

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

The Pima County Board of Supervisors met in a special session at their regular meeting place in the Pima County Administration Building (Hearing Room), 130 West Congress Street, Tucson, Arizona, at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 2, 2020. Upon roll call, those present and absent were as follows:

Present: Ramón Valadez, Vice Chair
Sharon Bronson, Acting Chair
Ally Miller, Member
Steve Christy, Member

Absent: Richard Elías, Chairman

Also Present: Chuck Huckelberry, County Administrator
Andrew Flagg, Chief Civil Deputy County Attorney
Julie Castañeda, Clerk of the Board
Ryan Roher, Sergeant at Arms

Verbatim

RV Vice Chair Valadez
SB: Supervisor Bronson
SC: Supervisor Christy
AM: Supervisor Miller
CH: Chuck Huckelberry
AF: Andrew Flagg
JC: Julie Castañeda
FG: Francisco García, MD, MPH, Deputy County Administrator & Chief Medical Officer, Health and Community Services
JV: John Voorhees, Assistant County Administrator
SG: Spencer Graves, Program Manager

JC: Supervisor Bronson?

SB: Here.

JC: Supervisor Christy?

SC: Here.

JC: Supervisor Miller?

AM: Here.

JC: Supervisor Valadez?

RV: Present and Presente

JC: Chairman Elías? Let the record reflect that Chairman Elías is absent, all other members are present.

1. **MOMENT OF SILENCE**

RV: Thank you Madam Clerk. On Saturday, we lost the Chairman. He passed and left us with a lot of memories. We will talk more about that on the regular scheduled meeting on Tuesday. But, for right now, we lost a friend, a colleague and a brother and so I am going to ask everyone to please stand and we will do a moment of silence, remembering and celebrating Richard's life.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

All present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE**

SC: Mister Chairman?

RV: Supervisor Christy

SC: May I ask for a Point of Personal Privilege, please?

RV: Please proceed.

SC: I was asked to read a statement that was created from a board member of the Arizona Restaurant Association. His name is Josh Jacobson. He is also the President and owner of Lucky Wishbone, and he asked me to read this to the Board and to the community. "Tucson has a very unique and vibrant restaurant industry. We have homegrown brands that are extremely diverse, some of which have been in business for decades and even generations. In 2015, Tucson became the first UNESCO City of Gastronomy, designated in the United States. Our Tucson restaurants have always been here for our community. One out of three Tucsonans will have their first job working at a restaurant. When the community needs to feed the vulnerable, a donation for our kids youth sports and youth programs, or a gift card for a silent auction, our Tucson restaurants are always willing to help out. Even today, in today's difficult times, restaurants are still stepping up to do their part to stay open as best they can, to support their employees, and to continue supporting the Tucson community and our economy. Our restaurants could use our help. We can do our part by ordering takeout or delivery from our favorite eateries. Buy a gift card, but be smart, practice good common sense when it comes to safety and hygiene, as well as social distancing. Tucson is going to get through this. We are going to get through this together as a community.

Restaurants will be among the first places that people will look for employment and normalcy as we get back to our lives. Let us do our part to support our amazing Tucson restaurants.” Mr. Chairman, after reading that from Mr. Jacobson, pop chicken at Lucky Wishbone sounds pretty good for lunch. Thank you for allowing me to share that.

RV: Thank you, Supervisor Christy, anyone else? Alright hearing none.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

4. Updates and Action on COVID-19

RV: We will go ahead and move to County Administrator and the updates. Mr. Huckelberry.

CH: Yes, Mr. Vice Chairman, we have staff here to provide you a number of updates. I think the first is a medical update and I will ask Dr. Francisco Garcia to provide that. I provided the Board the data in the back and this data is more reflective and it gets updated every day at about 9 o'clock in the morning. This reflects the data with regard to a number of cases, as of yesterday. I think we will continue to do that. This is also posted on our web page, but it will be continued to be tracked and reported on a daily basis. So obviously, the trends can be seen as we get more data and information. Let me defer to Dr. Garcia.

FG: Mr. Chairman, Members of the Board, this morning, we are still reflecting on our website the count from yesterday, we will not finalize those numbers until later on today. The count yesterday was 217 total cases, with ten -- with 11 mortalities, with 11 deaths in this County. The count yesterday in terms of testing was also in the 3,100 range. Really important for you to understand is that currently, we represent about 15% of the cases across the state. We represent about 15% of the testing, but at this point, we have a disproportionate burden of the mortality. That is the number of deaths, probably in association with some of the long-term care facility losses that we have had, as well as a couple of the cases that have been associated with the dialysis center. We continue to track that very tightly. Really important and for your information, our current bed capacity across the system is actually pretty darn good. We have adequate numbers of I.C.U. beds, inpatient beds and even emergency room beds at this time. Every day at 12 o'clock, we are having a conference call with all the hospitals and all the healthcare providers in order to give each other situational awareness. There has been really good information sharing, and I think that we are in a good spot at this point. A lot of what we have been asked to do, by yourselves, has been to maximize the amount of and the type of testing capacity, which continues to remain a precious and rare resource across the nation and certainly across the state. That is what we have been working on, trying to engage private sector partners to fill up some of this space so that we can provide testing for those folks who need it.

RV: Any questions?

AM: Mr. Chairman, I don't know if this is the appropriate time, but I did see that, I think it was the County Administrator put out a memorandum requesting input from the community on testing, that kind of thing and how to do that. One of the things that I thought of was possibly where they do the drive-thru for emissions testing, is that a possibility? I don't know if that is a good environment, bad environment, because it is closed, but that was a possibility. Someone called in this morning as well and suggested that we partner with the U of A utilizing dorm rooms in the event that we need those. I don't know if that may already be in place. I think that is it for now. I just had some questions from constituents and I don't know if you want to address those now or later.

RV: Let us get through the updates and then we will go ahead and have the questions.

AM: Okay, thank you.

RV Mr. Huckelberry.

CH: Mr. Chairman, I think you heard the medical update and the issue of test kits continues to be a little bit elusive. I think we are getting online capacity with regard to laboratory functions, the test kits and so that continues to be a little bit of a vexing problem, but it is starting to basically ease out. One of the questions that, I think, we are posing to the Governor, is the issue that around this state all counties have a public health agency and that public health agency is the agency that will be called upon probably to do the laboratory testing of kits for those who are uninsured. If you have insurance, those tests that are occurring now, that is billed to insurance, your medical insurance agency. We are raising those questions as to whether or not those are reimbursable costs associated with the legislature's appropriation of \$50 million for COVID-19. What I would like to do, we still are vexed with the issue of supply chain issues, primarily in P.P.E. I will turn that over to Assistant County Manager Voorhees for a report as well as we will also probably hear from the Emergency Management Director. Mr. Voorhees?

JV: Mr. Chair, Members of the Board, once again, the E.O.C. continues to push forward to supply the County's first responders, hospitals, and community healthcare workers with the personal protective equipment needed during the pandemic. We continue along with minimal supplies on hand and long waiting lists for critical purchases. The County has placed orders for supplies independent of the strategic national stockpile. We have received our final shipment of the strategic national stockpile as well. We are also working with local vendors that have repurposed their businesses to meet the urgent need. One such vendor has transitioned its artificial heart manufacturing

business to create multiuse sanitizer solutions. We placed an order with the company for 100 gallons of sanitizer per week with the option of ordering more. Additionally, we are happy to partner with Pima Community College, which plans to donate the school's remaining P.P.E., for use by local area hospitals. There are many companies offering to make supplies we need, vetting these companies has become a full time job in and of itself. We are executing due diligence to purchase from reliable vendors for the best deal possible. Prices for the supplies or raw materials to create the supplies have risen dramatically. We are finding tenfold increases on the market price of P.P.E., and sanitizer products. This, combined with unconventional and sometimes opportunistic new vendors, has created an environment where the typically large purchasing power of government is tempered by conservative and judicious financial decision making. The E.O.C. remains aggressive to provide supplies to the field and will seek areas to effectively bolster the supply chain. For now, we stand by to answer your questions. I have Mr. Guthrie, the Director of Office of Emergency Management and the E.O.C. Director here with me. As well as Spencer Graves who is the E.O.C.'s Logistic Section Team Manager. Pending your questions.

RV: Any questions. Supervisor Miller.

AM: Mr. Chairman, I have a question. You said you received the final shipment from the strategic national stockpile. What did we get from them? I guess I don't understand, they obviously have rules on how they ship things out. Is it based upon the number of cases in the state or is it based on population, that kind of thing, thank you.

JV: Mr. Chair, Madam Supervisor, I will probably defer some of this to Mr. Guthrie. I can tell you the shipment came out in four different parts. It is shipped to the state, who then disperses the supplies in accordance with population to the respective counties. The excel spreadsheet or the table that you have received should give you an idea of what we received from the strategic national stockpile as of the 31st of March. We did receive a very small resupply from that, but what you see on that spreadsheet is about all we have received from the strategic national stockpile. At this point, it is significantly depleted, but we do expect that vendors will remanufacture the needed supplies. For example Honeywell Aerospace, if you read in the news, has expanded their Phoenix business to include N95 mask production in order to resupply the strategic national stockpile. When those supplies become available, we will certainly put in another order. For now, shipments we have received is pretty much the total we expect for the time being. Jeff, do you have any additions?

(Inaudible)

AM: That that sheet reflects pretty ...

JV: Yes, Madam

AM: ..everything that you are going to get for now until they redistribute more from the national stockpile to the State?

JV: Mr. Chair, Supervisor Miller, that is correct. That is why we are reaching out to pursue our normal procurement methods and some unconventional methods getting some, soliciting some donations from volunteers, as well, to get any credible vending opportunity established.

AM: Is there any movement? I mean, I get it, that it's based on population, but it seems like some populated areas have a lot less cases than others. Is there any movement on possibly looking at that from a different perspective, such as the number of cases?

JV: Mr. Chair, Madam Supervisor, I believe that the decision is generally a federal decision. We can certainly up channel that to see if there is flexibility regarding counties with a larger portion of cases or the potential for a larger outbreak. I think you are going to find that, as bad as it seems here in Pima County, we are still on a pretty good stead as compared to some of the larger population areas in the states.

AM: Mr. Chairman, I probably should have asked this question before. As far as why we have a higher mortality rate, is there any comments on why we think that is happening here in Pima County? I guess that is for either Mr. Huckelberry or Dr. Garcia.

RV: Mr. Huckelberry.

CH: Mr. Chairman, it relates to deaths in a skilled nursing facility. I think Dr. Garcia can expound on it. We have a number of questions that we began posing to the governor's office and the state health agencies with regard to basically how to deal with outbreaks in a skilled nursing facility.

RV: Dr. Garcia.

FG: Mr. Chairman, Supervisor Miller, a couple of things to consider. The age demographics of the population in Pima County, are such that they skew towards a slightly older age range. Which puts, in general, the County at a greater risk than many counties that have a much younger age pyramid. Number two, we know that specifically, long-term care facilities, sniffs and dialysis centers are taking care of particularly vulnerable individuals. We know we have had a couple of clusters associated with two such facilities. When a healthy individual gets infected with COVID-19, she or he will recover very easily from that infection. In fact, even among older folk, even among folks who are greater than 65, if you are relatively healthy and you do

not have a lot of comorbidities, the likelihood of you recovering is actually pretty good and the likelihood of you needing hospitalization is actually pretty low. But these folks are particularly vulnerable and that is where we seeing the morality. The other thing that I would tell you, that is important. We just updated our case counts, we will be posting in about an hour or two, 227 cases total, across the County, and a total of 11 deaths. It is about 10 more cases than we had yesterday, and one more death than we had yesterday. I would caution the Board, and I would caution the public, in focusing too narrowly on the day-to-day changes in these things, because there is some reporting lag because we try to make sure that we are as accurate and as current as we can be. But the overall trend is what I think is the important piece for us to be focused on, and certainly what the Health Department team is thinking about.

RV: Supervisor Miller.

AM: Mr. Chairman, one more question regarding, I heard yesterday that they are going to probably start testing people to see if they have antibodies to the coronavirus. Do we have any thoughts on how soon that is coming or if we are going to be implementing that here anytime soon in Pima County?

RV: Dr. Garcia.

FG: Mr. Chairman, Supervisor Miller, the whole issue of antibody testing and the role it can play in this space is still evolving. I can tell you from being in conversations with our colleagues in the areas that are seriously impacted, like New York and Seattle, their use remains controversial. That capacity is not available largely here in this community. Our focus continues to be on trying to increase the amount of testing, because that is going to yield the greatest results and trying to protect the most vulnerable. One of the points that you should understand about how we use this strategic national stockpile, and what its strengths and limitations are, is that none of that strategic national stockpile contains any equipment for testing, any viral swabs, any collection kits, any testing material. In fact, even some of the materials in there, the N95 respirators, the gloves, the isolation gowns and face shields are pretty old and in some cases need to be enhanced in order to make them usable. We are trying to get those materials to the right folks, that is folks working in long-term care settings, folks working as part of the first response teams, in order to make sure that the community is as protected as it can be.

RV: Anyone else? Supervisor Miller.

AM: It just brought up one more question. Our capacity at our hospitals and here in Pima County, I think I heard someone mention earlier that we are good. How do we feel about going forward? I know there is an algorithm that we are looking at in terms of the model that is projecting. What are we projecting here in Pima County? I know that model evolves every day as we get more data, but just based on the data to date and the model to date, what are we projecting?

RV: Dr. Garcia.

FG: Mr. Chairman, Supervisor Miller, currently, for instance, in terms of emergency department bed capacity, we have out of 375 beds, we have 215 that are currently available. That is more than two-thirds. Out of the medical surgical bed capacity of the entire County, which is about 1,401 beds, we have 387 available. Of the adult I.C.U. capacity, which is 311 for the entire County, 128 of those I.C.U. beds are available. By the way, available is both in terms of equipment and staffing, because you cannot have one without the other. There are a variety of models, in fact it is a small cottage industry to produce models of what is going to happen in this space. Most of the models seem to indicate that we will be peaking in the next two to three weeks. That is part of what we have been talking to our hospital partners about how to enhance and how to best use those hospital capacities. To date, I believe that we have the resources that we need. However, some concerning news has come out recently. The Santa Cruz Valley Hospital and its viability in whether it will continue to operate is an issue that has come up in just the last 24 hours. Loss of that bed capacity, for instance, would be tragic for us here in Pima County.

RV: Mr. Huckelberry.

CH: Mr. Vice Chairman, and Members of the Board, we are going to deal with the Santa Cruz Valley Hospital issue later today; that is an issue that has arisen. One of the things, obviously, this is a very fast-moving series of targets and things to get to you. One of the memorandums I sent late yesterday, obviously, in the way of deadlines and things, but some of this material does not show up until the last minute and as we are putting it together. In the report on supplies and inventory supplies and distribute, the bottom of the page, we have the bed counts, hospital beds available, hospital beds in use, same thing with I.C.U., same thing with ventilators. We will continually report that data as a sum data, as opposed to breaking it out on individual hospitals, and then provide better information to you. The last thing I want to say on the supply chain, is that, yes, the strategic national stockpile we received the last. But we are now starting to basically receive our own procured supplies. I do not know how many cases of hand sanitizer we got on Friday, but it sounded like alot.

SC: Mr. Chairman?

- RV: If we can have him address the issue that was just brought up and then I will call you. Colonel Voorhees.
- JV: I believe Spencer will probably have better data, but I think it is 96 cases we anticipate receiving on Friday. Spencer, could you fill us in?
- SG: Those are 96 cases with 4 gallons each.
- RV: Supervisor Christy.
- SC: Dr. Garcia, a couple of real quick questions. One, at what point and at what time, will we be seeing numbers of those who have been infected, who have recovered?
- RV: Dr. Garcia.
- FG: Mr. Chairman, Supervisor Christy, that is an excellent question, and actually, the hardest one to answer. So heretofore, up until about three weeks ago, all the testing was being done at the public health lab. That meant that the Health Department actually knew every single person, was in contact with every single person who was being tested, and had follow-up information on that, and we were acting on that. All the increased testing capacity that has occurred in Arizona, for the most part, has been in the private sector. We do not have contact information for those folks. We are not aware of when those tests are being done. We are only made aware when those tests come back positive and that has presented a very real challenge for us because what we have is a name and a test result, and the doctor who ordered it. That is it. Our team has to try to work backwards from that, to try to figure out who that person is, find an address, find a phone number and try to figure out what their status is, whether they are better now, whether they are in the hospital, whether they died. That is the challenge and the opportunity that is presented by the increase in volume in testing on the private sector. That information is not necessarily being shared with us. The only thing that we are getting is the name of the patient, the fact that the test is positive, and the physician who ordered it.
- SC: Mr. Chairman, Dr. Garcia, I do think that that is obviously important information that needs to be collected and gathered. What about those that are in the hospital now? Are they being monitored as to their condition, and there is a source of those that in the hospital now that can be followed to see how their results are, if they do, in fact, recover?
- FG: Mr. Chairman, Supervisor Christy, yes. That is actually the easiest, that subset is the easiest one for us to get good and points on, have a good follow-up on. But understand that hospitalized COVID-19 patients remain a very, very relatively small number of the total number of COVID testing. One

of the things, one of the unintended consequences of more wide spread testing, is that people who may not actually end up requiring medical care, who may never walk into a hospital are being tested and those are positives that we will have to follow-up on. That is what we are trying figure out, developing systems to do. On the hospitalized patients, which are relatively, relatively small number. For instance, total hospitalizations, the total number of hospitalized patients since we began this, here in Pima County is.

SC: COVID-19 specific?

FG: ..COVID-19 specific patients. The total number of hospitalized cases has been 45, since the beginning. This is for the last four weeks or so. We have excellent follow-up on those folks. The bulk of the folks, and I just told you we had 217, 220 or so cases. The bulk of those folks are not in hospital settings and that is where our challenge lies. Yes, absolutely, we are trying to come up with strategies for figuring out how to count them and report back on their follow-up and status.

SC: Great. One final question, Mr. Chairman. It has been mentioned here a couple of times and I just want to reiterate. At this point in time, is it your assessment that local hospitals are not overwhelmed?

FG: Mr. Chairman, Supervisor Christy, at this point in time, with the existing hospital capacity, local hospitals are not overwhelmed.

RV: We have had some discussions about seniors and how we were dealing with that vulnerable population, both through H.O.A.s, neighborhood associations, as well as those that do not belong to either. Can we have an update, Mr. Huckelberry, on what we have done, where we are going, and what we have been able to find out?

CH: Mr. Chairman, if you would like to skip to probably, I think that is Item 8 on the agenda.

RV: That is fine.

CH: That is fine, we will do that. Obviously, at the last discussion with the Board, there was a great deal of discussion about trying to protect the most vulnerable population. What we have done is I have assigned at least two staff to this particular effort. The information that you have is one about how to get groceries and other supplies to seniors, so that they do not have to go out and be exposed. The information, and we have good technical information, associated with all the Homeowners Associations in the unincorporated area. We provided you some G.I.S. data. We know by the census data where people of age 70 or over are, and so we are doing that through the unincorporated area. Because again, our reach to homeowners association, as a County, is probably primarily in the unincorporated area.

We are going to provide the same information to cities and towns. So that we will then give them the same model that we are working on, with regard to how to mobilize their homeowners associations to be the conduit for, you know, activity with regard to individuals in their respective communities who may need that type of assistance. We have begun to expand and utilize that model with one that is kind of already been in place and that is the Green Valley Council. We are having a lot of discussions with them about how to implement this. If you look at the material, we have also had some outreach from a food vendor called Merit Foods or Merit Supplies. They are the same company that basically supplied all of the restaurants in the valley, during this period and they are willing to make supply; basically transfers and transports to homeowner associations' front line, if in fact, we can work on the distribution through that homeowners association. Those are all actively being pursued and I think they hold great promise. Again, our staff this week is now doing the same modeling for all of the cities and towns, providing information to them and then trying to basically reach out and ask for those cities and towns to help in contacting those associations and putting them in touch with all the distributors with regard to groceries or food. In the case of Merit, I think at least the conversation we had, was that they would do it for free as long as it was bulk and somebody else at the homeowners' association management level would take the responsibility of the distribution to the individual. That is all in process. I think working very successfully and I think we hope to basically push that model out to the other cities and towns in the next day or two. All the G.I.S. information is being done. They have their own registries with regard to homeowners associations, but we can, by population in the census track, basically pretty much tell them where they are. I think it is pretty obvious in most cases. Oro Valley has a large cluster on the north side of Oro Valley. I think Oro Valley will respond very positively to try to help those individuals. That is the activity we are going on there. We have had less success in the other issue which is trying to contact the big boxes, if you seen in our communication, where they either are not answering our questions or do not want to answer our questions. So we still have queuing occurring. We still have that queuing occurring, with a variety of populations, which is the older people being mixed in with families and kids, and that type of thing. We still have some work to do there. We are going to continue to try and contact them and see if we can actually get some social responsibility out of those big boxes to help us with that. At this point, it has been difficult.

AM: Mr. Chairman.

RV: I would like to follow-up on that and then I will call on you. Mr. Huckelberry, at this point, we have got a model that works either if there is an existing H.O.A. or an active neighborhood association. Do we have a model that will work where there is an inactive neighborhood association?

CH: Yes, Mr. Vice Chairman, we are actually in contact with the Pima Council on Aging and all of our community action agency personnel. Which basically deals with this dispersal of seniors throughout the community who, you know, might be on Three Points but they are not a cluster. So those are the kind of functions we are using to reach those individuals.

RV: Supervisor Miller.

AM: Regarding the queue, can we actually send out a notice through the same process you are using for the contact with the H.O.A.s, etcetera, to the seniors to avoid those situations? Maybe that will help alleviate, avoid that we are getting things in place so that if you need supplies, that kind of thing, that we can ensure they get to them and they can avoid going to those big box stores.

CH: Yes, Mr. Vice Chairman and Supervisor Miller, that will be a communication that we will have with the associations to push that information and a message out to individuals within those associations, so they know it is coming. As this persists, which we all know it is going to persist until the end of April, we should have those systems in place and hopefully have that delivery started and later on there is a discussion about our workplace. It probably needs to be in place for several months.

SC: Mr. Chair?

RV: Supervisor Christy.

SC: With the model of the Green Valley Council, they represent some 70 or 80 homeowners associations that have individually or I should say combined, I believe, 18,000 rooftops in the community. But not every H.O.A., in the Green Valley area belongs to the Green Valley Council. Is the Green Valley Council made it clear that they will still reach out to the other H.O.A.s in the community, even though they do not belong to the Green Valley Council?

CH: Mr. Vice Chairman and Supervisor Christy, I am sure they will, and that will be one of the conversations we have, and, frankly, I would not expect them to do anything different. I think they will.

RV: Other questions? If not, I think we still have the implementation of the Family First Coronavirus Act.

CH: Yes, Mr. Chairman. If you take that with Addendum 1, they are really the same thing. I mentioned it last time, because we had just received it a week ago. This is a federal law that had been passed and signed into law by the President, on March 18th. This Board adopted the Pandemic Leave policy on March 17th. What we are trying to do is reconcile the two and bring the two together. I think we have done that. We sent out a communication to what we

call all the department heads, appointing officials, elected officials and courts on the 31st and talking about implementation of the leaves that are going to be available to employees. One of the issues is when we first did our pandemic, we put a series of restrictions that said, you know, you had to be over 65. You had to have a vulnerable, if you were vulnerable and under that, you have a vulnerable family member, you could take that. One of the additions in the policy, that is a little later to be adopted, it says in any order of the federal, state or local government for order to shelter in place, lack of a better term, that pandemic leave kicks in automatically, if the employee wants to use it. We went into great lengths, in this memorandum of about two or three pages, to really talk about essential and nonessential employees. Where that number comes from is from all the departments who are required to develop Continuity of Operation Plans, pursuant to O.E.M. standards which says if something happens, who has to remain in place, who has to work, who can be nonessential. In my communication to everyone, I tried to make that as flexible as possible. Knowing that some departments may have paid more attention than others in their COOP plans, which means a couple did not do one. We are playing a lot of catchup on all of this. It is an implementation that is going to have a few rough spots, but it is something that needed to be put out there to reassure employees that we are trying to protect them and their health and their families. They have these leave options available, and those leave options are vary, in the federal one is confusing because it is really titled Families First. It gives a family or an employee who has a minor child in the household, it gives them the option of basically the expanded F.M.L.A. leave, which is 12 weeks. It starts off by saying the first two weeks is unpaid, but the employer can provide that. That was the purpose of putting in our pandemic leave. Then it has another series of things that says an employee in that condition can also, basically, two weeks of emergency leave, at 100% of salary. Then it is silent, but it implies that, then it talks ten weeks, but it is really if you take two and two it is eight, so it is two-thirds pay, with a limitation. We are highly compensated employees will exceed the dollar limitation if they get two-thirds pay. What we also said is that you will have some individuals who may be concerned that if they get two-thirds pay; what we said is they can fill up the bucket, so to speak, to get full pay, by using one-third of their accumulated vacation or sick leave. There is a mechanism for employees who have a minor child. The employees who do not have a minor child, they are basically still having the option of having the pandemic leave. Which is two weeks, 80 hours, and then the federal emergency management leave, which is another 80 hours. That is basically a month. That has been put in place that becomes effective, it became effective on April 1st, and that's why we communicated on March 31st. In my essential employee discussion, I said department heads need to reevaluate who is essential and nonessential. If you want to move them one way or another, that is fine we are not going to quibble about it. We also said if you have an essential employee who is at risk, please encourage them to take leave or take the pandemic or the emergency. Because we do not want to put them at risk and, again, left that to the discretion of the department

director with the employee. We are into day two of this, we have got a lot of people telecommuting. We are going to see how that works. I have a meeting this afternoon with the courts, presiding judge and as you can imagine most of the telecommuting is occurring, either in the County Attorney's Office or in the Public Defense Services Offices, where they may have 90% of their employees telecommuting and 10% in the office. I will see how well that works, the courts are still in session. They are doing telephonic things and that is fine. I need to make sure that those employees who are telecommuting are available and actually working and not impeding the progress of the courts. Because the progress of the courts needs to continue and it is so vital to reduce the jail population, so if there is an outbreak in our detention center, we can start spacing individuals in single cells. I am pleased that everyone seems to be working very well with that. Our population in the jail, I think, I saw this morning was 1,620. Down from a high of 1,950. We are getting to the point of where we can meet any needs that might occur through COVID-19 infection in the detention population. What I would really like the Board to do is go ahead and approve or accept what we have done with the Families First implementation. Then we will come in the next item, will really be trying to go back and modify our policy that we adopted the day before this was signed into law, to be consistent with it.

AM: Mr. Chairman?

RV: Supervisor Miller.

AM: I have a question. I have an employee who, you know, the governor has issued an order that children are out of school for the rest of the year. What do I do in that situation? Because she is an essential, in terms of getting work done in the office, but she is now at home with those children and she is going to be out through the end of the year.

CH: Mr. Vice Chairman, Supervisor Miller, if that employee could telecommute, then that is probably their best option. What I have indicated to all of my department heads who have employees telecommuting, they need to pay attention in supervision, so that this is not stay at home and get paid. Telecommuting is actually doing work and being productive, and having the taxpayer receive the benefit of their salary. I think in that case, I would suggest that they telecommute, if for whatever reason that employee is unable to telecommute, then they have the full range of those leaves available. The pandemic leave first in the County, emergency sick leave, and the balance of eight weeks at two-thirds pay. Then if they have accumulated vacation or sick, they can make up the one-third by simply using one-third of whatever leave they have available.

SB: Mr. Chairman?

RV: Supervisor Bronson.

- SB: Mr. Huckelberry, can we get information, tracking all of this, who is working from home? We do not need names, but just data points.
- CH: Mr. Vice Chairman and Supervisor Bronson, that is exactly what we are compiling in about the next two days. Because, I said, let it settle down because there is still people going back and forth as to where they are. Then we will, by department, have a report that says at work, telecommuting leave, and then the leave will be pandemic, federal emergency, or other leave that they may have available.
- SB: I assume as this evolves our policy will evolve, will have to evolve, because the reality is we have a workforce of almost 7,000.
- CH: Yeah.
- SB: I mean, there is going to be some real issues, especially with the schools being closed to the end of the year.
- CH: Yes.
- SB: Then in the summertime, the programs may or may not be available for those kids. We have got some real issues that I am not sure we are addressing as adequately as we should.
- CH: Yes, Mr. Vice Chairman and Supervisor Bronson, we are trying to be as nimble and tactical as possible. At least as bureaucratic as possible in the sense that, one of the modifications even on the policy gives me the right, gives me the authority of the Board as delegated to me to make exceptions. Because as you know, you try to make a rule and it fits the case 95% of the time, but 5% it does not. So we need a little flexibility to do that. We will bring those to the Board's attention, if we need to modify policy, but you are exactly right. This is a day-to-day changing environment that is very difficult to anticipate or manage. We are going to do the best we can and I am sure there will be some people who will be happy and some people are going to be unhappy. This is an emergency event like I have never been through. I went through the '83 flood, and it was a piece of cake compared to this.
- RV: Supervisor Miller.
- AM: Mr. Chairman, I am not sure if this is the appropriate time to address this, but I did see information coming in and maybe we need to put this on the next Tuesday meeting. We are getting a lot of inquiries from business owners about deferring property taxes, or moving the due date out, much the same way we did with the income taxes. I do not know if we have been having discussions with the governor. Then I have one other item.

- RV: Yeah, this is a comment or question we have been asking Mr. Huckelberry and Mr. Flagg, both of them can address the issue.
- CH: Mr. Chairman, Members of the Board, I have a memo that I am preparing to send to you on that event. The due dates on taxes are really statutory. It requires the legislature to take action. That is the first issue. The Treasurers, I think their hearts are all in the right place, when they talk about pushing this date back, but I think it is a two-edged sword. You better be careful, because you got to remember, we are only about 25% to 30% of tax receipts. The other people who rely on those are your fire districts, your school districts, and we are a big enough county that we have a line of credit. We can weather that lack of revenue. The difficulty is that, I think what happens is we get compared very often on a revenue basis to cities and towns. Well, cities and towns get a monthly distribution of sales tax, and a monthly distribution of state-shared revenues. We get property taxes twice a year. If you looked at our cash flow, it looks like a camel. It is very high in October and very high in April, but it has to last the entire year. Again, I think, we could weather this issue with our line of credit, but I worry about the small fire districts. I worry about the school districts. The school districts are already strapped. I think great gesture, but be careful.
- AM: I was thinking about that as well, because the taxes that people are asking to be deferred were actually due March 1st, and if this continues, maybe something we look at.
- RV: Let me just ask, Mr. Flagg. Mr. Flagg, did you have anything to add to Mr. Huckelberry's comments on Supervisor Miller's last question?
- AF: Mr. Chairman, Members of the Board, we have researched this independently and looked at all the statutory provisions that might apply. Property taxes are an area that are exclusively covered by statute. There is no current statutory basis to extend the deadline to pay property taxes.
- RV: Mr. Huckelberry.
- CH: Yes, Mr. Vice Chairman, one other piece of information that might be helpful. I understand who we are trying to help, it is business primarily. Our tax base is composed of 65% of our base is residential. My guess is about 80% of that, those taxes are collected through mortgage impoundment. The typical individual family is not going to see any relief, it is probably just the business sector.
- RV: Supervisor Miller.

AM: The last question that I had on this was I am getting contacted by essential businesses, such as home builders, that kind of thing. They are asking the question: do they need to, their employees driving to work in their personal vehicles, do they need to carry any sort of documentation or is that just not a problem right now?

RV: Mr. Huckelberry.

CH: Yeah, Mr. Vice Chairman and Supervisor Miller, I do not think that is a problem. I have had a conversation with the Sheriff. I know the City Managers had one with the Chief of Police, and, no, that is not going to be anything that they are going to be doing. They have a lot of other more important things to do.

AF: Mr. Chairman?

RV: Mr. Flagg.

AF: I could, if the Board wishes, I could add one more point to that.

RV: Please do so.

AF: The Governor's order, the executive order stay home, stay healthy, stay connected has a provision that says specifically "No person shall be required to provide documentation or proof of their activities to justify their activities under this order."

RV: Supervisor Christy.

SC: Mr. Chairman, one other issue, that I think needs to be brought to a little bit more clarity, is the reduction or the potential reduction of the prison population. I have had discussions with the Sheriff, and I think it should be noted that the entities that are driving this monitoring of the prison population, in terms of who can be released and the reduction area, lies with the court system, the legal community and the County, the county legal department. It is not at the discretion or under the jurisdictional ability of the Sheriff to make those decisions. This is driven from the County Attorney and the court system as to who qualifies for either permanent or early release or deferred release and it is not at the discretion of the Sheriff. He just cannot open up the prison doors and say, get out.

RV: Mr. Huckelberry.

CH: Yes, Mr. Vice Chairman and Supervisor Christy, that is a good point, I have seen a tremendous amount of work and effort and cooperation out of the criminal bench of the Superior Court. Particularly the presiding judge in that area, and I think one day she signed 79 orders. We had prisoners, probation

violations and other activities in our jail that should be in the custody of the Department of Corrections. That is an example of how, I think, the courts, as well as the County Attorney are taking this very seriously. Releasing individuals who can be and that is typically all nonviolent, very misdemeanor low-level crimes. People who should be there, will remain there.

SC: Mr. Chairman, one further point. Going back to the deferral of the property tax issue. That lies solely within the legislature and at the authority of the Governor. He can either do it by executive, he can implement something along those lines by executive decree or call back the session, the legislature for session to discuss it, but it really is at the state level. The Treasurers, the State Treasurers, the State County Treasurers Association has suggested that this is something that should be and could be looked at the state level, as far as the deferment, not a forgiveness, but a deferment. But it all resides within the authority and jurisdiction of the legislature: A; or B, the governor issuing an executive order. Is that not the situation?

RV: Mr. Flagg.

AF: Mr. Chairman, Supervisor Christy, I think it would be really questionable whether the Governor has that authority under an executive order. I do think it is something that the legislature has the province to address and could address if they are called back into session. My understanding, like yours, Supervisor Christy is that the County Treasurers are asking for the legislature to address it.

SC: Thank you.

RV: Any other questions? Alright, hearing none. Mr. Huckelberry, are we done with Items 1 through 8 or did we cover them all?

CH: Mr. Vice Chairman, you covered them all. I think what we would like is a motion to accept the reports and concur in the actions that are necessary.

SB: So moved.

RV: And second?

AM: Second.

RV: Second, okay. The motion before us is to accept the reports and concur with them. All those in favor, please signify by saying aye.

ALL: [Chorus of ayes]

RV: All opposed please signify by nay. Ayes have it.

5. **Status update on availability of Test Kits.**

(Clerk's Note: See Minute Item No. 4, for discussion and action on this item.)

6. **Supply chain issues related to Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and other critical medical supplies.**

(Clerk's Note: See Minute Item No. 4, for discussion and action on this item.)

7. **Implementation of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act H.R. 6201.**

(Clerk's Note: See Minute Item No. 4, for discussion and action on this item.)

8. **Update on Community Support Activities.**

(Clerk's Note: See Minute Item No. 4, for discussion and action on this item.)

HUMAN RESOURCES

9. **Revisions to Board of Supervisor Policy**

Staff recommends approval of the revisions to Board of Supervisors Policy D 23.20 Attendance Policy during Influenza or Other Viral Pandemic Outbreak.

RV: Moving onto Item No. 9, Mr. Huckelberry.

CH: Yes, Mr. Chairman, this is the reference I talked to you really taking our Personnel Policy, the Board Policy, on this issue, and conforming it to the Federal Law that was approved and signed into law the day after we adopted this. It had been discussed previously, all the items for modification. I believe and as this situation remains fluid, we may be changing this again.

RV: Any comments or questions?

SB: Do we need to make a motion to approve?

AM: I will move so to approve.

SC: Point of order.

RV: Supervisor Christy.

SC: Does this, No. 9, does this coincide on the addendum items at all, that can be taken at the same time?

RV: Mr. Huckelberry.

CH: Mr. Vice Chairman, no.

SC: Okay, thank you.

RV: Alright, the motion before us is on the approval of Item No. 9 on the regular agenda. All those in favor, please signify by saying aye.

ALL: [Chorus of ayes]

RV: All opposed, please signify by saying nay. Ayes have it.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

10. Discussion/questions/action with regard to leave options and essential employee designation as identified by County Administrator Memorandum to Elected Officials, Department Heads, Appointed Officials, and Management dated March 31, 2020.

(Clerk's Note: See Minute Item No. 4, for discussion and action on this item.)

11. Staff recommends approval of the concept and implementation of the program of Wellness Checks to Safeguard the Work Place.

RV: We move on to Addendum No. 1, and Item 1. Mr. Huckelberry.

CH: Mr. Chairman, you covered that in Item 7, in your approval. The second item, is one that I think the staff believes we need to do and it will be with us for quite a while. It is a policy and all we are asking you now to do is approve it in concept. We will bring you back the details, as soon as we get the thermometers. They have been on order from Amazon for a week and hopefully we will get them this week or next week. What it really is, is really trying to: A, minimize the spread of COVID-19 from folks who might be marginally infected. The best, I think is the medical advice we have is the first trigger is temperature. What this will be is a very simple and hospitals are new doing it. It is all being done at the jail already for any new admissions to our detention facility. It is a simple temperature check to ensure the individual is well when they enter the workplace. That is one step. I think the other step is employees have a lot of, we will say concern, some of them, who are essential and having to stay here and work, about the safety of the workplace. This is a measure to actually, that is why it is entitled that, to improve the safety of the workplace and reassure employees who have to work, that it is a safe place to work.

RV: Questions or comments? If not, the Chair will entertain a motion to approve Item No. 1 on Addendum 1.

SB: So moved.

AM: Second.

RV: Motion and a second to approve Item No. 1. Discussion? Item 1?

JC: It is Item 2.

RV: I did 1.

SB: No, it is Item 2.

RV: Well, we have not.

SC: Was not Item 1 dealt with before with 7?

CH: Yes, Mr. Vice Chairman, I think you combined that with 7 previously.

RV: Alright, let the record show that it was combined with the previous one. It is Item No. 2 on Addendum No. 1, all those in favor please signify by saying aye.

ALL: [Chorus of ayes]

RV: All those opposed, please signify by saying nay. Ayes have it.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

RV: If there is no further business before this Board, this body stands adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 9:57 a.m.

CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

CLERK