

**ARIZONA COMMERCE AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, September 19, 2019 at 1:00 P.M.  
Arizona Commerce Authority  
100 N. 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 100, Phoenix, AZ 85007

**I. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Governor Ducey, Chair, called the September 19, 2019 meeting of the Arizona Commerce Authority Board of Directors to order at 1:03 p.m. and welcomed attendees and the public. The meeting was noticed and properly posted. Governor Ducey requested Melissa Mills call the role. Quorum of voting members present.

**Board Members Present In-Person:**

Governor Doug Ducey, Chair	Michael Bidwill
Sandra Watson	Gary Abrams
Speaker Rusty Bowers	Maria Harper-Marinick
Duff Hearon	Dr. Taylor Lawrence
Richard Luebke	Clate Mask
Russell McCloud	Mayor Christian Price
Girish Rishi	Don Slager
Barry Smith	John Wolfe

**Board Members Present Via Conference Line:**

Jack Selby (phone)	Dawn Grove (phone)
Nancy Ham (phone)	

**Board Members Not Present:**

Dr. Michael Crow	Dr. Robert Robbins
Wick Pilcher	Richard Adkerson
John Arnold	Senate President Karen Fann
Dr. Rita Cheng	Quinn Palomino

**Departing Board Members Present:**

Drew Brown	David Goldstein
Mignonne Hollis	Jim Keely
Steve Macias	Brian Mueller

**II. Welcome Remarks from Chair - Governor Doug Ducey**

Governor Doug Ducey, Chair opened the meeting by welcoming the newly elected board members and thanking the departing board members.



Welcoming remarks by Governor Doug Ducey, Chair covering economic highlights including announcing ACA's request for proposal (RFP) release for the \$3 million rural broadband development grant program.

### **III. Consent Agenda**

- a) Approval of September 12, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes**
- b) Approval of FY2020 Budget**

Governor Doug Ducey, Chair called on the board for a consent agenda vote. Governor made motion to approve, Michael Bidwill seconded motion. Consent agenda approved.

### **IV. CEO Report-Sandra Watson (A.R.S. § 38-431.02(K))**

President and CEO, Sandra Watson recognized the six departing board members in attendance as well as welcoming the new board members.

President and CEO, Sandra Watson highlighted FY19 results: 105 projects, 24,422 jobs, \$66,000 average wage, \$2.6B capital investment. Covered FY20 results to date: 34 projects, 8,037 jobs, \$58,133 average wage, \$975M capital investment. Also highlighted growth in international projects.

President and CEO, Sandra Watson introduced Kevin Sullivan to review the ACA pipeline updates: currently 274 pipeline projects representing 47,788 jobs with an average wage of \$57,721 and \$19.4B in capital investment. Noted increases in consumer products and business services, highlighting both attraction and expansion pipelines. 67 projects originating in California currently in pipeline, 43% of which are in the technology & innovation industries.

President and CEO, Sandra Watson introduced Shawn Neidorf to review opportunity zones. Shawn highlighted process of working with the US Dept of Treasury to submit census tracts in Arizona for approval as zones, statutory language, stakeholder engagement, and the Arizona Opportunity Zones Network tool launched by the ACA in February of 2019 and roadmap of opportunity zone events. Governor Doug Ducey, Chair, asked whether there is a real strong way to measure the interest in the program; Shawn Neidorf indicated the Arizona Opportunity Zones Network tool gives us a sense of who is interested and in what. Jim Keely noted that the guidance from the Internal Revenue Service on Opportunity Zones is choppy but somewhat helpful. Drew Brown noted there is a large business complexity to this program and concerned about what will happen when the real estate financed with Opportunity Zone funds all hit the market in ten years. Duff Hearon asked a question about sunset period for investments. Shawn Neidorf clarified that investments must all be made by 2026.

President and CEO, Sandra Watson introduced Keith Watkins to update the Board on rural business development. His highlights included: the process to create a statewide broadband program and grant components, ACA & Small Business Development Center partnership – first of its kind in Arizona, non-traditional workforce initiatives in rural areas, Four Forest Restoration



Initiative (4FRI) RFP process, working with the Forest Service, and ADOT overweight vehicle pilot program to enhance the forestry industry.

John Wolfe thanked Governor Ducey for his leadership on rural broadband. Russell McCloud also thanked the ACA and Governor Ducey for working on this project.

Chancellor Marinick thanked Governor Ducey and the ACA for recognizing the SBDC partnerships.

### **Executive Session**

Governor Doug Ducey, Chair, moved to enter into Executive Session; Dr. Taylor Lawrence seconded. The motion was approved. The Board entered Executive Session at 2:09 p.m.

- a) Client Updates**
- b) Business Development Strategies**

The Board returned to public session at 2:50 p.m.

### **V. Call to Board Members for Items for Future Agendas**

Governor Doug Ducey, Chair, encouraged members of the Board to identify items for future meetings.

### **VI. Call to the Public**

No public comment.

### **VII. Adjournment**

Governor Doug Ducey made a motion to adjourn, Chair, Michael Bidwill seconded. The meeting adjourned at 2:53 p.m.

