



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

**Arizona Commerce Authority
Ajo Conference Room
118 N. 7th Avenue, Suite 400
Phoenix, AZ 85007**

**Wednesday, May 24, 2017
11:30 A.M. – 1:30 P.M.**

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Keith Watkins, Acting Chairman, called the meeting of the Rural Business Development Advisory Council to order at 11:28 A.M. Teri Orman, ACA, noted roll call:

Committee Members Present and In-Person

- Keith Watkins, ACA (*Acting Chairman*)
- Angie Harmon, Statewide Organization Representative
- Levi Esquerra, Tribal Representative
- Joy Stavely, Coconino County
- David Bentler, Maricopa County
- Tom Murphy, Pima County
- Greg Stanley, Pinal County
- Ron Fain, Yavapai County
- Mayor Doug Nicholls, Yuma County

Committee Members Present Via Teleconference

- Les Orchekowski, Cochise County
- Ron Gould, Mohave County

Committee Members Not Present

- VACANT, Apache County
- Ellen Kretsch, Gila County
- Robert Corbell, Greenlee County
- D.L. Wilson, La Paz County
- Jaime Chamberlin, Santa Cruz County

Other Attendees

- Matthew Contorelli, ACA – Government Affairs
- Teri Orman, ACA

A quorum was present. The meeting was noticed and properly posted.



- II. Approval of Minutes Dated April 5, 2017.**
Levi Esquerra moved to approve the minutes; Les Orchekowski seconded the motion; all in favor; the motion was approved.
- III. Presentation from Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management – Director Jeff Whitney**
Jeff Whitney gave a presentation on the State Forester’s Office and overview of the goals of the Four Forest Restoration Initiative.
- IV. Legislative Update – Matt Contorelli, ACA**
Matt Contorelli gave an update of approved House and Senate bills that affect the ACA and explained how they may be beneficial to rural economic development.
- V. Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA) Update**
Keith Watkins provided an overview of recent activities and initiatives at the ACA, with special focus on items of interest to the rural areas of the state.
- VI. Roundtable Discussion**
Each attendee gave an updated regarding their respective community.
- VII. Call to Public**
No members of the public were in attendance.
- VIII. Adjournment**
David Bentler moved to adjourn; Tom Murphy seconded the motion; all voted in favor; the meeting adjourned at 1:30 P.M.

