

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE APACHE COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MEETING

September 1, 2026

St. Johns, Arizona

Present were Chairman Alton Joe Shephard and Vice Chairman Joe Shirley, Jr. Also present was Ryan Patterson, Clerk of the Board/Manager, County Attorney Jasmine Blackwater-Nygren and Chief Deputy County Attorney Chris Resare. Supervisor Nelson Davis participated via the telephone.

Chairman Shepherd called to order the Board of Supervisors meeting at 8:32 a.m. in the Board of Supervisors' chambers, County Annex Building, 75 West Cleveland Street, St. Johns, Arizona and welcomed all in attendance.

Clayton Overson gave the invocation.

J.J. Thomas led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Craig Sullivan, Executive Director, County Supervisors Association: Report on recent County Supervisors Association activities including discussion on the recent legislative session and budget. Chairman Shepherd thanked Mr. Sullivan for the work he and his staff do on behalf the County. No action was needed or taken.

Mr. Patterson requested approval of the Consent Agenda Items A-O and recommended approval. **Mr. Shirley moved approval, seconded by Mr. Davis.** County Manager/Clerk of the Board: A. Finance Department: Request approval of demands as distributed to the Apache County Board of Supervisors between August 11, 2026, through August 24, 2026. Demands are payments made, or to be made by the County. Payee Amount APACHE COUNTY FSA \$1709.17 APACHE COUNTY HSA \$7984.98 APACHE COUNTY MEDICAL \$227270.26 APACHE COUNTY TAX WITHHOLDING \$199082.08 ASRS LEGACY EORP \$11956.12 AZ STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM \$137555.34 COLONIAL LIFE AND ACCIDENT INS \$1015.56 CORRECTIONS OFFICER RET PLAN \$14776.63 EORP LEGACY \$5607.70 NATIONWIDE \$5103.87 NATIONWIDE RETIREMENT SOL EODCRS \$1464.69 NATIONWIDE TRUST FSB \$2715.17 PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL 401 \$12106.30 PUBLIC SAFETY SHERIFF RET \$13153.08 SUPPORT PAYMENT CLEARINGHOUSE \$1367.91 AZ COUNTIES INSURANCE POOL \$500698.00 ALLEGRA \$2449.36 AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES INC \$11216.57 APIC SOLUTIONS LLC \$9819.00 BLUE HILLS ENVIRONMENTAL \$1344.55 BLUE KNIGHT SECURITY LLC \$4925.00 CDW GOVERNMENT LLC \$1600.60 CHARM-TEX \$4995.00 CHOICE BROADBAND \$5220.20 JAMIE CURLEY \$3079.76 DATA CENTER WAREHOUSE LLC \$5116.79 ELECTION SYSTEMS AND SOFTWARE \$6250.00 EMPIRE MACHINERY \$1470.70 EW PARKER ENTERPRISES LLC \$1122.20 FLEET PRIDE \$1246.96 FUTURE TIRE \$3725.50 GILA COUNTY \$10991.47 GWORKS \$5731.00 HILLYARD/FLAGSTAFF \$1014.67 INGRAM BOOK COMPANY \$1089.07 KUHLMAN PSYCHOLOGY & CONSULTING PLLC \$1750.00 LESUEUR ADVANCE AUTOMOTIVE LLC \$1539.53 CHRIS MCCARTHY \$1050.00 NAVOPACHE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE \$10852.32 OVERDRIVE INC \$1471.91 POLARIS PHARMACY SERVICES

OF WARRINGTON LLC \$6296.87 PRAGMATICA LLC \$3849.10 R JOHN R JOHN LEE
 ATTORNEY AT LAW \$10500.00 RIM COUNTRY MECHANICAL \$1113.00 ROBERTS
 TIRE SALES INC \$1859.23 SECURUS TECHNOLOGIES INC \$1346.91 SKAGGS PUBLIC
 SAFETY UNIFORMS & EQUIPMENT \$5572.41 STAN'S DIESEL AND PERFORMANCE
 \$1060.31 SUN RIDGE SYSTEMS, INC \$56384.00 TESAB PARTS CENTER INC \$2192.57
 THOMSON REUTERS WEST \$3922.58 WRIGHT EXPRESS FSC WEX \$3597.48 RICHARD
 C GUINN \$1721.80 ALTON JOE SHEPHERD \$1061.28 APIC SOLUTIONS LLC \$9819.00
 ADHS AZ HEALTH CARE COST \$22400.00 AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES INC
 \$15512.80 APACHE COUNTY FAIR \$25000.00 APACHE COUNTY SHERIFF'S POSSE
 \$1875.00 AZ COUNTIES INSURANCE POOL \$14847.23 AZ DEPT OF HEALTH SERVICES
 \$1320.00 AZLGEBT \$451270.19 BLUE HILLS ENVIRONMENTAL \$68243.03 BURNHAM
 - IFP LLC \$2626.20 John Lucas COMMUNITY BROADBAND ADVOCATES LLC
 \$1612.50 CRAFCO INC \$2777.51 CREATIVE MULTIMEDIA INC (CMI) \$8120.00
 EMPIRE MACHINERY \$3449.98 EPIC MOTORSPORTS CORP \$4158.97 FUTURE TIRE
 \$3449.83 HANCOCK COMPREHENSIVE DENTISTRY \$1175.00 HOME DEPOT ACCT
 7600 \$1859.13 NAPA \$2139.23 NAVAJO TRIBAL UTILITY AUTHORITY \$3869.73
 NAVOPACHE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE \$14900.04 OVERDRIVE INC \$1306.70
 PRONTO BIOMEDICAL SOLUTIONS LLC \$2607.00 PUBLIC SAFETY CANCER
 INSURANCE \$1150.00 REDW LLC \$5479.00 RHINEHART OIL CO \$8629.07 SECURUS
 TECHNOLOGIES INC \$1971.51 SONORA QUEST LABORATORIES \$1285.94 SOUTHERN
 TIRE MART LLC \$4265.04 ST JOHNS CITY \$7658.36 TARTAN OIL LLC (FORMER
 NAME: SARATOGA) \$27050.56 THE GUIDANCE CENTER \$3495.52 TOWN OF EAGAR
 \$7676.45 TOWN OF SPRINGERVILLE \$4604.27 VERIZON WIRELESS \$1329.75
 WASAU TILE LLC \$5470.99 YAVAPAI COUNTY GOVERNMENT \$2100.00
 ZION ENTERPRISES LLC \$1000.00 DOUGLAS LANCE PEARCE \$1050.00

Specific details of the demands may be requested through the County public record request process. B. Request approval of minutes dated August 17, 2026. C. Request approval of a resolution declaring recognition of fallen firefighters and emergency services personnel. Election Department: D. Request approval of an updated Intergovernmental Agreement with the Little Colorado Sanitary District to provide election services. E. Request approval of the 2023 HAVA Election Security Sub-Grant Application. School Superintendent's Office: F. Request approval of Student Information System Intergovernmental Agreement with Pinal County for Jail Education. This will not affect the FY27 budget. G. Request approval pursuant to A.R.S. §15-424(E) to cancel the election for two 4-year seats for the Chinle Unified School District Board and appoint the persons who filed the require candidate paperwork to fill the positions for the 2026 school board elections. Community Development: H. Request approval of a conditional use permit application submitted by Sandra Bond to allow for the hosting of equine trail sports and working equitation clinics and events at an existing equine facility. The property is identified as APN 212-24-008L. The Planning & Zoning Commission recommended unanimous approval on August 5, 2026. I. Request approval of a conditional use permit application requested by Pew & Lake, PLC, to construct and operate a storage research and development facility located within the Coronado Generating Station. The Planning & Zoning Commission recommended unanimous approval on August 5, 2026. J. Request approval of a conditional use permit application request to amend a previously approved Conditional Use Permit CUP 2014-1 for a wireless telecommunications facility by increasing the approved tower height from 155 feet to 199 feet. Property is located approximately Mile Marker 351, U.S. Highway 180, Concho,

Arizona; APN 204-41-001. The Planning & Zoning Commission recommended unanimous approval on August 5, 2026. K. Request approval of a conditional use permit application requested by Pinnacle Consulting on behalf of Verizon Wireless, to modify condition #6 of Conditional Use Permit 2025-51 previously approved December 2, 2025. The subject property is identified as APN 101-35-011. The Planning & Zoning Commission recommended unanimous approval on August 5, 2026 L. Request approval of a zone change permit application requested by Ryan Ellsworth, Fox Canyon LLC, to amend the Apache County Zoning Map by rezoning APN 106-36-010F and 106-36-010G, located in Vernon, Arizona, from AG (Agricultural General) to C-1 (Light Commercial). The request will allow the continued operation of an existing Intensive Outpatient Recovery Center known as WayPoint Recovery in accordance with applicable Arizona laws and regulations governing State-licensed recovery care facilities. Planning & Zoning Commission recommended unanimous approval on August 5, 2026. Superior Court: M. Request approval for the FY26 Fill the Gap Grant Application in the amount of \$21,066 (\$15,316 State Grant and \$5750, Local Funding). These funds are generated from court fines and fees and set aside for necessary court operations within Apache County. The State regulates these funds and requires this application submission each fiscal year, as well as a final accounting at the end of that fiscal year. The requested amount is within the Court's budget N. Request approval for the FY26 Field Trainer Application in the amount of \$25,000. These funds help cover the salary of the Courts Field Trainer. The State regulates these funds and requires this application submission each fiscal year, as well as a final accounting at the end of that fiscal year. The requested amount is within the Court's budget. County Attorney's Office: O. Request ratification of the FY2027 Victim Compensation Grant VC-27-001 from the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission. Vote was unanimous.

Megan Hill, Election Director, requested approval of Election System & Software Sales Order Agreement #5479, in the amount of \$287,925 to purchase 55 ExpressVote 3 machines. **Mr. Shirley moved approval, seconded by Mr. Davis.** Mr. Patterson stated Mrs. Hill secured About \$80,000 from a grant from the Secretary of State and the remainder of the cost would come from contingency with vacancy savings within the County. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Patterson presented notification the October 6, 2026, Board of Supervisors meeting initially scheduled to be held in Chinle, Arizona will be held in St. Johns, Arizona. No action was needed or taken.

Mr. Patterson presented notification of the following meetings where two or more members of The Apache County Board of Supervisors may be in attendance:
The Eastern Arizona Counties Organization meeting on September 16, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. at the County Supervisors' Association building, 1905 W. Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ.
Small Counties Forum meeting on September 16, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. held at the County Supervisors Association building, 1905 W. Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ.
The County Supervisors Association (CSA) meeting on September 17, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. at the County Supervisors Association building, 1905 W. Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ.

Chairman Shepherd opened the floor for call the public.

Linda Norman, a resident of Vernon, Arizona stated she read a recent article in the newspaper

regarding the Board not approving a moratorium on renewable energy projects even though the Planning and Zoning Commission voted to recommend the Board of Supervisors be established. Ms. Norman requested the Board of Supervisors approve a moratorium on the projects.

Lonnie Randall, a resident of Concho, Arizona, spoke about the Springerville volcanic field that needs to be protected and preserved.

Mike Lara, a resident of Vernon, Arizona, requested a moratorium on renewable energy projects and data centers.

Tina Ellis, a resident of Vernon, Arizona, stated she read the article in the paper regarding the moratorium being rescinded and also in concerned with the volcanic fields.

Brian Burke, a resident of Concho, Arizona stated wind and solar projects should not be near populated areas.

Mason Grainger, a resident of Concho, Arizona voiced his concerns and opposition to renewable energy projects.

Melanie Brockman, a resident of Tucson, Arizona expressed her opposition to wind and solar farm.

Donald Maxwell, a resident of Vernon, Arizona stated he was disappointed that he was not called on to address the Coonsent Agenda Item I since he had 4 recommendations of conditions to be attached to the CUP application. Mr. Maxwell also spoke about the Board not placing a moratorium on the agenda in order to give time for the Planning and Zoning Commission to properly revise the ordinance.

Susan Maxwell, a resident of Vernon, Arizona requested a moratorium in order to write a proper renewable energy ordinance for wind and solar energy projects.

Linda Weiland, a resident of Eagar, Arizona stated the Planning and Zong Commission recommended a moratorium on utility scale renewable energy projects two months ago and referred the recommendation to the county manager for the Board of Supervisor's agenda but was withdrawn from the agenda by the Planning and Zoning department and asked for clarification on how that process occurred.

Monica Boehning a resident of Springerville, Arizona, addressed the Board regarding Rexall's submission to Planning and Zoning and their application documents ae not available for public review. Ms. Boehning requested the county attorney's office investigate and expedite the pending record requests. Ms. Boehning spoke about her offer for assistance with the creation of moratorium documents.

Freda Ponce, resident of Vernon, Arizona, addressed the Board regarding water usage concerns and requested a moratorium on renewable energy projects and data centers.

William Holder, a resident of Vernon, Arizona expressed his opposition to wind turbines, data centers and surveillance cameras that are collecting information.

There was no one else wanting to address the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Shirley moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Davis. Vote was unanimous.

Approved this 6th day of October, 2026.

/s/ Alton Joe Shepherd
Chairman of the Board

/s/ Ryan N. Patterson
Clerk of the Board