

**RURAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, June 18th, 2024, 10:00 A.M.
100 N. 7th Avenue, Suite 400,
Phoenix, AZ 85007

I. Opening Remarks, Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairman Danny Seiden, Arizona Chamber of Commerce, called the meeting of the Rural Business Development Advisory Council to order at 10:02 AM. Heather Escobedo, Arizona Commerce Authority, noted roll call.

Committee Members Present

- Angie Harmon, Statewide
- Tony Boone, Cochise County
- Danny Seiden, Maricopa County (Chairman)
- Tricia Lewis, Yavapai County Committee
- Deanna Beaver, La Paz County
- Nathan Levi Esquerra, Tribal Representative
- Keith Johnson, Navajo County
- Paul Ramsey, Apache County

Committee Members Not Present

- Mayor Tom Murphy, Pima County
- Julie Pastrick, Coconino County
- Gary Kellogg, Mohave County
- Jaime Chamberlain, Santa Cruz County
- Doug Nicholls, Yuma County
- Dustie Robinette, Greenlee County
- Fernando Shipley, Gila County
- Steven Miller, Pinal County
- Danny Smith, Graham County
- Keith Watkins, Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA)

Others Present

- Jamie Kerr, Vice President, Rural Economic Development (ACA)
- Robert Theobald, Small Business Ombudsman / VP, Small Business Services (ACA)
- Teri Orman, Manager, Procurement/Grants (ACA)
- Heather Escobedo, Project Manager, HR/Operations (ACA)
- Sharay Satchell, ADOT



I. Consent Agenda

Approval of February 13, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Chairman Seiden moved to approve February 13, 2024 Meeting Minutes, with one correction. Deanna Beaver moved to approve, and Tony Boone seconded the motion; all in favor; the motion approved.

II. ACA Reauthorization Update, Danny Seiden, Chairman

Chairman Seiden provided updates and details on the ACA reauthorization and confirmed the ACA will continue for the next 5 years. If you have any questions, please reach out to Chairman Seiden. Thank you to all the committee members for their support.

III. Discussion and approval of the FY 2024 Economic Strengths Projects (ESP) Grant

Jamie Kerr and Teri Orman provided details of awardees and opened questions and answers to the committee. Please see presentation for more details.

IV. ACA Small Business Resources, Robert Theobald, Vice President, ACA

Robert Theobald provided updates and resources for Small Business. Please see [Programs for Businesses - Government Grants Available for AZ Businesses | Arizona Commerce Authority \(azcommerce.com\)](#) for more details.

V. Arizona Commerce Authority update, Jamie Kerr VP, Rural Development

Jamie Kerr provided updates on Rural initiatives, please see Jamie for questions and details.

VI. Roundtable Discussion

Members gave an update regarding their respective communities.

VII. Call to the Public

Chairman Seiden excused himself early and asked Jamie Kerr to take over administering the meeting. Jamie Kerr called for comments from members of the public. No members of the public were in attendance.

VIII. Adjournment

Jamie Kerr moved to adjourn meeting; all moved to approve the motion; all in favor; the meeting was adjourned at 10:52 AM.

