

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

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Fanning called the meeting to order, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, led by Brian Vandervort.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Supervisor Molera moved to adopt the Agenda, removing Consent Agenda Items 1a and 6, moving Consent Agenda Items 3 and 4 to Action Items, and allowing the Chair to deviate from the Agenda sequence as necessary. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Davis and carried unanimously. Ayes: Davis, Fanning, Molera.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

Brian Vandervoat, a resident of Tubac, addressed the Board regarding two items moved from the Consent Agenda to Action: the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the County and the City of Nogales for library services, and the proposed design and plan for the Oso Wash project. He stated both items are important to the community. Regarding the IGA, he noted ongoing discussions within the community about expanding and redefining the role of the library and suggested that the City and County consider exploring the creation of a library tax district. He stated that such a district could remove the library's financial burden from the County's general fund without increasing costs to residents. Regarding the Oso Wash project, Mr. Vandervoat described it as a complex issue involving multiple agencies on both sides of the international border. He emphasized the need for coordination among all entities and raised questions about how future residential expansion in Mexico might impact infrastructure designed today. He thanked the Board for removing the items from the Consent Agenda for fuller discussion.

Pam Lemke, also a resident of Tubac, thanked the Board for addressing the Oso Wash situation. She requested that once a design is completed and feedback is gathered, the County hold a study session with the International Boundary and Water Commission to discuss the project, provide updates, and answer public questions. She emphasized the importance of this issue for the County moving forward.

CURRENT EVENTS

1. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

SUPERVISOR MOLERA: wished all mothers a belated Happy Mother's Day and congratulated his son on earning his bachelor's degree. He noted that Harrison Ford served as the commencement speaker at the ASU graduation, which he had the honor of attending through an invitation from School Superintendent Adelita Grijalva and one of the County's instructors. He highlighted various student achievements throughout the City and County, including honorable mentions at Rio Rico High School on May 15th. He reported that Sheriff Hathaway hosted the SCC Peace Memorial, stating it was the best memorial held to date. Students from Coatimundi, including Edward Garcia, participated, along with another student who played taps, and Senior Major Ray Felix. Supervisor Davis read the proclamation at the event. Supervisor Molera also noted he would be traveling to the Small Counties meeting in Phoenix for the Board of Directors meeting and congratulated all Santa Cruz County graduates.

VICE-CHAIRMAN DAVIS: shared that his daughter received perfect attendance and Principal's Honor Roll recognition, and he expressed pride in her achievements. He commented on several community events, including film-related activities hosted at Oasis Cinema and in Nogales, Sonora, noting that one film shown could benefit from a second installment. He thanked Mr. Castillo for the invitation to read a proclamation. He also met with an intern from Senator Ruben Gallego's office regarding a developing project and attended the transition ceremony at Coatimundi Middle School. He plans to meet with the Arizona Film & Television Department and expressed enthusiasm about positioning the local film community for future opportunities.

CHAIRMAN FANNING: thanked Colin Bishop and Shannon Hall for their work and acknowledged community involvement. He reported visiting the Sahuarita School District to observe early childhood programs for ages 3–5, noting potential value for early action initiatives. He attended a recognition ceremony, the SAMBA meeting, and participated in the Rural Water Working Group, expressing hope for positive outcomes. Chairman Fanning also reported attending the Port Authority meeting, discussions on the CTMS (Coatimundi Middle School) transition, and the Rio Rico High School graduation. He noted that Santa Cruz County's funding request for nearly \$5 million for Peck Canyon enhancements and Camino Ramanote is now moving to the Senate. He also met with Senator Gabaldón regarding contamination issues.

2. MANAGER

JESUS VALDEZ, COUNTY MANAGER, reported that he, Supervisor Davis, and Chris Young met with Senator Gabaldón to discuss contamination issues originating south of the border. They reviewed matters related to the Nogales Wash, current grant applications, and the Oso Wash project. He noted that Senator Gabaldón was instrumental in helping move the IGA forward and expressed her desire to remain informed and assist where possible. Mr. Valdez also reported that he, Supervisor Davis, and Colin met with Consul General Ward, who expressed strong interest in wastewater processes and treatment facilities in Sonora. She is encouraging improvements on the Sonora side and wishes to support ongoing efforts. Additional information will be provided to her. He concluded by stating he had no further updates.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND ACTIVITIES

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

Maria Martinez, Deputy County Manager, reported \$26,897,502.0 in the General Fund, of which \$16,870,056.9 is invested; \$7,231,865.24 in the Road Fund, of which \$5,217,969.54 is invested; \$3,575,518.65 in the Flood Control District Fund, of which \$314,472.93 is invested; \$9,470,659.86 in the Jail District Fund, of which \$4,482,031.90 is invested; \$72,689,321.75 total for all funds, of which \$29,044,975.8 is invested; \$14,461,951.90 estimated end of month balance, compared to \$16,391,038.70 cash at May 2025 a difference of \$(1,929,086.80).

Mauricio Chavez, Deputy County Manager, provided an update on property tax collections. He noted that at the last meeting he presented the quarterly revenues and expenses report, but property tax figures were not yet available due to the timing of the quarter's end. He reported that the County has now collected \$16,409,268, representing approximately 91% of the budgeted amount. He stated this is a strong position and that collections typically reach 95 - 96% after the June collections and the two-month accrual period. He concluded by noting that the County is on track and performing well.

2. DEPARTMENT(S) UPDATE

Chief Information Officer Juan Balderas provided an update on a request previously made by Supervisor Davis regarding the creation of a donation page for the Animal Control Department. He

reported that, as part of the County's rebranding efforts, staff is completing final updates to the website. A donation link has now been added to the bottom of the page, allowing the public to make contributions via credit card in addition to existing options. He stated that staff will coordinate with Shannon to issue a press release and distribute informational flyers. Mr. Balderas noted that José was available to answer any operational questions and asked if the Board had any questions.

Animal Control Director José Peña thanked the Board and staff for their support of the new donation option on the County's website. He stated that the feature had been a long-standing goal for the department and expressed appreciation to Supervisor Davis, Juan Balderas, Shannon, and all who contributed to making it possible. Mr. Peña emphasized that the donation page will greatly assist the department in maintaining its no-kill shelter status. He reported that the department recently attended an event in Sonoita and received \$5,900 in donations, which will be used for sterilization services. He noted that sterilization costs continue to increase and that the department relies heavily on community support to meet these needs. Mr. Peña concluded by thanking everyone involved and reaffirming that the new donation option will be a significant benefit to Animal Control's operations.

A UPDATE ON EARLY ACTIONS COMMUNITY INVESTMENT AGREEMENT BY COUNTY MANAGEMENT

Deputy County Manager Chris Young provided the monthly update on the Community Investment Early Actions (CPIA). He noted that the Town of Patagonia would hold a listening session that evening using a new public-input template that will also be used for future CPBA outreach and posted online. He reported that the scope of work for the Independent Emergency Services Audit has been approved and the RFQ will be issued soon. Phase Two of the Patagonia Flood Control Study has completed the RFQ process and is ready to begin. Purchases for the County's Mobile Health Vehicle may now proceed following approval by CPBA signatories. Mr. Young stated that the Countywide Creative Strategic Childcare Plan will focus on implementation, using existing needs-assessment data, and will follow the appropriate procurement process. Staff is coordinating with the University of Arizona to ensure the Countywide Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan builds upon the prior NBRE study. The scope for the Housing Strategy has been approved and an RFQ will be released soon.

STUDY SESSION

1. SOUTHERN ARIZONA REGIONAL BROADBAND FEASIBILITY STUDY: PIMA AND SANTA CRUZ COUNTIES PRESENTED BY JUAN BALDERAS, CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER WITH SANTA CRUZ COUNTY; MICHELLE SIMON, DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF DIGITAL INCLUSION WITH PIMA COUNTY; AND CONSULTANTS LINA BEARAT AND JOSEPH CUFFARI WITH KIMLEY-HORN

The Board received a multi-presenter update on the joint Pima County–Santa Cruz County broadband study, with presentations by Lina Bearat (Kimley-Horn Project Manager), Michelle Simon (Pima County Office of Digital Inclusion Director), Juan Balderas (Santa Cruz County CIO), and Joe Cuffari (Kimley-Horn Public Engagement Manager). The presenters outlined the project's purpose, emphasizing the significance of expanding reliable, affordable high-speed broadband to support economic growth, public services, digital skill building, and equity. They reviewed available funding such as ABDG, BEAD, and RDOF; summarized ongoing market and gap analyses showing limited last-mile fiber, affordability challenges, and underserved areas including Patagonia, Elgin, and Kino Springs; and described extensive community engagement efforts involving over 450 conversations and 300 survey responses highlighting weak signals, high costs, and lack of providers. The team discussed deployment priorities, challenges such as terrain and low density, and recommended scalable broadband solutions leveraging anchor institutions and strategic partnerships. Next steps include

finalizing the gap analysis, moving into conceptual design, cost modeling, financial projections, and developing implementation strategies toward a final report by the end of 2026.

2. GOVERNMENT 101: ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CLERK OF THE BOARD AND ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT BY ALMA D. SCHULTZ, CLERK OF THE BOARD/ELECTIONS DIRECTOR AND STAFF

The Board received a departmental update presented by Alma D. Schultz, Clerk of the Board and Elections Director, who outlined the statutory authority under A.R.S. Titles 11, 16, 42, and 48 governing her dual role and reviewed key responsibilities including record keeping, agenda and packet preparation, public records processing, and oversight of all election operations. She highlighted organizational structure, operational procedures for both Clerk and Elections functions, and recent improvements such as implementation of CivicClerk for enhanced transparency, updated public records processes, strengthened Open Meeting Law compliance, new election communication tools, expanded poll worker recruitment and training, upgraded voting equipment, and workflow enhancements to improve efficiency and accuracy. Schultz also informed the Board of upcoming 2026 election dates, including the Primary on July 21, 2026, with a new vote center at the Santa Cruz County Provisional Community College, and the General Election on November 3, 2026, encouraging the public to stay informed and participate.

ACTION ITEMS

3. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT NO. EV26-0140 WITH ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (ADEQ) FOR THE OSO WASH (BRICKWOOD CANYON) E. COLI REMEDIATION PROJECT, INCLUDING PHASE 1 ENGINEERING AND DESIGN SERVICES, WITH REIMBURSEMENT OF UP TO \$20,000, EFFECTIVE THROUGH MAY 19, 2027, AND AN ESTIMATED COUNTY MATCH OF \$16,220 (REQ: COUNTY MANAGER)

Deputy County Manager Chris Young provided a brief overview of Item 3 and reported that contaminated effluent from an over-capacity treatment plant in Nogales, Sonora continues to enter Oso Wash and Brickwood Canyon. He noted that ADEQ will provide twenty thousand dollars and the County will contribute sixteen thousand dollars toward a fifteen-percent concept design intended to support applications for additional funding. Young explained that Oso Wash involves many agencies and property owners on both sides of the border and stated that Santa Cruz County remains committed to working collaboratively at the local, state, federal, and international levels. He added that portions of the wash run through private property, and the County would offer assistance with maintenance where appropriate. Young also referenced ongoing discussions with ADEQ, county consultants, and Mexican authorities regarding treatment needs, statutory requirements, and long-term mitigation options. He informed the Board that former Nogales City Manager Jesus and Mayor Maldonado have been included in early conversations as coordination continues.

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

4. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE AMENDED AND RESTATED INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF NOGALES FOR LIBRARY SERVICES PREVIOUSLY APPROVED ON MAY 4, 2021 TO EXTEND THE TERM FOR ONE (1) YEAR WITH A NEW EXPIRATION DATE OF JUNE 30, 2027 (REQ: COUNTY MANAGER)

Deputy County Manager Chris Young reported that the Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Nogales is due for renewal. He noted that a planned joint meeting earlier in the year did not occur, but the City has expressed no desire to change the existing agreement. Young recommended a

one-year extension to allow time for both jurisdictions to meet and confirm shared goals for future library services before entering another long-term commitment.
The Board requested a Study Session.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

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

1. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF PRECINCT COMMITTEE PERSON(S):

A LEO A. FEDERICO FOR RIO RICO 7 (REQ: ROBERT BRUBAKER, CHAIRPERSON, SCC DEMOCRATIC PARTY)

Removed at Adoption of Agenda.

B ANA L. PRADO GARCIA FOR RIO RICO 7 (REQ: ROBERT BRUBAKER, CHAIRPERSON, SCC DEMOCRATIC PARTY)

C BONNIE L. TITRE FOR TUBAC 11 (REQ: DANIEL DELLINGES, CHAIRPERSON, SCC REPUBLICAN PARTY)

2. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION FOR AUTHORIZATION TO APPROVE TWO (2) DEPUTY SHERIFF POSITIONS (REQ: SHERIFF)

5. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH AMERICAN RED CROSS TO SUPPORT PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE, AND RECOVERY EFFORTS FOR INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES IMPACTED BY DISASTERS OR EMERGENCIES (REQ: EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT)

6. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE QOUTE NO. 00504955 WITH THERMO SCIENTIFIC PORTABLE ANALYTICAL INSTRUMENTS INC. FOR THE PURCHASE OF A TURNARC SOLUTION KIT MACHINE WITH A 1-YEAR WARRANTY FUNDED THROUGH THE LOCAL BORDER GRANT-AZDPS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$33,948 (REQ:SHERIFF)

Removed at the Adoption of Agenda.

7. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH NOGALES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 FOR PLACEMENT OF SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER AT DESERT SHADOWS MIDDLE SCHOOL FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2026 THROUGH MAY 22, 2027 (REQ: SHERIFF)

8. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE AMENDMENT NO. 4 TO INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT CONTRACT NO. CTR057221 WITH ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE COVID-19 ELC FUNDING ENHANCED DETECTION EXPANSION PROJECT REVISING AND REPLACING THE PRICE SHEET TO REFLECT REALLOCATION OF FUNDS ACROSS CATEGORIES EFFECTIVE

THROUGH JULY 31, 2026 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$750,799 (REQ: HEALTH SERVICES)

9. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION OF APPROVAL FOR A SPECIAL EVENT LICENSE APPLICATION FOR: ARIZONA CRAFT PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION FOR AN EVENT ON JUNE 27, 2026 IN ELGIN (REQ: CLERK)

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

A 112-12-079 - LARRY E CAVENEY & KAREN M. BERNAUER, RESOLUTION NO. 5740

B 112-12-079 - LARRY E. CAVENEY & KAREN M. BERNAUER, RESOLUTION NO. 57409

C 112-12-079 - LARRY E. CAVENEY & KAREN M. BERNAUER, RESOLUTION NO. 57410

D 112-12-079 - LARRY E. CAVENEY & KAREN M. BERNAUER, RESOLUTION NO. 57411

11. APPROVAL OF MONTHLY REPORTS

12. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: 05/13/2026

13. APPROVAL OF DEMANDS were approved in the total amount of \$2,184,841.55, of which \$825,588.78 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.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:13 a.m. (motion: Vice-Chairman Davis; second: Supervisor Molera; motion carried unanimously) (Ayes: Davis, Fanning, Molera)

