

RURAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

October 19, 2022 - 11:30 AM

Hybrid Meeting

ACA - Humphrey's Meeting Room

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://azcommerce.zoom.us/j/97566710480?from=addon>

Meeting ID: 975 6671 0480

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairman Danny Seiden, Arizona Chamber of Commerce and Industry was absent. Keith Watkins of the Arizona Commerce Authority who typically sits in place of the Chairman when absent was also absent. Jamie Kerr, Arizona Commerce Authority and sitting in for Keith Watkins called the meeting of the Rural Business Development Advisory Council to order at 11:34 AM. Heather Escobedo, Arizona Commerce Authority, noted roll call.

Committee Members Present

- Tony Boone, Cochise County
- Gary Kellogg, Mohave County
- Tricia Lewis, Yavapai County Committee
- Jaime Chamberlain, Santa Cruz County
- Danny Smith, Graham County
- Keith Johnson, Navajo County

Committee Members Not Present

- Angie Harmon, Statewide
- Mayor Tom Murphy, Pima County
- Julie Pastrick, Coconino County
- Danny Seiden, Maricopa County (Chairman)
- Doug Nicholls, Yuma County
- Nathan Levi Esquerra, Tribal Representative
- Fernando Shipley, Gila County
- Paul Ramsey, Apache County
- Keith Watkins, Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA)
- VACANT, La Paz
- VACANT, Greenlee County
- VACANT, Pinal County

Other Members Present

- Jamie Kerr, VP, Rural Economic Development, Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA)
- Heather Escobedo, Project Manager, HR/Operational Excellence (ACA)
- Sarah Forlano, Executive Assistant, Arizona Chamber of Commerce & Industry
- Chico Hunter, Manager of Economic Development, SRP
- Brian Sherman, CIO (ACA)
- Matthew Earl Jones, Director, Film & Digital Media (ACA)
- Ramsay Wharton, Program Manager, Film & Digital Media (ACA)

Of the 13 filled seats of the RBDAC, a quorum was not present. The Committee took no official action. The meeting was noticed and properly posted.



II. Chairman Welcome and Remarks–Danny Seiden, President & CEO, Arizona Chamber of Commerce & Industry

Sarah Forlano, Executive Assistant, Arizona Chamber of Commerce & Industry represented Danny Seiden, welcomed members, and discussed Manufacturing Month. Arizona’s manufacturing momentum is evident in the data as well. Consider these facts:

- Arizona has added 14,100 jobs in manufacturing over the year, a growth rate of 7.8%, more than double the U.S. rate of 3.7%.
- Between 2015 and 2021, Arizona’s manufacturing share of Real GDP, a measure of economic output, grew from \$25.2 billion to \$32.8 billion for a rate of 30.4% – more than double the U.S. manufacturing growth rate (14%).
- With more than 285 projects in our pipeline, manufacturing represents 67% of projects, 84% of jobs, and 92% of capital expenditures.

III. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of June 29, 2022 RBDAC Meeting Minutes
Gary Kellogg moved to approve minutes, as is. Tony Boone seconded the motion; all in favor; the motion approved.

IV. Center for an Arizona Carbon Neutral Economy – Chico Hunter, Manager of Economic Development, SRP and Brian Sherman, CIO, Arizona Commerce Authority

Chico Hunter & Brian Sherman presented on the Center for an Arizona Carbon Neutral Economy – see presentation for details.

V. Arizona Film Ready Crew Initiative - Matthew Earl Jones, Director, Film & Digital Media - Arizona Commerce Authority

Matthew Earl Jones & Ramsay Wharton presented on Arizona File Ready Crew Initiative – see presentation for details.

VI. ACA Update – Jamie Kerr, Vice President of Rural Economic Development, Arizona Commerce Authority

Jamie Kerr provided additional updates on Manufacturing Month and other ACA projects and initiatives.

VII. Roundtable Discussion

Each attendee gave an update regarding their respective community.

VIII. Call to Public

No members of the public were in attendance

IX. Adjournment

Jamie Kerr moved to adjourn meeting; Tricia Lewis seconded the motion; all in favor; the meeting was adjourned at 12:53 PM.

