

**COCHISE COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF APRIL 10, 2012**

A meeting of the Cochise County Flood Control Board was held on Tuesday, April 10, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. in the Board of Supervisors' Hearing Room, 1415 Melody Lane, Building G, Bisbee, Arizona. In attendance were Richard Searle, Chairman; Patrick Call, Director; Ann English, Director; Mike Ortega, County Administrator; Jim Vlahovich, Deputy County Administrator; Britt Hanson, Chief Civil Deputy County Attorney; and Katie Howard, Clerk of the Board.

THE ORDER OR DELETION OF ANY ITEM ON THIS AGENDA IS SUBJECT TO MODIFICATION AT THE MEETING

ROLL CALL – All three directors were present.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

Opened Call to the Public; no one; closed.

CONSENT

ITEM 1

Board of Supervisors

Approve the Minutes for the Flood Control District board meeting of December 6, 2011.

ITEM 2

Community Development

Approve the purchase of parcel 123-04-005B in Pomerene, for flood control purposes at a cost of \$57,000.

Supervisor English requested that the Chairman remove item 2 from Consent Agenda.

Director Call made a motion to approve item 1 of the Consent Agenda. Director English seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

ITEM 2

Community Development

Approve the purchase of parcel 123-04-005B in Pomerene, for flood control purposes at a cost of \$57,000.

Ms. Karen Riggs explained the history of flooding of homes in the area, and explained why this property is key to the solution to divert the water. She stated that the County had met with adjacent property owners and they agreed to provide Right-Of-Way. The property came on the market at a reasonable price and provides many flood mitigation options for the County to explore and to work with property owners to help resolve the issues.

Chairman Searle explained that with the recent market downturns it is now possible to purchase this property to help mitigate these problems.

Supervisor English made a motion to approve the purchase of parcel 123-04-005B in Pomerene, for flood control purposes at a cost of \$57,000. Director Call seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

ACTION

ITEM 3

Community Development

Approve the Flood Control District's Rain Gauge 5-year implementation plan, at a total cost of \$203,000 spread over 5 years, with ongoing maintenance costs thereafter of \$28,000 annually.

Mr. Tim Mazanek, Civil Engineer III presented this item using a PowerPoint presentation (*available on the County's website*). Mr. Mazanek reported that the purpose of this plan is to collect hydrologic data and to assist with getting an early warning of any flood events. He described locations (designed to get most complete coverage and also to target populated areas) and described cost. He explained that this will piggyback with existing rain gages

throughout the county to get the data to the national weather service and said staff is recommending approval. He also described rain gages in place throughout the county by other organizations, but added that there is no duplication of services. He stressed that the possibility of severe run off due to the fires last year make this a necessity and reiterated that these gauges are being placed to provide more thorough coverage countywide and to provide better flood warnings. The National Weather Service (NWS) provides all alerts regarding flood warnings for the area.

Chairman Searle questioned how much lead time a rain gage would provide for residents in a potential flood event.

Ms. Riggs added that any citizen can sign up for e-mail or text messages from the NWS and alerts for any particular rain gage. When one millimeter of rain hits a gage, the data is transmitted to the NWS and with the heavy rains from our thunderstorms, this may only provide one-half hour lead time in advance of flooding, but that is better than the present system. She added that this was put together at the request of the Board when she first took this job.

Chairman Searle clarified that the plan calls for installation of one gage and repeater, this year.

Ms. Riggs concurred and said the Board could word the motion to only include this year's costs.

Mr. Ortega added that the discussion could be a part of the annual budget process.

Ms. Riggs explained the difference between the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Stream Gages and these proposed rain gages.

Director English made a motion to approve the Flood Control District's Rain Gauge 5-year implementation plan, at a total cost of \$203,000 spread over 5 years, with ongoing maintenance costs thereafter of \$28,000 annually. Director Call seconded the motion.

Chairman Searle called for the vote and it carried 3-0.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC (MATTERS RELATED TO COUNTY GOVERNMENT - LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER PERSON OR AT THE DIRECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN)

Chairman Call opened the Call to the Public. No one wished to address the Board and Chairman Call closed the Call to the Public.

There being no other business before the Flood Control District Board, Chairman Call adjourned the meeting at 10:21 a.m.

APPROVED:

Richard Searle, Chairman

ATTEST:

Katie A. Howard, Clerk of the Board

(SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION IS AVAILABLE AT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' OFFICE)