

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COCHISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
WORK SESSION AND POSSIBLE EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD ON
TUESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2022**

A work session of the Cochise County Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, January 4, 2022, at 1:30 p.m. in the Board of Supervisors' Hearing Room, 1415 Melody Lane, Building G, Bisbee, Arizona.

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

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

Attendees: Mark Dannels, Sheriff
Kenneth Bradshaw, Jail Commander
Honorable Timothy Dickerson, Presiding Superior Court Judge
Larry Smith, Principal, DLR Group
Lisa Marra, Elections Director
Thomas Alinen, Chief of Staff
Lt. Ariel Monge, Detention Officer
Lt. Christy Heisner, Detention Officer
Carol Capas, PIO
Robert Watkins, Commander;
Jacqui Clay, School Superintendent

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

Members of the public may also [attend this meeting](#) via Microsoft Teams computer or mobile app, or via phone by calling 602-609-7513 or 888-680-6714, Conference ID 273 738 784#. If you have trouble accessing this meeting remotely, call 520-432-9200 for direction.

Work Sessions are a time for County staff to inform and discuss agenda items with the Board of Supervisors and public comments will not be taken.

INTRODUCTIONS

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Sheriff's Office

1. Discussion and possible direction regarding the Jail and the new Justice Center proposal.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3) and (9), the Board may go into executive session for legal advice with the attorney of the public body and to discuss security plans, procedures, assessments relating to, or having an impact on, the security or safety of buildings, facilities, or operations.

Chairman English introduced Sheriff Dannels.

Sheriff Dannels explained that the current jail facility has been discussed for several years and his team decided to bring in experts in the field to discuss solutions for the community and the National Institute for Jail Operations (NIJO) assessment.

Commander Bradshaw recommended the Board move into Executive Session.

Vice-Chairman Judd made a motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(4) and (9) for discussion and possible direction regarding the Jail and the new Justice Center proposal. Supervisor Crosby seconded the motion.

Chairman English called for the vote and it carried unanimously.

The Board moved into Executive Session at 1:34 p.m.

The Board moved out of Executive Session at 2:20 p.m.

Chairman English stated that the Board had been informed of some challenges at the jail and asked Sheriff Dannels to recommend solutions.

Commander Bradshaw introduced Mr. Larry Smith, DLR group, architects and engineers, whose company has recently completed similar facilities in Graham and Santa Cruz counties.

Mr. Smith presented this item using a PowerPoint presentation. He gave an overview of the Master Plan, an initial step of the design process. After consideration of several sites, they identified one to the west of the current location. He showed a map of the proposed site combining services under one roof, and architectural renderings of a two-story facility. He discussed the materials that could be used to give the public an idea of the size and scope of the project. He emphasized the importance of staff spaces in addition to individuals housed. It would be a 420-bed facility, with specialties for mental health and social services incorporating outreach for inmates being released.

Mr. Smith outlined the cost: Option A - Detention Center only, \$92 million; Option B - Detention Center plus Sheriff Substation, \$97 million; Option C - Detention Center, Sheriff Substation and Courts (partial), \$112 million; and Option D - All the previous plus Social Services component, \$115 million in 205,000 square feet. This could be done in many phases with final completion in 2040.

Commander Bradshaw asked Judge Dickerson for his initial requests for the courts. Judge Dickerson outlined the challenges of the Bisbee courthouse built in the 1930s, and division of judges in separate locations which is no longer necessary. He asked the Board to plan for the eventual need to move the current court facilities and include in this footprint for future construction. He thanked the Board for the recent improvements at the current location.

Chairman English agreed with the need for the plan and a look at the bigger picture. She said we need to determine how to create a complex in phases for efficiency and eliminate unnecessary transportation of inmates.

Sheriff Dannels and Commander Bradshaw detailed the reasons for using the current site, and why it makes the most sense. Mr. Karwaczka clarified that an all-inclusive complex to include all the courts would cost more than \$125 million.

Chairman English said we need to address the jail first, then the courts, with a long-term plan but also what to address in the short term.

Mr. Karwaczka said discussions are currently happening to explore solutions to bring to the Board and how to pay for it.

The Board and staff discussed a possible half-cent sales tax and other options for funding.

Ms. Roberts talked about the legal details of creation of a jail district that includes a public hearing, adding to a general election ballot, a publicity pamphlet, funding options, and public education.

The Board and staff discussed the timeline for educating the public. Ms. Marra said in her opinion the process could not be completed and put on a November general election ballot until 2024. The Procurement Request for Proposal (RFP) process and timeline was also discussed.

Commander Bradshaw stated DLR Group has assisted with other county jail district creations and options can be explored with the experts in the field of jail and jail security to help provide the next steps.

The Board gave their opinions on the need for the jail, whether to put on a ballot for voters to decide, and other possibilities.

Mr. Karwaczka said with direction from the Board today, all options discussed can be explored as an ongoing effort to keep the long and short term plans moving forward.

Sheriff Dannels said they are prepared to bring initial solutions to the Board within the next 2-3 weeks.

The Board asked for a commitment for short and long term solutions, including ideas for the current facility use and if there is a need for the existing satellite jail locations in the next meeting.

Chairman English adjourned the meeting at 3:09 p.m.

APPROVED:

Ann English, Chairman

ATTEST:

Kim Lemons, Clerk of the Board