



MEMORANDUM

Date: May 2, 2022

To: The Honorable Chair and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: Jan Leshner
County Administrator

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jan Leshner", is written over the printed name of the County Administrator.

Re: **Appointment of Barbara Escobar as Department of Environmental Quality Director**

On [December 14, 2021](#), I appointed Barbara Escobar as Department of Environmental Quality Interim Director effective January 4, 2022. In that memorandum, I indicated that I would evaluate options for permanently filling the Director position in April 2022, including possibly extending the interim appointment, making it permanent or initiating an open recruitment.

Last week, Deputy County Administrator Carmine DeBonis Jr. and I met with Ms. Escobar to discuss her experience as Interim Director, as well as our mutual interests for filling the permanent position. Over the past four months, Barbara has performed exceptionally in leading the Department through the complicated air quality permit for Becton Dickinson, preparation of the annual budget and overall organizational management.

Barbara was also recently selected as the recipient of the AZ Water Association's Environmental Stewardship Award. This distinction is awarded to a person who has contributed significantly to the protection and enhancement of the environment along with energy management and sustainable practices in the Arizona water and wastewater industry.

Based on Barbara's extensive skills and experience in roles involving the environment, including her time in the Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department and in the private sector, and her performance in the Interim Director role, I am appointing her as Department of Environmental Quality Director effective May 8, 2022.

Please join me in offering warm congratulations to Ms. Escobar.

JKL/anc

c: Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Deputy County Administrator for Public Works
Francisco Garcia, MD, MPH, Deputy County Administrator & Chief Medical Officer,
Health and Community Services
Barbara Escobar, Director, Department of Environmental Quality