

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COCHISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON  
Monday, July 21, 2014**

A regular board meeting of the Cochise County Board of Supervisors was held on Monday, July 21, 2014 10:00 a.m. in the Board of Supervisors' Hearing Room, 1415 Melody Lane, Building G, Bisbee, Arizona.

Present: Patrick G. Call, Chairman; Ann English, Vice-Chairman; Richard R. Searle, Member  
Staff Michael J. Ortega, County Administrator; Britt W. Hanson, Chief Civil Deputy County  
Present: Attorney; Arlethe G. Rios, Clerk of the Board; Lois Klein, Finance Director; Mike McGinnis,  
Budget Manager

Chairman Call called the meeting to order at 10:12 a.m.

**ANY ITEM ON THIS AGENDA IS OPEN FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

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***ACTION***

**Board of Supervisors**

1. Adopt the Tentative County Budget for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 in the amount of \$174,957,866 (this amount is composed of \$82,034,722 in General Fund and \$92,923,144 in Special Revenue funds) and approve the Decision Packages as set forth in attached exhibit.

Supervisor Searle moved to adopt the Tentative County Budget for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 in the amount of \$174,957,866 (this amount is composed of \$82,034,722 in General Fund and \$92,923,144 in Special Revenue funds) and approve the Decision Packages as set forth in attached exhibit. Vice-Chairman English seconded the motion.

Mr. Ortega highlighted some of the changes since the last budget work session discussion. He said that the biggest issue was the projected shortfall, which should only be about \$1,100,000 without adding in any Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) funds; cash balances changed slightly and there was \$5,500,000 available in half cent sales tax which could be used for the jail project; there are some big projects that will help with property tax revenues; and that State taxes are stable.

Supervisor Searle listed several major projects like the expansion of Apache Nitrogen in St. David and Bowie Power Plant might open again, he noted that it is the only shelf ready power plant in the Southwest.

Chairman Call stated that the reason these projects were important was because they

ensured that the property tax revenue would not be decreased immensely and the Board would not have to raise taxes.

Mr. Ortega continued and said that money was set aside to address the compensation plan and said that capital cases were still a concern since they were unstable. He noted that any shortfall for next fiscal year would be made up in one time expenses as well as vacancy savings, therefore he was recommending the budget for approval. He stated that although he had recommended an increase in property taxes, the Board had recommended to keep property taxes the same at a rate of 2.6276. He reviewed the probable issue with the expenditure limit and stated that he had some ideas on how to approach this issue. He recommended that \$250,000 of cash carry forward funds be used for fuel and all decision packages attached.

Vice-Chairman English asked about the possibility of taxing for solid waste fees.

Mr. Ortega stated that it would have to be a discussion with the Board to review different options.

Supervisor Searle thanked staff and noted that although we had a shortfall this year, the County is not bad off due to employees and their diligence. He also said that in the current situation the Board did not see the need to raise taxes.

Chairman Call called for the vote and it was approved 3-0.

Chairman Call said that the tentative budgets would be posted online and in the newspaper (AZ Range News) and that the meeting to hold a Public Hearing on each of the budgets will be held at the Board Hearing Room on Monday, August 4th at 10:00 a.m. Following that, the Board will establish the tax rates and levies at a Special Meeting on Monday August 18th at 10:00 a.m.

### ***CALL TO THE PUBLIC***

Chairman Call opened the call to the public.

No one chose to speak and Chairman Call closed the call to the public.

Chairman Call adjourned the meeting at 10:33 a.m.

APPROVED:

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Patrick G. Call, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Arlethe G. Rios, Clerk of the Board

**Special Board of Supervisors Meeting**

**Meeting Date:** 07/21/2014

Adopt Tentative Budget and Decision Packages

**Submitted By:** Arlethe Rios, Board of Supervisors

**Department:** Board of Supervisors

**Presentation:** No A/V Presentation      **Recommendation:** Approve

**Document Signatures:** BOS Signature NOT Required      **# of ORIGINALS Submitted for Signature:** 0

**NAME of PRESENTER:** Mike Ortega      **TITLE of PRESENTER:** County Administrator

**Mandated Function?:** Federal or State Mandate      **Source of Mandate or Basis for Support?:**

**Docket Number (If applicable):**

**Information**

**Agenda Item Text:**

Adopt the Tentative County Budget for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 in the amount of \$174,957,866 (this amount is composed of \$82,034,722 in General Fund and \$92,923,144 in Special Revenue funds) and approve the Decision Packages as set forth in attached exhibit.

**Background:**

Annual Tentative Budget adoption. Per ARS 42-17101, the tentative budget must be approved by the Board of Supervisors on or before the third Monday in July (July 21st, this year). Following the Board's approval, the tentative budget must be published--together with a notice of Public Hearing on the budget and a Truth-In-Taxation hearing notice (if required), once a week for two consecutive weeks in the official county newspaper. (Note: A Truth-In-Taxation notice is not required this year.)

The Public Hearing on the budget will be held at the Board of Supervisors Hearing Room on Monday, August 4, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

The tax rates and levies will be adopted by the Board at a subsequent special meeting on Monday, August 18th, in the same location and also at 10:00 a.m.

**Department's Next Steps (if approved):**

Publish the budget, TNT notice (if required) and notice of public hearing pursuant to the requirements set forth in the statutes.

**Impact of NOT Approving/Alternatives:**

Cochise County must adopt a Tentative Budget no later than the third Monday in July.

**To BOS Staff: Document Disposition/Follow-Up:**

See Dept's next steps, above

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**Budget Information**

*Information about available funds*

**Budgeted:**

**Funds Available:**

**Amount Available:**

**Unbudgeted:**

**Funds NOT Available:**

**Amendment:**

**Account Code(s) for Available Funds**

1:

**Fund Transfers**

**Attachments**

2014-15 State Budget

Half cent sales tax for Budget Adoption

Tentative Budget

Decision Packages

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