



## SAN BENITO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Mark Medina	Anthony Botelho	Peter Hernandez	Jim Gillio	Jaime De La
District No. 1	District No. 2	District No. 3	District No. 4	Cruz
			Vice-Chairman	District No. 5
				Board Chairman

*County Administration Building - Board of Supervisors Chambers, 481 Fourth Street, Hollister, California*

### SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

**March 31, 2020**

**9:00 AM**

#### ***Mission Statement***

*The County Board of Supervisors will recognize the public trust it holds, will on all occasions conduct business with honesty, integrity, and respect for the individual, and will hold the organization of County government to that same standard.*

***The San Benito County Board of Supervisors welcomes you to this meeting and encourages your participation.***

- If you wish to speak on an item contained in the agenda please complete a Speaker Card identifying the item(s) and provide it to the Clerk of the Board prior to consideration of the item.

***Each individual speaker will be limited to a presentation total of (3) minutes unless otherwise permitted by the Board Chair.***

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 9:07 a.m. by Chairman Jaime De La Cruz. Those present were Supervisors Anthony Botelho, Jim Gillio, Peter Hernandez and Mark Medina, as well as County Counsel Barbara Thompson, County Administrative Officer Ray Espinosa and Clerk of the Board Janet Slibsager.

- a. Pledge of Allegiance

**Pledge of Allegiance to be led by Supervisor Jim Gillio, District #4.**

The Pledge of Allegiance with led by Supervisor Jim Gillio.

- b. Acknowledge Certificate of Posting

**Certificate of Posting.**

MOTION:

Motion to Acknowledge the  
Certificate of Posting:

Made by Vice-Chair Jim Gillio and seconded by  
Supervisor Anthony Botelho

**5 - 0**

For (5):

Against (0):

*Ayes: Botelho, De La Cruz, Gillio, Hernandez, Medina*

**NOTICE OF TEMPORARY PROCEDURES FOR BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
MEETINGS**

Management Analyst Dulce Alonso provided information as to how the public could join the meeting by zoom and the procedure.

*Matters discussed during Closed Session include existing and pending litigation, personnel matters and real property negotiations. Reportable actions taken by the Board during Closed Session will be announced during open session. (Gov. Code Section 54957.1(a) and (b), Ralph M. Brown Act.)*

1. Pursuant to California Governor Gavin Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20 issued on March 17, 2020, relating to the convening of public meetings in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, members of the Board of Supervisors are allowed to attend the meeting via teleconference and to participate in the meeting to the same extent as if they were present.

**Members of the public are encouraged to participate in Board meetings in the following ways:**

**1. Remote Viewing**

Members of the public who wish to watch the meeting can view a livestream of the meeting online through Community Media Access Partnership (CMAP) YouTube, San Benito County Government  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLj3iW3\\_dsDzbYqnY1KdCvA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLj3iW3_dsDzbYqnY1KdCvA).

**2. Written Comments & Email Public Comment**

- Members of the public may submit comments via email by 5:00 PM. on the Monday prior to the Board meeting to the Clerk of the Board at [JSlibsager@cosb.us](mailto:JSlibsager@cosb.us). Regardless of whether the matter is on the agenda. Every effort will be made to provide Board Members with your comments before the agenda item is heard.

**3. Board of Supervisors meeting Zoom Instructions for remote Participants:**

Three ways to attend zoom meetings: **over the phone, on a web browser, or through the Zoom App**. Each meeting will have a meeting ID, which is a unique number associated with an instant or scheduled meeting.

**1. Over the phone (Audio only):**

· (669) 900-6833 or (408) 638-0968.

**2. Open the Web-browser:**

· <https://zoom.us/join>

**3. Smart device Application:**

· Apple App store: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/id546505307>

· Android App store: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?>

id=us.zoom.videomeetings

### **Zoom Audio Only (phone)**

If you are **calling in as audio-only**, please dial **(669) 900-6833 or (408) 638-0968**.

1. It will ask you to enter the **Meeting ID #976-090-508**, followed by the **"#" key**, which can be found at the top page of the agenda. The meeting agenda can be found at <http://cosb.us/>
2. It will then ask for a **Participant ID**, press the **"#" key** to continue.
3. Once you enter the zoom meeting, you will automatically be placed on mute.
4. **Public Comment:** If you are using a phone, please press the **"\*9"** to raise your hand, zoom facilitator will unmute you when your turn arrives.

### **Zoom On Web-browser or Zoom app on Tablet or Smartphone**

If joining through web-browser launch: <https://zoom.us/join> or launch the Zoom app on your Tablet or Smartphone

1. Select **"JOIN A MEETING"**
2. The participant will be prompted to enter **Meeting ID #976-090-508** and name to join the meeting. Which can be found at the top page of the agenda. The meeting agenda can be found at <http://cosb.us/>
3. Participant can launch audio through their computer or set it up through the phone.

**Public Comment:** select the **"Participants Tab"** and click **"Raise hand"** icon, the zoom facilitator will unmute you when your turn arrives.

### **Public Comment Guidelines**

- If participating on zoom Once you are selected, you will hear that you have been unmuted: State your first name, last name, and county you reside in for the record.
- The San Benito County Board of Supervisors welcomes your comments.
- Each individual speaker will be limited to a presentation total of three (3) minutes.
- Please keep your comments, brief, to the point, and do not repeat prior testimony, so that as many people as possible can be heard. Your cooperation is appreciated.

If you have any questions, please contact the Clerk of the Board at (831) 636-4000, Ext. 11 or email [JSlibsager@cosb.us](mailto:JSlibsager@cosb.us).

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

### **1. HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY - T. BELTON**

Receive presentation and update from HHSA/Public Health Services on the respiratory disease coronavirus, also known as COVID-19.

SBC FILE NUMBER: 130

Health and Human Services Director Tracey Belton provided information and update to the COVID-19. PowerPoint that covered the following: California Data as of March 28th: cases are drastically increasing; San Benito County data as of March 30th: 17 total cases; recovered 4, breakdown of cases in age groups. Important to shelter in place and only go out for essential things. If you are an essential employee it is important to social distance at work; Shelter in Place Non-Essential Business enforcement; email and phone number that you can call in if you have questions or concerns regarding businesses that are open. Will be putting out more guidance in regards to social distancing in grocery stores and in different environments about being six feet apart. Have been meeting weekly and will continue through the Shelter in Place Order.; Questions:

Supervisor Anthony Botelho had a question in regards to the supplies. How is the Governor going to distribute supplies that they have been successful in getting to the hospitals, especially our local hospitals. Had a question in regards to testing and it being critical as where the community is at.

Ms. Belton said that she will defer the question in regards to supplies to Kris Mangano at OES. She provided information on testing; Hazel Hawkins is doing testing but needs to meet the criteria for testing at this point.

Chairman Jaime De La Cruz asked if the activity rate is higher in other county's.

Ms. Belton replied that she does not have other county data for testing but could look in to it if they would like.

Supervisor Jim Gillio thanked Ms. Belton for the new data that is going out it is very good.

Deputy Director of Health and Human Services Enrique Arreola provided information on the homelessness in San Benito County. Provided information on the Winter Shelter Program and that it ends today. Provided information on the Home Resources Center and that it is averaging between 43-45 individuals a night. Due to the COVID-19 they have expanded the hours of operation to 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m., have added day shift, two washing stations, social distancing is being implemented and janitorial services are being provided two times a day. Hotel Vouchers are being provided, we received funding from the State in the amount of \$51,000. Have provided rental assistance to about 25 families. Working with Continuum of Care to end homeless for trailers, etc.

Discussion ensued by Board and staff in regards to the homelessness in San Benito County.

PIO David Westrick said that they are working hard with the Public Health, Cities and other agencies. Spoke about the newsletter that will be put out every day and the opt in link daily. Spoke about internal messaging to target employees, elected officials. He has done about 102 press contacts since we started doing this. Spoke about a mail out to go out to all of the residents in Spanish and English. Doing status briefs with our OES group, employees and our EOC.

OES Director Kris Mangano provided an update on their (PPE) Personal Protective Equipment order. The hospital received the majority of the items which were gloves, masks and hand sanitizer. Every department received hand sanitizer throughout the County. There should be another order coming by the end of the weeks that will have gowns, booties, gloves, masks, etc. It is hard to get things in but are going with what ever they can get it.

Discussion ensued by Board and staff in regards to supplies.

Ms. Mangano said that the Office of Emergency Services has contacted the Community Food Bank, at the request of the Board, in regards to their drive thru pickup for their food distribution.

She said that they noticed some traffic issues so they contacted them in regards to a second distribution area and with the option of opening a second location becomes the need for additional people. We suggested utilizing the National Guard which was made available to each County through the Office of Emergency Services. The National Guard has been tasked with helping serve with food banks during the pandemic. She said that she reached out to Santa Cruz County to see how the National Guard worked with the Second Harvest Food Bank this past weekend. They felt that the National Guard provided a national resource helping them provide a critical service to their residents. She said that they would like us to consider bringing National Guard in to use as a Humanitarian as support at the food bank for this mission.

Discussion ensued by Board and staff in regards to bringing in the National Guard to help with the Food Bank.

**Public Comment:**

Suzy Caston, County Employee, said that she has helped at the Food Bank for about 5 hours it was a lot of work and they served a lot of people. Having the National Guard for a service like this would immensely useful.

Wayne Norton, said that he is shocked that this is a controversy to bring in the National Guard.

Supervisor Botelho said that we are in a state of emergency and he feels that the CAO has authority to use the National Guard as he sees fit. Asked if they needed to make a motion to support the OES in this matter.

CAO Ray Espinosa said that the Board did give us direction to move forward at looking at the National Guard which we did but wanted to bring it back to the Board to let you know what they would be doing and also to let the public know.

**MOTION:**

Motion to allow the CAO to use the National Guard as a Humanitarian to help at the San Benito Food Bank:

Made by **Supervisor Anthony Botelho** and seconded by **Vice-Chair Jim Gillio**

**3 - 2**

For (3):

Against (2):

Ayes: Botelho, Gillio, Medina Nays: De La Cruz, Hernandez

**2. COUNTY COUNSEL'S OFFICE - B. THOMPSON**

Read Title, Waive further reading, accept introduction and adopt an Urgency Ordinance enacting a Temporary Prohibition on COVID-19 Pandemic Related Evictions of the County of San Benito to Impose a Substantial Limitation on Residential and Commercial Evictions.

SBC FILE NUMBER: 160

ORDINANCE NO: 1,007

County Counsel Barbara Thompson provided information on proposed ordinance in regards to the County of San Benito to impose a substantial limitation on residential and commercial evictions due to lack of non payment related to COVID-19. This follows an order of some other counties which is broader than the State order. She read the title of the ordinance for the record.

Chairman Jaime De La Cruz said that this is a great program but also feels we should help out the homeowners too.

Supervisor Anthony Botelho said from his understanding this is not a forgiveness of rent it is a suspension of the eviction process. Property owners do have a right to their back rent, is supportive of this.

Supervisor Peter Hernandez said that he is totally supportive of this. Would also like to extend this to property owners. Maybe check with Melinda at the Tax Collectors Office to see if something can be done.

Supervisor Jim Gillio thanked Barbara for putting this together. Would like to match up our ordinance with the State ordinance only related to COVID-19 in the County. He said that he believes the State is working with banks to provide mortgage forgiveness for homeowners to extend. In regards to the property taxes there is one other county that is able to accept partial tax payments but I don't believe we are able to, that would be a question for our Tax Collector.

Supervisor Mark Medina would like to put this on the agenda for the April 7th meeting to educate everyone on the property taxes. I don't think we have the authority to do it.

Chairman De La Cruz said that maybe Tax Collector Melinda Casillas can do a presentation on the 7th in regards to what options are available.

**Public Comment:**

Melinda Casillas, Tax Collector, said that she does not have the ability to change the due date on property taxes, however, they will analyze the property taxes that they were able to collect through the end of April and then they will put in some plans to deal with the COVID-19. She will keep the board informed of their plans as they move along.

County Counsel Barbara Thompson addressed the issue that Supervisor Gillio mentioned about going with what the State does. She said that she is recommending we don't because ours is a little bit more protective.

**MOTION:**

*Motion to adopt Urgency Ordinance  
No. 1.007 as presented:*

Made by **Supervisor Anthony Botelho** and seconded  
by **Vice-Chair Jim Gillio**

**5 - 0**

*For (5):*

*Against (0):*

*Ayes: Botelho, De La Cruz, Gillio, Hernandez, Medina*

**CLOSED SESSION**

County Counsel Barbara Thompson read the closed session items into the record. The Board adjourned in to closed session at 10:25 a.m. The Board reported out of closed session at 12:39 p.m. There was no reportable action.

*Matters discussed during Closed Session include existing and pending litigation, personnel matters and real property negotiations. Reportable actions taken by the Board during Closed Session will be announced during open session. (Gov. Code*

*Section 54957.1(a) and (b), Ralph M. Brown Act.)*

1. **CLOSED SESSION - CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL**

Threat to Public Services or Facilities

Government Code 54957a.

SBC FILE NUMBER: 235.6

No reportable action.

2. **CLOSED SESSION-CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS**

Agency designated representatives: Michael McDougall, Ray Espinosa, Edgar Nolasco, Stewart Patri, Elvia Barocio and Barbara Thompson.

Employee Organizations:

Institutions Association

Law Enforcement Management

Management Employees' Group

SEIU Local 521 (General Unit Employees)

Deputy Sheriff's Association

Confidential Employees

Confidential Management Employees

Appointed Department Heads

Unrepresented Employees

AUTHORITY: California Government Code Section 54957.6

SBC FILE NUMBER: 235.6

No reportable action.

The Board adjourned the meeting at 12:40 p.m.

MOTION:

*Motion:* Made by **Supervisor Anthony Botelho** and seconded by **Chairman Jaime De La Cruz**

**5 - 0**

*For (5):*

*Against (0):*

*Ayes: Botelho, De La Cruz, Gillio, Hernandez, Medina*

**ADJOURNMENT:**

*In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) the Board of Supervisors meeting facility is accessible to persons with disabilities. If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Clerk of the Board's office at (831) 636-4000 at least 48 hours before the meeting to enable the County to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility.*