

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 Edgardo.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The County Manager announced that the GSA (U.S. General Services Administration) would not be presenting, and that slides had been provided for Deputy County Manager Christopher Young to present under Department Updates. He also noted the installation of a new “On Air” indicator sign for live meetings and thanked the IT Department. Following this update, the Board proceeded with adoption of the agenda.

Vice-Chairman Davis made a motion to adopt the agenda and allow the Chair to deviate from the sequence as necessary. Supervisor Molera seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. (Ayes: Davis, Fanning, Molera)

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

Ryann Quick and Luis Gaxiola, speaking on behalf of Mariposa Community Health Center and Hope, announced that August is Overdose Awareness Month. They invited the community to an Overdose Awareness Day Car Show on August 22 and noted the event would include resources, information, and opportunities for community connection. They thanked the Board and provided flyers.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND ACTIVITIES

2. DEPARTMENT(S) UPDATE

Vice-Chairman Davis introduced Emergency Management Director Sobeira Castro along with representatives from Protección Civil de Sonora. He recognized their cross-border collaboration in supporting families in Nogales, Sonora following recent flooding. Director Castro provided an update on the community donation drive, noting the strong public response and coordinated delivery of essential supplies to affected neighborhoods.

A representative from the State of Sonora’s Civil Protection expressed gratitude for the assistance and highlighted the longstanding cooperation between Santa Cruz County and Nogales, Sonora. The Board presented a formal recognition to the visiting team, and a group photo was taken following the presentation.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC CONT.:

Mary Darling, a resident of Nogales, addressed the Board regarding the planned improvements to the DeConcini Port of Entry. She shared concerns from nearby residents about potential neighborhood impacts and emphasized the importance of coordinated planning between local government and the community. Ms. Darling encouraged continued collaboration with the city and noted that upcoming local elections will play a role in shaping future decisions. She thanked the Board.

CURRENT EVENTS

1. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

SUPERVISOR MOLERA: reported attending the National Association of Counties (NACo) conference in Louisiana, noting the election of an Arizona official to a national leadership role and expressing appreciation for her support of county initiatives. He also hosted a regional meeting of border counties, where discussions focused on staffing challenges at ports of entry and ongoing border infrastructure concerns. He highlighted upcoming improvements at the DeConcini Port of Entry and emphasized the importance of having local issues represented at the federal level. Supervisor Molera congratulated recent election winners, wished students a successful start to the school year, and thanked the Santa Cruz Valley school district for its back-to-school event. He concluded with brief remarks about conference activities and community engagement.

VICE-CHAIRMAN DAVIS: reported that following recent flooding affecting the Nogales Wash, he contacted members of the Arizona congressional delegation, including Representative Adelita Grijalva, to share photos, videos, and information about the extent of the damage. As a result, Representative Grijalva toured the affected areas to review current conditions and previously completed repairs. Discussions also included long-term mitigation challenges, such as the high cost of proposed retention and detention basin projects. He met with staff from multiple federal offices to further explain infrastructure and public health concerns. Vice-Chairman Davis expressed appreciation to county management, community partners, and numerous organizations for supporting the donation drive benefiting families in Nogales, Sonora. He also attended a local book presentation highlighting stories from Ambos Nogales and reported on a productive meeting with the City of Nogales and partner agencies to improve coordination on shared projects. He noted that the county and city will begin monthly joint meetings to strengthen collaboration. He concluded his report.

CHAIRMAN FANNING: thanked Vice-Chairman Davis for his efforts in Nogales, Sonora, and congratulated Sarah Benatar on her election as Second Vice President of the National Association of Counties. He reported meeting with transportation partners to discuss local concerns and expressed appreciation to Congresswoman Adelita Grijalva for visiting the area to review issues firsthand, including conditions at the Nogales Wash. Chairman Fanning noted recent advisory committee activities and participation in a rural groundwater resilience workshop. He also highlighted attending a community check-in meeting in Sonoita and thanked participants. He concluded by reporting on the recent Community Protections and Benefits Agreement workshop, emphasizing that protections and monitoring remain a primary focus in ongoing discussions among the county, city, and town partners.

2. MANAGER

JESUS VALDEZ, COUNTY MANAGER, reported that, following recent flooding affecting the Nogales Wash, the county met with the United States Department of Agriculture regarding the Emergency Watershed Protection Program, which may provide funding to repair damaged wash banks. He also informed the Board that the county received a letter from United States Border Patrol announcing the start of an environmental assessment for the Interstate 19 checkpoint, with the county preparing comments for submission. Mr. Valdez added that he met with a Pima County supervisor to discuss coordination on potential passenger rail service to Nogales and Santa Cruz County. He concluded his report.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND ACTIVITIES CONT.

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

Maria Martinez, Assistant Finance Director, reported \$26,517,324.08 in the General Fund, of which \$16,970,364.13 is invested; \$6,626,388.40 in the Road Fund, of which \$5,250,031.90 is invested; \$2,720,089.30 in the Flood Control District Fund, of which \$316,414.45 is invested;

\$7,088,346.42 in the Jail District Fund, of which \$4,509,581.82 is invested; \$67,040,598.29 total for all funds, of which \$29,220,772.59 is invested; \$12,964,732.92 estimated end of month balance, compared to \$6,397,449.45 cash at August 2025, a difference of \$6,567,283.47.

3. DEPARTMENT(S) UPDATE CONT.

Lieutenant Jose L. Peña Jr. provided an update from Animal Control, announcing the upcoming “Paws on the Move” 5K event and inviting the community to participate. He then presented a recognition awarded by Best Friends Animal Society for achieving and maintaining a 90-percent saving rate in 2025, officially designating the county shelter as a no-kill facility. Lieutenant Peña described the multi-year effort that led to this milestone, highlighting the contributions of dedicated volunteers, rescue partners, and current and former staff. He noted the support received through the Shelter Collaborative Program, including funding for sterilizations, vaccines, trap-neuter-return efforts, and needed equipment.

Staff member Joanna Wise added remarks emphasizing the lifesaving significance of reaching no-kill status and recognized numerous rescue partners for their ongoing commitment. Certificates of appreciation were presented, and the achievement plaque was displayed for the Board and public.

A DECONCINI PORT OF ENTRY UPDATE BY U.S. GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (GSA) AND CHRISTOPHER YOUNG, DEPUTY COUNTY MANAGER ON BEHALF OF PUBLIC WORKS

Deputy County Manager Chris Young provided an update on the DeConcini Port of Entry redevelopment. He noted that although the General Services Administration could not present virtually at this meeting, a detailed presentation would be offered at the City of Nogales meeting later that day. He explained that the recent community session marked the beginning of the National Environmental Policy Act process and outlined the lengthy timeline ahead, emphasizing multiple opportunities for public input. Mr. Young reviewed preliminary project footprint maps and early conceptual designs, clarifying that these materials are initial drafts that will evolve significantly based on federal requirements and community feedback. He encouraged residents to submit comments through the official federal portal and highlighted the importance of coordinated regional communication. Board members thanked him for the update, acknowledged community concerns, and stressed the need for collaboration with the City of Nogales and partners in Mexico to ensure the project proceeds in a way that benefits both sides of the border.

Supervisor Molera made a motion to recess the Regular Meeting until the Special Meeting at 10:30 a.m., seconded by Vice-Chairman Davis. The motion carried unanimously. (Ayes: Davis, Fanning, Molera)

Supervisor Molera made a motion to reconvene the Regular Meeting at 12:18 p.m., seconded by Vice-Chairman Davis. The motion carried unanimously.

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

FLOOD CONTROL

1. DIRECTOR'S/PROJECT REPORT

Floodplain Coordinator Allan Sanchez presented the monthly flood control report for July. He noted rainfall variability across the county, with Nogales slightly below its historical average, while areas such as Patagonia and Casablanca Road received significantly higher totals. He reported that most of the county is outside short-term drought conditions, though long-term drought remains. Mr. Sanchez outlined flood control activity for the month, including permit inquiries, floodplain use applications, and drainage complaints. He provided updates on several ongoing projects, including

grant applications submitted for Ephraim Canyon through two Federal Emergency Management Agency programs, and progress on the Patagonia Regional Flood Control District study, which now moves toward completing a Letter of Map Revision to adjust floodplain maps and potentially reduce insurance costs. He reported completion of the Potrero Creek Letter of Map Revision and the Nogales downtown floodplain feasibility study, which has been shared with the city and is supporting early redevelopment planning at the historic Montezuma Hotel. He also updated the Board on the Monte Carlo project, noting that the planning report is under final consultant review and discussing potential floodgate options for affected properties. Mr. Sanchez added a new section on the Nogales Wash, reporting that a watershed-wide storm on July 18 produced significant flow levels and contributed to recent flood impacts. He concluded by answering Board questions and offering additional information as needed.

2. MONTHLY REPORT FROM CITY OF NOGALES

No Report submitted.

3. MONTHLY REPORT FROM THE TOWN OF PATAGONIA

Included in the report.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

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

ACTION ITEMS

JAIL DISTRICT

1. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION FOR AUTHORIZATION TO CREATE AND FILL: (REQ: SHERIFF)

A DISCLOSURE & REDACTION SPECIALIST POSITION

B MAINTENANCE WORKER POSITION

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

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

CONSENT AGENDA

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

1. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION FOR AUTHORIZATION TO FILL VACANT:

A MAINTENANCE WORKER POSITION (REQ: FACILITIES MAINTENANCE)

B PROBATION OFFICER POSITION (REQ: PROBATION)

C ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, SENIOR POSITION (REQ: PROBATION)

D ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT POSITION (REQ: PROBATION)

2. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF MICHELLE NIGLIAZZO, ESQ., AS PAID PART-TIME JUDGE PRO TEMPORE TO SERVE

IN JUSTICE OF THE PEACE FROM JULY 1, 2026 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2027 (REQ: SUPERIOR COURT)

3. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE A PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL RETIREMENT SYSTEM (PSPRS) PENSION FUNDING POLICY IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARIZONA REVISED STATUTE § 38-863.01 (REQ: FINANCE)

4. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE COMMUNITY BENEFIT SUPPORT POLICY GRANTING FREE LANDFILL DISPOSAL PRIVILEGES TO ELIGIBLE COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS AT THE RIO RICO LANDFILL, SONOITA-ELGIN LANDFILL, AND TUBAC TRANSFER STATION, EFFECTIVE THROUGH JUNE 30, 2027 (REQ: PUBLIC WORKS)

5. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH EXECUTIVES PARTNERING TO INVEST IN CHILDREN (EPIC) FOR EARLY CHILD CARE STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN SERVICES IN THE BASE AMOUNT OF \$98,130 (REQ: COUNTY MANAGER)

6. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE SUBCONTRACT WITH SOUTHEAST ARIZONA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTER ~~TO PROVIDE SENIOR HEALTH PROMOTION AND COORDINATION FUNDING AND RELATED SERVICES~~ FOR THE HEALTH IN ARIZONA POLICY INITIATIVE STRATEGIES EFFECTIVE THROUGH JUNE 30, 2027 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$23,000 (REQ: HEALTH SERVICES)

7. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT CONTRACT NO. CTR082699 WITH THE ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES (ADHS) FOR THE HEALTHY PEOPLE HEALTHY COMMUNITIES(HPHC) PROGRAM EFFECTIVE THROUGH JUNE 30, 2027 IN THE TOTAL ANNUAL NOT TO EXCEED FUNDING AMOUNT OF \$52,637 (REQ: HEALTH SERVICES)

8. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE ADDENDUM TO SUBCONTRACT WITH CONSTRUCTING CIRCLES OF PEACE FOR ADDITIONAL SERVICES UNDER IGA CONTRACT NO. CTR070294 (OVERDOSE DATA TO ACTION PROGRAM), INCLUDING ADDITIONAL FUNDING TO SUPPORT EXPANDED PROGRAM ACTIVITIES EFFECTIVE THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2026 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$34,885 (REQ: HEALTH SERVICES)

9. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE YEAR TWO (2) RENEWAL OF GRANT AGREEMENT NO. GR-PC-GOYFF-070125-22Y2 WITH THE STATE OF ARIZONA'S GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF YOUTH, FAITH, AND FAMILY FOR SFY 2027 ARIZONA PARENTS COMMISSION ON DRUG EDUCATION AND PREVENTION EFFECTIVE THROUGH JUNE 30, 2027, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$193,753 (REQ: SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT)

10. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE FY27 VERTICAL PROSECUTION GRANT WITH THE ARIZONA AUTOMOBILE THEFT AUTHORITY TO SUPPORT SERVICES RELATED TO AUTO-THEFT CASES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$80,794

AND AUTHORIZE SIGNATURE OF ACCEPTANCE (REQ: COUNTY ATTORNEY)

11. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE GRANT AGREEMENT NO. HID2626G0731-2951 WITH THE CITY OF TUCSON FOR THE HIGH INTENSITY DRUG TRAFFICKING AREA (HIDTA) PROGRAM AND INVESTIGATIVE TASK FORCE EFFECTIVE THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2027 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$490,533 (REQ: COUNTY ATTORNEY)

12. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION FOR RECOMMENDATION OF APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL ON REMOTE TASTING ROOM APPLICATION - SERIES 19 FOR RANCHO CASTILLO IN SONOITA (REQ: CLERK)

13. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: 07/15/2026, 07/23/2026 SPECIAL MEETING AND 07/29/2026 SPECIAL MEETING

14. APPROVAL OF DEMANDS

were approved in the total amount of \$1,415,092.87 of which \$394,229.15 is from the General Fund for FY2026 and total amount of \$1651,095.59, of which \$846,975.15 is from the General Fund for FY2027. Total for all funds \$3,066,188.46, of which \$1,241,204.30 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 12:37 p.m. (motion: Vice-Chairman Davis; second: Supervisor Molera; motion carried unanimously) (Ayes: Davis, Fanning, Molera)