

Work Session Request Form

Specific Topic / Wording of Agenda Item:

Work session to review and receive direction on: 1) the completed Cochise County Community Wildfire Protection Plan, 2) a proposed County Employee Emergency Personnel Policy, 3) a County Open Burning Ordinance, and 4) a demonstration of the new County Emergency Operations Center.

Justification / Executive Summary:

The County Office of Emergency Services (OES) has been working on four initiatives:

- A Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) that analyzes the wildfire threat to Cochise County Wildland/Urban Interfaces and makes recommendations to mitigate the wildfire threat. While the plan does not have any regulatory or statutory authority, adoption of the plan serves as a platform for pursuing wildfire mitigation grant dollars. The plan is a result of a six month planning process paid for with grants from Arizona State Forestry and the Bureau of Land Management. The BOS will need to formally adopt the CWPP in order for the plan to be eligible for grant purposes.
- A County Employee Emergency Personnel Policy that will add to our current County personnel policy, provisions for County administration to change an employee's job functions, hours, and location to meet the special needs of an emergency that significantly impacts the capabilities of County government. The policy has been reviewed by HR and the County Attorney.
- An ordinance that would follow state and federal forest/park service recommendations for fire restrictions during times of high wildfire risk. This ordinance applies to unincorporated Cochise County where there is no other jurisdictional authority (i.e.: a fire district, state/federal land, etc.). The ordinance has been reviewed by the County Attorney.
- A County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) has been created as a dual use of the IT Training room. A demonstration of the EOC's capabilities will be provided.

Proposed Outcome:

This is a time to review the above items, receive applicable direction and answer questions the BOS may have.

Presenter:

Norm Sturm

Required Attendees:

Ann English, Richard Searle, Pat Call, Mike Ortega, Jim Vlahovich, Tyson Mock

Others to Notify:

N/A

Date Needed:

July 8

Estimated Time:

One hour (depending on questions & discussion)

Supporting Material to Be Included:

- Copy of proposed open burning ordinance
- Sample copy of the Southeast Zone Fire Restriction Checklist
- Copy of the CWPP
- Copy of proposed personnel policy

Requested by:

Norm Sturm