

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

Thursday, October 23, 2025, 10:00 A.M.
100 N. 7th Avenue, Suite 400,
Phoenix, AZ 85007

I. Opening Remarks, Call to Order and Roll Call

Keith Watkins called the meeting of the Rural Business Development Advisory Council to order at 10:07 AM. Heather Escobedo, Arizona Commerce Authority, noted roll call.

Committee Members Present

- Mayor Tom Murphy, Pima County
- Tony Boone, Cochise County
- Danny Seiden, Maricopa County (Chairman)
- Paul Ramsey, Apache County
- Deanna Beaver, La Paz County
- Tricia Lewis, Yavapai County
- Jaime Chamberlain, Santa Cruz County
- Mayor Doug Nicholls, Yuma County
- Angie Harmon, Statewide
- Keith Watkins, Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA)

Committee Members Not Present

- Julie Pastrick, Coconino County
- Danny Smith, Graham County
- Nathan Levi Esquerra, Tribal Representative
- VACANT, Navajo County
- VACANT, Mohave County
- Dustie Robinette, Greenlee County
- Fernando Shipley, Gila County
- Steven Miller, Pinal County

Others Present

- Heather Escobedo, Project Manager, HR & Talent Management (ACA)
- Teri Orman, Procurement & Accounting Manager (ACA)

II. Consent Agenda - Approval of June 12, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Ratify the action taken on October 14, 2025, meeting, due to lack of a quorum.

Keith Watkins called to take action to approve; Paul Ramsay moved to approve June 12, 2025, meeting minutes, Tom Murphy seconds to approve; all in favor, minutes are approved.

III. Rural Initiatives, Keith Watkins, Sr. Vice President, ACA


*Ratify the action taken on October 14, 2025, due to lack of a quorum

Keith Watkins called to take action to approve; Tom Murphy moved to approve Rural Initiatives, Deanna Beaver seconds to approve; all in favor, initiatives are approved.

IV. Call to the Public

Keith Watkins called for comments from members of the public. No members of the public were in attendance.

V. Adjournment

Keith Watkins called to take action to adjourn meeting; Deanna Beaver moved the motion;  Lewis seconded; all in favor; the meeting was adjourned at 10:10 AM.

