Chairman; Luis Carlos Davis, Member; Jesus Valdez, County Manager; Mauricio Chavez, Deputy County Manager; Christopher Young, Deputy County Manager; Robert May, Civil Bureau Chief; Alma Schultz, Clerk of the Board.

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Molera called the meeting to order, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, led by Selina Valenzuela.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Vice-Chairman Fanning made a motion to adopt the Agenda and deviate from the Agenda sequence as necessary; seconded by Supervisor Davis; motion carried. (Ayes: Davis, Fanning, Molera)

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

Bryan Vandervoet, a resident of Tubac, thanked the Board of Supervisors for their support of the library. He noted the approval of a contract for the renovation of the Sonoita library and expressed that, once completed, he would like to campaign for a community building in Rio Rico, expanding the wall to add an extra 300 feet. He mentioned that the Rio Rico library has seen significant use recently and celebrated issuing library cards, marking the 250th card.

Susan Faubion, a resident of Rio Rico, discussed problems with her septic line and explained the county's bidding process to assist with repairs. She stated that the county originally approved the line when her house was built. Ms. Faubion requested that her notice of claim be reviewed and that she receive full payment. She added that the county has indicated it is not at fault for the septic line being installed on a neighbor's property and, as a result, wants to offer her less than the full amount.

Hunter Williams, speaking on behalf of Chris Gardner, thanked the Board for holding study sessions and shared concerns about water quality issues, including antimony detected in Susan Wethington's water and groundwater, and selenium discharge exceeding limits three times. He emphasized the need to protect fish in Harshaw Creek and noted that discharge limits have been exceeded. Mr. Williams requested that the Board provide a letter of support for further studies and actions to address these issues.

Chris Werkhoven, a resident of Sonoita, spoke about air pollution concerns related to Hermosa and referenced ADEQ's air quality permit granted to South32. He stated that emissions from the mine are causing harm to the public and expressed concern that the Community Benefits and Protections Agreement does not adequately protect residents. Mr. Werkhoven urged the Board to object to the Final DEIS, request that ADEQ reopen the Final Air Quality Permit, and establish an independent expert panel to determine proactive measures that provide real protection.

Robin Lucky, a resident of Rio Rico, thanked the Board for the recent study session and emphasized the importance of citizen scientist participation.

Cynthia Cobalt, a resident of Rio Rico, spoke about a countywide issue involving ICE, stating that ICE has already impacted the community and could further invade. She requested that the Board develop a plan for citizens in the event of such an occurrence and asked that no ICE detention center be established in the county. Ms. Cobalt also referenced an example from a Tucson article to support her concerns.

Mary Darling, a resident of Nogales, congratulated Superintendent Daniel Erickson for receiving recognition for his Leadership. She raised public concerns regarding a WIRE article, the access agreement for the Tubac checkpoint, and the need for transparency on the matter. Ms. Darling also requested that RTS (Request to Speak) be used at the legislature to oppose the presence of immigration offices at vote centers.

Chuck Klingenstein, a resident of Sonoita, spoke about the recent study sessions regarding antimony exceedance and its release into Harshaw Creek. He requested that a Community Benefits and Protections Agreement (CBPA) be drafted to safeguard the county throughout the projected 70-year lifespan of the Hermosa mine.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND ACTIVITIES

3. AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

A RECOGNITION TO SELINA VALENZUELA, A GRADUATE OF NOGALES HIGH SCHOOL, FOR HER EXEMPLARY ACHIEVEMENTS, INCLUDING HER SERVICE IN THE GOVERNOR’S OFFICE. HER DEDICATION AND PROFESSIONALISM REFLECT GREAT CREDIT UPON HERSELF AND OUR COMMUNITY. (REQ: CHAIRMAN MOLERA)

Chairman Molera recognized Selina Valenzuela for her accomplishments. Nathalia Montiveros provided a brief overview of the Tucson office, explaining that it is part of the Governor’s Office and summarizing its role.

CURRENT EVENTS

1. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

SUPERVISOR DAVIS: reported on recent activities, noting that Dr. Coronado and Francisco Lara from ASU met with the Provisional Community College to discuss expanding services and support for students, with the County serving as a bridge between the two institutions. She also visited the office of Representative Adelita Grijalva and met with her staff, as well as Roberto Guerrero from Senator Mark Kelly’s office, connecting him with Arizona@Work to learn more about services for veterans. Additionally, Supervisor Davis met with Pima County Supervisors Jennifer Allan and Matt Haynes to plan a future visit to Santa Cruz County to identify a joint project, and attended the Valentine’s Day party hosted by the Council on Aging, describing it as a wonderful event.

VICE-CHAIRMAN FANNING: reported recent activities, noting that he volunteered as a booth sitter at the Tubac Festival and participated in the Tubac Citizens Council. He worked with Chris Young on the Growing Water Smart initiative, met Governor Hobbs during the Southeast Arizona Fireside Chat to discuss the State of the State, and joined a Border Patrol tour. Additionally, he attended a recent House of Representatives discussion on rural economic development and testimony regarding the DeConcini Port of Entry.

CHAIRMAN MOLERA: reported recent activities, noting that he attended the Tohono O’odham 87th Annual Parade with the County Manager. He thanked Santa Cruz Shining for organizing a river cleanup event and participated in a Zoom call with the School Superintendent Maya Donnelly and Kerri Munoz and Shannon Hall to plan a community and employee fishing event scheduled for April 25th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Also met with regional partners alongside Mr. Valdez, connected with the Governor to strengthen statewide relationships, met with the Consul, joined a Border Patrol tour, and expressed appreciation to the School Superintendent and congratulated the Spelling Bee winners.

2. MANAGER

JESUS VALDEZ, COUNTY MANAGER, no report.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND ACTIVITIES CONT.

1. FINANCE: CASH & INVESTMENTS, EXPENDITURES & REVENUE REPORTS

Mauricio Chavez, Deputy County Manager, reported \$24,376,062.42 in the General Fund, of which \$16,720,105.00 is invested; \$5,927,512.44 in the Road Fund, of which \$5,171,588.87 is invested; \$3,308,472.52 in the Flood Control District Fund, of which \$311,677.68 is invested; \$8,096,860.72 in the Jail District Fund, of which \$4,442,192.70 is invested; \$66,056,034.37 total for all funds, of which \$28,786,805.85 is invested; \$12,297,240.89 estimated end of month balance, compared to \$1 4,732,352.90 cash at February 2025, a difference of \$(2,435,112.01).

Mr. Chavez provided an update on sales tax, reporting that the state released December figures showing an overall increase of 23.8% compared to last year. He noted that this substantial growth is primarily due to contracting work, retail activity, and increased online purchasing.

2. DEPARTMENT(S) UPDATE

Zaida Bustamante, Director of the Local Workforce Board, provided an update on Arizona@Work and reviewed performance documents shared with the Supervisors. She thanked Supervisor Davis for improving veteran services through coordination with Senator Mark Kelly's office and discussed the MOU included in the Consent Agenda. Ms. Bustamante introduced Levi Accord, who shared his success story as a program participant, and Mr. Chavez further elaborated on the program.

Mr. Valdez recognized Zaida and Mauricio for their outstanding efforts in exceeding state expectations and expressed his appreciation.

Shannon Hall, Communications Manager, reported that IT is still working on creating an online donation link for Animal Care and Control. She noted that donations can currently be made by check, cash, or through the Amazon wish list, and shared that the program has received numerous contributions, including a recent \$1,000 donation for the pets, while efforts continue to develop a permanent solution.

Marcela Parra spoke about a grant program she applied for to support adult education through construction training opportunities, securing \$20,000 in funding. She noted that this is the first program to receive the grant, which includes different growth phases in collaboration with WIOA to train and retain skilled labor. The related MOU is listed on the Consent Agenda.

STUDY SESSION

1. UPDATE BY THE GREATER NOGALES SANTA CRUZ COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY BY JOSH RUBIN, CHAIRMAN OF THE GREATER NOGALES SANTA CRUZ COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY (REQ: COUNTY MANAGER)

Josh Rubin, representing the Greater Nogales Santa Cruz County Port Authority, reported that he recently presented at the State Capitol to the Rural Economic Development Committee, highlighting strong support for the DeConcini Port of Entry project. He noted efforts to secure a joint letter of support from both the House and Senate and recognized key partnerships. Mr. Rubin emphasized the upcoming review of the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), stating that it must continue and be strengthened through enforcement and infrastructure improvements. He called for strict enforcement of rules of origin to ensure companies invest and produce within North America, advocated for a

dedicated infrastructure fund, modernization of ACE customs systems, and other measures to enhance trade efficiency.

2. INTRODUCTION TO MARIPOSA COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER'S COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND MARIPOSA WINGS BY PATTY B. MOLINA, SENIOR DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES AND RYANN QUICK, HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES MANAGER (REQ: VICE-CHAIRMAN FANNING)

Patty Molina shared flyers on Mariposa Community Health Center services and donation options, including health, social support, prevention programs, and details on contributing to the Mariposa Wings Fund, which qualifies for Arizona tax credit.

3. HOSPICE & HOSPICE REFERRALS: WHEN TO MAKE THAT CALL! PRESENTED BY JODY AGINS, NURSE PRACTITIONER, AGAPE HOSPICE (REQ: SUPERVISOR DAVIS)

Canceled.

ACTION ITEMS

1. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE PROCLAMATION DECLARING MARCH 2, 2026 THROUGH MARCH 6, 2026 AS READ ACROSS AMERICA/READ ON SANTA CRUZ COUNTY WEEK (REQ: SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT)

Supervisor Davis made a motion to approve, seconded by Vice-Chairman Fanning; the motion carried unanimously. (Ayes: Davis, Fanning, Molera)

Supervisor Davis made a motion to convene the Jail District Board and to recess the Regular Session seconded by Vice-Chairman Fanning; the motion carried unanimously. (Ayes: Davis, Fanning, Molera)

JAIL DISTRICT

Vice-Chairman Fanning made a motion to approve, seconded by Supervisor Davis; the motion carried unanimously. (Ayes: Davis, Fanning, Molera)

Chairman Molera asked Mr. Chavez if the positions were budgeted.

Mr. Chavez explained that these are new positions and will impact the Jail District by about \$45,000 if both individuals are hired.

Vice-Chairman Fanning asked if we are financially okay to move forward.

Mr. Chavez said yes.

Vice-Chairman Fanning made a motion to adjourn Jail District and move into Consent Agenda seconded by Supervisor Davis; the motion carried unanimously. (Ayes: Davis, Fanning, Molera)

1. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION FOR AUTHORIZATION TO CREATE AND FILL TWO (2) JUVENILE DETENTION/TRANSPORT OFFICER POSITIONS (REQ: PROBATION)

Vice-Chairman Fanning made a motion to approve, seconded by Supervisor Davis; the motion carried unanimously. (Ayes: Davis, Fanning, Molera)

Chairman Molera asked Mr. Chavez if the positions were budgeted.

Mr. Chavez explained that these are new positions and will impact the Jail District by about \$45,000 if both individuals are hired.

Vice-Chairman Fanning asked if we are financially okay to move forward.

Mr. Chavez said yes.

The Board adjourned as the Jail District and reconvened into the Regular Meeting. (Motion: Vice-Chairman Fanning; second: Supervisor Davis; motion carried unanimously) (Ayes: Davis, Fanning, Molera)

CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Molera made a motion to approve Consent Agenda items, seconded by Vice-Chairman Fanning; the motion carried unanimously. (Ayes: Davis, Fanning,

1. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE RESCHEDULING OF THE REGULAR MEETING ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR 9:30 A.M. ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2026, TO 5:30 P.M. ON THE SAME DAY AND TO RESCHEDULE THE REGULAR MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2026, FROM 5:30 P.M. TO 9:30 A.M. ON THE SAME DAY (REQ: CLERK)

2. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION FOR AUTHORIZATION TO FILL TWO (2) PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATOR POSITIONS (REQ: SHERIFF)

3. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE APPOINTMENT OF A PRECINCT COMMITTEE PERSON FOR THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY: DOUGLAS KUNKEL - LAKE PATAGONIA 24 (REQ: ELECTIONS)

4. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE GRANT APPLICATION AND LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE PASCUA YAQUI TRIBE'S 12% GAMING REVENUE SHARING FUNDS PROGRAM FOR THE SEPARATION OF NETWORK INFRASTRUCTURE (REQ: SHERIFF)

5. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE RENTAL AGREEMENT WITH ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE (ES&S) FOR EIGHTEEN (18) EXPRESSVOTE 3 UNITS TO REPLACE TWENTY (20) OLDER EXPRESSVOTE 2.1 UNITS FROM JANUARY 1, 2026 THROUGH JULY 31, 2027 WITH UP TO THREE (3) ONE-YEAR EXTENSIONS AT AN ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF \$8,050.50 UPON EXECUTION AND ANNUAL AMOUNTS OF \$116,236.50 FOR FY 2026, \$108,186 FOR FY 2027, AND \$114,135 FOR FY 2028 & FY 2029 (REQ: ELECTIONS)

6. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE SUBCONTRACT WITH CIRCLES OF PEACE, INC. TO ADMINISTER SERVICES FOR IGA CONTRACT NO. CTR070294 (OVERDOSE DATA TO ACTION OD2A-S) EFFECTIVE THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2026 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$32,500 (REQ: HEALTH SERVICES)

7. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT CONTRACT NO. CTR080167 WITH THE ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR COVID-19 INVESTIGATION AND CONTRACT TRACING EFFECTIVE THROUGH JULY 31, 2026 IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$32,299.74 (REQ: HEALTH SERVICES)

8. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT CONTRACT NO. CTR080168 WITH THE ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR COVID-19 COMMUNITY TESTING PROJECT EFFECTIVE THROUGH JULY 31, 2026 IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$200,129.36 (REQ: HEALTH SERVICES)

9. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE PROPOSAL WITH ASSURED DOCUMENT DESTRUCTION INC. FOR ON-SITE SHREDDING SERVICES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,443 (REQ: COUNTY ATTORNEY)

10. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE MASTER LICENSE AND SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH HOMEWAY, LLC TO ENABLE FREE VOICE CALLS FOR PUBLIC DEFENDERS AND PRIVATE ATTORNEYS APPOINTED AND/OR RETAINED BY INMATES AT THE ADULT DETENTION CENTER (REQ: COUNTY ATTORNEY)

11. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH: (REQ: WIOA)

A NATIONAL CENTER FOR CONSTRUCTION EDUCATION & RESEARCH LTD. FOR RECRUITMENT, TRAINING, AND EMPLOYING CRAFT PROFESSIONALS TO EARN CREDENTIALS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$20,000 WHICH INCLUDES \$11,000 CREDIT AND \$9,000 PAYMENT

B NOGALES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 FOR THE WIOA WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM FROM FEBRUARY 23, 2026 THROUGH MAY 31, 2026 FUNDED THROUGH EXISTING WIOA YOUTH PROGRAM ALLOCATIONS (REQ: WIOA)

12. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE BOND FOR DUPLICATE WARRANT #1-017382 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,511.51 DATED 07/01/2025 PAYABLE TO MIGUEL ARMANDO IBARRA MONDACA (REQ: CLERK)

13. APPROVAL OF TAX VALUATION ADJUSTMENTS: (REQ: ASSESSOR)

A 120-01-121 - EMILY VAN HASSEL & PETER VAN HASSEL, RESOLUTION NO. 57368

B P202100167 - DBA: AMERICAN GREETINGS CORPORATION, RESOLUTION NO. 57256

C 112-11-032 - ALEJANDRO LOPEZ & DENISE LOPEZ, RESOLUTION NO. 57361

D 112-11-032 - ALEJANDRO LOPEZ & DENISE LOPEZ, RESOLUTION NO. 57363

E 112-11-032 - ALEJANDRO LOPEZ & DENISE LOPEZ, RESOLUTION NO. 57364

F 112-11-032 - ALEJANDRO LOPEZ & DENISE LOPEZ, RESOLUTION NO. 57365

14. APPROVAL OF MONTHLY REPORTS

15. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: 02/04/2026 & 02/11/2026 SPECIAL MEETING

16. APPROVAL OF DEMANDS were approved in the total amount of \$1,362,852.25, of which \$307,460.75 is from the General Fund. Details of these expenditures are available for inspection during working hours and are to be considered as part of these minutes.

Supervisor Davis made a motion to move into Executive Session seconded by Vice-Chairman Fanning; the motion carried unanimously. (Ayes: Davis, Fanning, Molera)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. PURSUANT TO A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3) AND (4), DISCUSSION AND CONSULTATION FOR LEGAL ADVICE AND/OR DIRECTION REGARDING THE COMMUNITY PROTECTIONS BENEFIT AGREEMENT (CPBA) AND EARLY ACTIONS COMMUNITY INVESTMENT AGREEMENT BEING DRAFTED WITH THE CITY OF NOGALES, TOWN OF PATAGONIA, AND SOUTH32 (REQ: COUNTY MANAGER)

The Board adjourned the Executive Session and reconvened into Regular Session. (Motion: Supervisor Davis; second: Fanning; motion carried unanimously) (Ayes: Davis, Fanning, Molera)

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:44 a.m. (motion: Supervisor Davis; second: Vice-Chairman Fanning; motion carried unanimously) (Ayes: Davis, Fanning, Molera)