

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

Wednesday, May 15, 2019 at 11:00 A.M.
100 N. 7th Avenue, Suite 400, Phoenix, AZ 85007

MEETING MINUTES

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Keith Watkins, Acting Chairman, called the meeting of the Rural Business Development Advisory Council to order at 11:30 A.M. Teri Orman, ACA, noted roll call:

Committee Members Present and In-Person

- Keith Watkins, ACA (*Acting Chairman*)
- David Bentler, Maricopa County
- Greg Stanley, Pinal County

Committee Members Present Via Teleconference

- Ellen Kretsch, Gila County
- Mayor Tom Murphy, Pima County
- Mayor Doug Nicholls, Yuma County
- Ron Gould, Mohave County
- Donald "DL" Wilson, La Paz County
- Paul Watson, Navajo County
- Levi Esquerria Tribal Representative

Committee Members Not Present

- Tony Boone, Cochise County
- Angie Harman, Statewide
- Ron Fain, Yavapai County
- Jaime Chamberlain, Santa Cruz County
- Joy Staveley, Coconino County
- VACANT, Apache County
- VACANT, Graham County
- VACANT, Greenlee County

Other Attendees

- Armando Esparza, Rural Business Development Manager (ACA)
- Jeff Sobotka, VP & State Broadband Director (ACA)
- Teri Orman, Grants & Procurement (ACA)

Of the 15 filled seats of the RBDAC, a quorum was present. The meeting was noticed and properly posted.



II. Approval of Minutes Dated April 17, 2019

Mayor Tom Murphy advised that he was not included on the list of those present. Greg Stanley moved to approve the minutes, as amended; Mayor Tom Murphy seconded the motion; all in favor; the motion was approved.

III. Consideration and approval of FY2019 Economic Strengths Projects Grantees

Keith Watkins provided an overview of the recommended FY2019 ESP Grant recipients including the following:

- City of Casa Grande \$500,000
- Town of Snowflake \$150,000
- City of Kingman \$275,000
- City of Sedona \$500,000
- *Total Grant Awards:* \$1,425,000
- *Remaining Balance* \$75,000

After discussion of the applications and available funding, Angie Hanson proposed, due to previous awards being returned or declined, that FY18 returned or declined funds be rolled over to unawarded applicants. David Bentler moved to approve the grantees; Greg Stanley seconded the motion; all voted in favor; the motion was approved.

IV. Presentation from Research Department (ACA) – Shawn Neidorf

Shawn Neidorf gave a presentation on the Arizona Opportunity Zone nominations submitted to the U.S. Treasury Department

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; Greg Stanley seconded the motion; all voted in favor; the meeting adjourned at 12:04 P.M.

