

Executive Summary Form

Agenda Number: HLT- Tuberculosis (TB) Testing New Fee Schedule Proposal

Recommendation:

Adopt Resolution No. 13- to establish a new fee schedule for Tuberculosis (TB) Testing Services provided by Cochise Health & Social Services for testing, education, screening and treatment of clients with cases of tuberculosis, effective on and after July 26, 2013.

Background (Brief):

Cochise County is mandated to provide services designed to prevent and control the spread of Tuberculosis (TB), and receives state funds to support this program. A major portion of this process is the provision of Tuberculosis Skin Testing (TST) to determine if an individual has been exposed to *M. tuberculosis*. Many organizations, including our own, require that their employees be screened to ensure that the public they serve is protected from this highly communicable disease. Most group living situations are required to screen their clients to protect all residents in the facility. Additionally Cochise County is required to provide screening for individuals who are attempting to immigrate to the United States. Cochise County also provides TST for any known contacts of an active TB case free of charge as part of our mandate to control TB.

The process of providing TST includes two visits with the nurse. During the first visit the nurse will review standard screening questions and apply the TST which involves inserting a needle just under the skin and injection 0.1 ml of a TB test solution. After 48 to 72 hours the client will return to the clinic to have the test read by the nurse and the client receives a TB clearance card to provide to the employer as evidence of a negative TB status. All of these activities are documented in a client chart and logged for tracking purposes. The cost of administering TST is considered part of routine nursing activities and is not tracked by the site nurse in the time distribution record process, or billed back to the TB contract, and so represents a draw on the general funds of Cochise County.

There have been significant shortages of both the treatment medications and the screening medications used to provide TB services and the cost of screening medications has doubled since 2011. Treatment and screening medications are covered by the TB grant but nursing hours and supplies for routine TB testing are not covered.

If this proposal of a \$10/test increase is approved the positive bottom line benefit to the general fund will be approximately \$5000.00, and may be greater depending on the needs of the citizens, population growth and the development of businesses requiring testing. This increased revenue would continue to have a positive bottom line impact in future budgets reducing the cost to the taxpayers of Cochise County in the long term. See Exhibit A (attached) for the detailed Tuberculosis (TB) Proposed Fee Schedule.

Fiscal Impact & Funding Sources:

We provide more than 500 TST to the public annually in Cochise County in addition to following between 10 and 30 active or latent cases of TB. The state provides an annual grant of \$12,000.00 to

support these activities, which historically has been flat funding, and the funds are broken down as follows:

Personnel & ERE	4,200.00
Professional & outside service	2,600.00
Travel	2,500.00
Other operating	2,700.00

Professional and outside services covers Medical Director fees, charges for X-rays and laboratory testing, while Other Operating expenses provide funding for the cost of screening and treatment medications in active cases for which the County is responsible. As of March 31 of this year we have expended \$11,037.34 of this budget, and we are experiencing a slight increase in active cases over historical numbers. There is cash carry forward of \$14,770.00 in this budget, but given the increasing numbers of active Tuberculosis (TB) cases I project that we will need to expend some significant portion of these funds in this year as well as in the coming years.

Impact of Not Approving:

Not approving this fee schedule could cause the Tuberculosis (TB) services to become a fiscal burden on the general fund. The new fee schedule will allow for continued testing of individuals, improving the overall health of the citizens of Cochise County, which would not be possible without such a program.

RESOLUTION 13- _____

**ESTABLISHING A NEW FEE SCHEDULE FOR TUBERCULOSIS
(TB) TESTING SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY**

WHEREAS, pursuant to A.R.S. § 11-251.08, Cochise Health & Social Services has recommended to the Board of Supervisors that it establish a new schedule of reimbursement for County services which shall not exceed the actual costs for the services provided by the County; and

WHEREAS, the cost to provide Tuberculosis (TB) testing services has increased it is now necessary to adopt a new fee schedule for these services to reflect the current actual cost of providing Tuberculosis (TB) testing services as specified in the accompanying Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, the new fee schedule listed herein does not exceed the actual and reasonable costs of providing these services and is necessary in order for the County to continue to provide the same level of Tuberculosis (TB) testing services; and

WHEREAS, this matter has been noticed for public hearing on May 22, 2013, as required by A.R.S. § 11-251.08, and following this hearing the Cochise County Board of Supervisors has determined that the proposed revisions to the Tuberculosis (TB) testing fee schedule are necessary and appropriate,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors adopts the following new fee schedule (as set forth in Exhibit A) for Tuberculosis (TB) testing services provided by the County, under provisions of A.R.S. § 36-187 and A.R.S. § 11-251.08 to be in effect on and after July 26, 2013.

RESOLUTION 13-_____

**Re: Establishing A New Fee Schedule For Tuberculosis (TB)
Testing Services Provided By The County**

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FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that any and all prior fee schedules adopted for Tuberculosis (TB) testing services are hereby rescinded effective with the passage of this Resolution.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED in Formal Session this 25th day of June, 2013.

Ann English, Chairman
Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Terry Bannon
Civil Deputy County Attorney

Exhibit A

Tuberculosis (TB) Program Proposed Fee Schedule

Test	Proposed Fee	Current Fee
Tuberculosis (TB) Screening (Tuberculin Skin Test, TST)	\$25.00	\$15.00

CHSS is proposing increasing the fees charged for TST services from \$15.00 to \$25.00 per test. A survey of other counties in Arizona reveals charges ranging from \$12.00 to \$65.00. CHSS is in the lower range for fees being charged. Fees for TST are credited to general fund and are not currently used to subsidize services in the TB program. If clients report an inability to pay or payment creates a hardship nursing does have the discretion to reduce or waive fees using the Federal Poverty Guidelines, as seen below, on a sliding scale.

For most employees, this is a cost reimbursed by the employer. While TST can be obtained from a private healthcare provider most clients seek TST services through the various locations of CHSS.

2012 Federal Poverty Guidelines			
Monthly Income		Annual Income	
Size of Family	100%	Size of Family	100%
1	\$ 931	1	\$ 11,170
2	\$ 1,261	2	\$ 15,130
3	\$ 1,591	3	\$ 19,090
4	\$ 1,921	4	\$ 23,050
5	\$ 2,251	5	\$ 27,010
6	\$ 2,581	6	\$ 30,970
7	\$ 2,911	7	\$ 34,930
8	\$ 3,241	8	\$ 38,890
For each Additional person add:	\$ 330.00	For each additional person add:	\$3,960.00

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to A.R.S. §11-251.08, the general public is hereby notified that the Cochise County Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing on June 25th, 2013 at 10:00 A.M. to consider increases in the Cochise County Tuberculosis (TB) Testing Program's service fees. This fee increase would be effective July 26, 2013. This hearing will be held at the Cochise County Board of Supervisors Hearing Room, 1415 Melody Lane, Building G, Bisbee, Arizona 85603. This building is accessible by handicapped individuals. Information is available with the Clerk of the Board by calling (520) 432-9200 or by mail, Attention: Clerk of the Board, Cochise County Board of Supervisors, 1415 Melody Lane, Building G, Bisbee, Arizona 85603 or via email at board@cochise.az.gov.

Dated this 22nd day of May, 2013

Public meeting to discuss hunting, fishing license structure, fees

Tom Cadden

ARIZONA GAME & FISH

The Arizona Game and Fish Department will host a series of meetings statewide to seek the public's input in developing a new hunting and fishing license structure and fees, as authorized by the recent passage of Senate Bill 1223.

SB 1223 allows the Arizona Game and Fish Commission to set future hunting and fishing license structure and fees directly through a streamlined, customer-focused process. It gives the Game and Fish Department the ability to operate more like a business and react to changing market conditions and customer needs in a timely manner. The bill was signed by Gov. Brewer on May 7 and is supported by 24 sportsmen's organizations.

At the meetings, department staff will present a conceptual license structure and fees and encourage discussion and input on a variety of concepts. For example, what do you think an elk tag should cost? Would you prefer your hunting or fishing license to be valid for one year from the date of purchase, as opposed to just the current calendar year? Would you be willing to pay more for a fishing license if it included more privileges at a discount over purchasing those privileges separately? How do you feel about the concept of offering some premium deer hunts at a higher fee? Should there be a significantly discounted price for a youth license?

"It's important to keep in mind that the license structure and fee concepts that will be shown at the meetings will only

be that - concepts," said Game and Fish Deputy Director Ty Gray. "They are not recommendations at this point, but are meant to serve as a starting point for discussion. We want to know what constituents think and what input they might have."

The nearest public meeting will be held beginning at 6 p.m., Wednesday, May 29, at Safford, Graham County General Services Building, 921 Thatcher Blvd.

If you can't attend, comment can also be submitted at LicenseSimplification@azgfd.gov or via U.S. mail to Arizona Game and Fish Department, License Simplification Comment, Attn: Ben Alteneder, 5000 W. Carefree Highway, Phoenix, AZ 85086.

For more information, visit www.azgfd.gov/LicenseSimplification.

WHS Spanish student awards at EAC Skill

On April 16, 18 students from the Willcox High School Spanish class participated in the Eastern Arizona College Skills Day held in Thatcher, bringing back 23 awards and one tuition scholarship. WHS students took first and second places in Beginning, Intermediate and Advanced Poetry. They also took first, second and third places in writing. This is the second year in a row our Willcox High School students received this distinction in Foreign Languages.

Osvaldo Delgado held the highest scores in advanced Spanish poetry and writing, earning a tuition scholarship to study at EAC. Our students from Spanish I and II exceeded expectations.

The winners in this competition were:

Lizbeth Felix: two 1st places for "La Sangre del Espíritu" by Miguel de Unamuno/Spain

Jorge Garcia: 1st for "Eternidad es" by Juan Ramón Jiménez/Spain

Marianna Barron: 1st for "Mañana Los Poetas" by Enrique González Martínez/México

Patricia Zazueta: 1st for "El Angel Guardian" by Gabriela Mistral/Chile

Keira Hamilton: 1st for "Eter-

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Dated this 22nd day of May, 2013

Publish: May 22, 2013
Arizona Range News

PUBLIC NOTICE YOU HAVE A VOICE IN AIR POLLUTION CON- TROL IN ARIZONA

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) proposes to issue the following Air Quality Control Permits to CEMEX Construction Materials South, LLC:

Air Quality Control Permit Number 50374 for the continuing operation of a portable hot mix asphalt, crushing and screening and concrete batch plant currently located at 13531 East Highway 89A, Prescott Valley, AZ 86312.

Air Quality Control Permit Number 50376 for the continuing operation of a portable hot mix asphalt, crushing and screening and concrete batch plant currently located at 3600 Old Highway 279, Camp Verde, AZ 85222.

Air Quality Control Permit Number 54507 for the continuing operation of a portable hot mix asphalt, crushing and screening and concrete batch plant currently located 13 Miles East of Yuma at Milepost 37 on Highway 95.

The mailing address for the three facilities is 4646 East Van Buren Street, Suite 250, Phoenix, AZ 85006. The facilities are subject to the requirements of the Federal Clean Air Act, Code of Federal Regulations, Arizona Revised Statute 49-426, and the Arizona Administrative Code, Title 18, Chapter 2, Article 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 11. The facilities each emit the following air contaminants: carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxide, sulfur dioxide, particulate matter, particulate matter smaller than 10 microns, particulate matter smaller than 2.5 microns, volatile organic com-

pounds, and hazardous air pollutants.

This public notice provides information to help you participate in the decision-making process. You have an opportunity to submit written comments on each permit and request that ADEQ hold a public hearing on each of the permits. The written comment shall state the name and mailing address of this person, shall be signed by the person, their agent or attorney and shall clearly set forth reasons why the permit should or should not be issued. Grounds for comment are limited to whether the permit meets the criteria for issuance spelled out in the state air pollution control laws or rules.

Materials related to the permits are available for your review Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., at the ADEQ

PUBLIC NOTICE

Records Center, at 1110 West Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona. You may also view the draft permit and technical support document online at <http://www.azdeq.gov/air/air/permits/index.html> by selecting Public Notices, Meetings and Hearings. Materials related to Permit Number 50374 will be available at the Town of Prescott Valley, Town Clerks' office at 7501 East Civic Circle, Prescott Valley, AZ 86314. Permit Number 50376 will be available at the Town of Camp Verde, Town Clerks' office at 473 South Main Street, Camp Verde, AZ 86322, and Permit Number 54507 will be available at the City of Yuma, City Clerks' office at One City Plaza, Yuma, AZ 85364.

You have an opportunity to submit written comments on permit number 50374 and make oral comments

at the public hearing which will be held June 18, 2013, at Prescott Valley Public Library, Crystal Room, Prescott Valley, 7501 East Civic Circle, Prescott Valley, AZ 86314 at 6:00 pm.

The written comment shall state the name and mailing address of the person, shall be signed by the person, their agent or attorney, and shall clearly set forth reasons why the permit should or should not be issued. Grounds for comment are limited to whether the permit meets the criteria for issuance spelled out in the state air pollution control laws or rules.

The public notice period is in effect from May 15, 2013 through June 18, 2013. Comments may be submitted in writing to: Balaji Vaidyanathan, Air Quality Permits Section Manager, ADEQ, 1110 West Washington Street, 3415A-1, Phoenix, AZ

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