



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

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

**Wednesday, April 5, 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 11:40 A.M. Teri Orman, ACA, noted roll call:

Committee Members Present and In-Person

- Keith Watkins, ACA (*Acting Chairman*)
- David Bentler, Maricopa County
- Robert Corbell, Greenlee County
- Les Orchekowski, Cochise County
- D.L. Wilson, La Paz County
- Levi Esquerra, Tribal Representative
- Larry Lucero, Cochise County

Committee Members Present Via Teleconference

- Jaime Chamberlain, Santa Cruz County
- Joy Staveley, Coconino County
- Ron Gould, Mohave County

Committee Members Not Present

- Angie Harmon, Statewide Organization Representative
- Julie Engle, Yuma County
- Ellen A. Kretsch, Gila County

Other Attendees

- Milan Eaton, Arizona Department of Education (ADE)
- Teri Orman, ACA

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

**II. Approval of Minutes Dated October 19, 2016**

D.L. Wilson moved to approve the minutes; Ron Gould seconded the motion; all in favor; the motion was approved.



### **III. Consideration and Approval of FY2017 Economic Strengths Project (ESP) Grantees**

Keith Watkins provided an overview of the recommended FY2017 ESP Grant recipients including the following:

- City of Casa Grande                 \$475,000
- City of Show Low                     \$293,987
- Town of Camp Verde                 \$231,013
- *Total Grant Awards:*             \$1,000,000

Larry Lucero moved to approve the grantees; Levi Esquerra seconded the motion; all voted in favor; the motion was approved.

### **IV. Presentation of E-Rate for Rural Arizona**

Milan Eaton gave a presentation on the Arizona Broadband for Education Initiative.

### **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**

Levi Esquerra moved to adjourn; Larry Lucero seconded the motion; all voted in favor; the meeting adjourned at 1:00 P.M.

