



## OFFICE OF THE COCONINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

### SPECIAL SESSION AND EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

August 18, 2023, 9:00 a.m.

**Present:** Chair Patrice Horstman, Vice Chair Jeronimo Vasquez, Supervisor Matt Ryan, Supervisor Judy Begay and Supervisor Lena Fowler were present virtually via Zoom meeting technology.

**Also Present:** County Manager Steve Peru, Assistant County Manager/Elections Director Esliir Musta, Deputy County Manager/Flood Control District Administrator Lucinda Andreani, Deputy County Manager Andy Bertelsen, Deputy County Attorney Heather Mosher, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors Lindsay Daley and Deputy Clerk of the Board Valerie Webber were present virtually via Zoom meeting technology.

Chair Horstman called the Special Session to order at 9:02 a.m. and led the pledge of allegiance.

#### **Call to the Public:**

Clerk Daley provided instructions to attendees on how to provide comment by clicking on the raise hand icon appearing in the lower portion of their computer screen to speak or by pressing \*9 if present telephonically. She indicated that there were no members of the public who raised their hand to speak.

Chair Horstman read the agenda title for item 1 into the record while in the zoom virtual public session. She asked for a motion to enter executive session for item 1 to receive legal advice.

**Motion:** So moved, **Action:** approve, **Moved by:** Vice Chair Jeronimo Vasquez, **Seconded by:** Supervisor Judy Begay. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Horstman called for a break at 9:07 a.m. to allow the Board to conduct executive session.

#### **Action Item:**

1. Consideration and possible action to approve Resolution 2023-41, approving and adopting the tax rate schedule for Fiscal Year 2023-24 and Tax Year 2023 for all special

taxing jurisdictions for which Coconino County has authority to collect taxes; pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(3) the Board may go into executive session and receive legal advice. **Finance**

**Present:** Chair Patrice Horstman, Vice Chair Jeronimo Vasquez, Supervisor Matt Ryan, Supervisor Lena Fowler were present via Teams virtual software and Supervisor Judy Begay joined the meeting telephonically through County Manager Steve Peru's cell phone at 9:14 a.m.

**Also Present:** Finance Director Siri Mullaney, County Manager Steve Peru, Deputy County Manager Andy Bertelsen, Deputy County Manager Lucinda Andreani, Deputy County Manager Sue Brown, Treasurer Sarah Benatar, Deputy County Attorney Erin Anding, Deputy County Attorney Heather Mosher, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors Lindsay Daley were all present virtually via Teams meeting software.

Chair Horstman called the executive session to order at 9:09 a.m. in the Teams virtual meeting.

Supervisor Begay joined the executive session at 9:14 a.m.

Chair Horstman adjourned the executive session for this item at 9:36 a.m.

Chair Horstman reconvened open session at 9:39 a.m.

County Manager Steve Peru explained that Finance Director Siri Mullaney would be introducing the tax rates.

Finance Director Siri Mullaney explained that per state statute, it is the responsibility of the Board of Supervisors to adopt tax rates for Coconino County as well as all special taxing jurisdictions in the county no later than the third Monday of August each fiscal year. The taxes are established and approved by each taxing jurisdictions board of directors or board of supervisors depending on the entity. These entities might require a truth-in-taxation hearing or have some other statutory restrictions and it is their responsibility to comply with statutes that apply to them. Once all rates have been received and reviewed for accuracy, a schedule is established and the County must transmit the rates upon adoption using that format.

She said that as an update for Fiscal Year 2024, tax year 2023, there is an 03 District – Local Aid for Common School Districts, which applies to the Main Consolidated School District and the Cheylon Butte District. Also, compared to last year the assessed values in the County increased by 4.5% and of .07% is new construction or new properties that have been added to the tax roll. There is also year 2 of the Coconino Community College (CCC) override which results in a 17.7% levy increase for that taxing jurisdiction compared to Fiscal Year 2023 and, the Fire District rate limits increased from \$3.375 per \$100.00 of assessed value to \$3.50, some of the Fire Districts increased their rates accordingly.

Chair Horstman introduced elected officials and members of the public that were present virtually.

Coconino Community College (CCC) President Eric Heiser said he does not have any questions unless there is a change to the tax rate adopted by the CCC Board of Directors. Chair Horstman affirmed nothing has changed with the tax rate as proposed.

Superintendent of Schools Cheryl Mango-Paget thanked everyone for their assistance this year as it's been a bit of a rollercoaster. There have been some emergency meetings regarding new legislation HB 2124, getting rid of tuition, which caused a lot of confusion.

Supervisor Ryan thanked staff from all departments for all the work they do to bring these rates forward.

Chair Horstman read the proposed resolution into the record as follows:

*“RESOLUTION 2023-41 - A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF COCONINO COUNTY, ARIZONA, FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023/2024*

*WHEREAS, the Coconino County Board of Supervisors has received notification of tax rates set by all jurisdictions within Coconino County, and has compiled said tax rate information by jurisdiction in Schedule A, attached hereto; and*

*WHEREAS, the County Board of Supervisors is required under Arizona Revised Statute 42-17151 to adopt the tax rates for Coconino County and all special taxing jurisdictions in the County; and*

*WHEREAS, tax rates are established and approved by each taxing jurisdiction's Board of Directors; and*

*WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors is required to adopt a resolution for the collection of said taxes each year;*

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that taxes and special assessments are to be levied upon property located in Coconino County for the entities and in the amounts in Schedule A.*

*APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 18th day of August, 2023, by the Coconino County Board of Supervisors.”*

Chair Horstman said she would entertain a motion.

**Motion:** Move for approval, **Action:** approve, **Moved by:** Supervisor Matt Ryan, **Seconded by:** Supervisor Jeronimo Vasquez. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Horstman read the agenda title for item 2 into the record and asked for a motion to go into executive session at the recommendation of legal counsel and County Manager.

**Motion:** So moved, **Action:** approve, **Moved by:** Supervisor Matt Ryan, **Seconded by:** Supervisor Jeronimo Vasquez. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Horstman called for a break at 9:53 a.m. to allow the Board to conduct executive session.

**Executive Session:**

2. Discussion and consultation with attorney to review a settlement proposal and possible instructions to attorney pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(4) and receive legal advice pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(3) regarding Williams 950, LLC v. Coconino County (TX2021-000549). **County Attorney**

**Present:** Chair Patrice Horstman, Vice Chair Jeronimo Vasquez, Supervisor Matt Ryan, Supervisor Judy Begay, Supervisor Lena Fowler were all present virtually via Teams meeting software.

**Also Present:** County Manager Steve Peru, Deputy County Attorney Heather Mosher, Deputy County Manager Andy Bertelsen, Deputy County Manager Sue Brown, Deputy County Attorney Erin Anding, County Assessor Armando Ruiz, Deputy Assessor Casey Dorman, outside legal counsel Jim Susa, and Clerk of the Board of Supervisors Lindsay Daley were present virtually via Teams meeting software.

Chair Horstman called the executive session to order at 9:55 a.m.

Chair Horstman adjourned the executive session at 10:01 a.m.

Chair Horstman reconvened open session at 10:03 a.m.

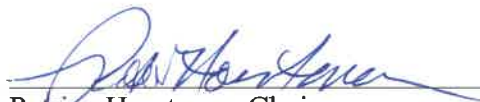
Deputy County Manager Sue Brown reminded the Board that next week’s meeting will be a hybrid format where the Board will meet in person in the Boardroom with the virtual component as well.

County Manager Peru reminded the Board that individual board members will be coming in to be meeting with the Communications Director candidate.

There being no further discussion, Chair Horstman adjourned the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

**COCONINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

(SEAL)

  
Patrice Horstman, Chair

**ATTEST:**

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Lindsay Daley, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors