

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COCHISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
WORK SESSION HELD ON  
TUESDAY, MAY 18, 2021**

A work session of the Cochise County Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, May 18, 2021, at 1:30 p.m. in the Board of Supervisors' Executive Conference Room, 1415 Melody Lane, Building G, Bisbee, Arizona.

Present: Ann English, Chairman; Peggy Judd, Vice-Chairman, telephonic; Tom Crosby, Supervisor

Staff Present: Richard G. Karwaczka, County Administrator  
Sharon Gilman, Associate County Administrator  
Kris Carlson, Civil Deputy County Attorney  
Kim Lemons, Clerk of the Board  
Camila Rochin, Public Information Officer

Attendees: Steve Farley, CEO, Humane Society of Southern Arizona  
Robin Muck, Board Member, Humane Society of Southern Arizona  
Christian Gonzalez, Chief Programs Officer, Humane Society of Southern Arizona  
Mary Moran, Citizen  
Jere Fredenburgh, Citizen

Chairman English called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

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

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

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***ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION***

**Board of Supervisors**

1. Discussion and Possible Direction for potential partnership with the Humane Society of Southern Arizona for County animal shelter services.

Ms. Gilman introduced the item and Mr. Farley presented using a PowerPoint presentation. Ms. Gilman reviewed the history of animal shelter services, and the shortage, in the County. She reviewed outreach efforts and discussed the potential to use the former Juvenile Detention Center on Tovreaville Road for a future County facility. Staff is seeking Board direction as to proceeding with further discussions with the Humane Society of Southern Arizona (HSSA) for a possible partnership. Funding is from the Sheriff's Office Patrol budget; there is sufficient funding for additional services.

Mr. Farley stated that HSSA's Board of Directors approved moving forward with a partnership. He reviewed the need for animal shelter services and benefits and opportunities regarding the Douglas and Bisbee animal shelters, including the University of Arizona College of Veterinary Medicine's (UofA CVM) ownership of the Douglas

shelter. HSSA contracts on a fee-for-service model with Marana and Sahuarita; he discussed how the system works, and noted that similar terms can be applied to the County, Bisbee and Douglas. He reviewed, in detail, the plan for moving forward for Years 1 and 2, and Year 3 and beyond. Funding for capital costs of \$2 million could come from the federal government, the County, UofA CVM, and local donors. Operational costs would be paid through HSSA contracts with the County and municipalities. He reviewed next steps for the various parties.

The Board and Mr. Farley discussed the name of the future County shelter; construction needed at the facility; benefits of public-private partnerships; and, the level of public interest. In response to the Board, Ms. Gilman stated that a next step will be for the Board to adopt a resolution of support for the partnership and negotiations; the resolution could include direction to work with the City of Bisbee to end Bisbee's current lease of the facility. The Board, Ms. Gilman, and Mr. Farley discussed funding options and the status of a funding request through Representative Ann Kirkpatrick's office; various funding options; and, petitions in support of a centralized County animal shelter with over 8,000 signatures.

In response to the Board, Ms. Moran provided additional information about the petitions that she is circulating.

Chairman English adjourned the meeting at 2:11 p.m.

APPROVED:

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Ann English, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Kim Lemons, Clerk of the Board