

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

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 at 10:00AM

Zoom Meeting - <https://azcommerce.zoom.us/j/96120963056?from=msft>

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

Keith Watkins, Acting Chairman, called the meeting of the Rural Business Development Advisory Council to order at 10:05 A.M. Heather Escobedo, ACA, noted roll call:

Committee Members Present Via Zoom

- Keith Watkins, ACA (Acting Chairman)
- David Bentler, Maricopa County
- Jaime Chamberlain, Santa Cruz County
- Paul Watson, Navajo County
- Mayor Tom Murphy, Pima County
- Levi Esquerra Tribal Representative
- Angie Harmon, Statewide
- Tony Boone, Cochise County
- Joy Staveley, Coconino County
- Mayor Doug Nicholls, Yuma County

Committee Members Not Present

- Ron Fain, Yavapai County
- Ellen Kretsch, Gila County
- Ron Gould, Mohave County
- Donald "DL" Wilson, La Paz County
- VACANT, Apache County
- VACANT, Graham County
- VACANT, Greenlee County

Other Attendees

- Jamie Kerr, VP – Rural Economic Development (ACA)
- Paul Hughes, EVP – Business Attraction & Development (ACA)
- Brian Sherman, VP & State Broadband Director (ACA)
- Jena Coolidge McGovern – SVP – Marketing & Communications (ACA)
- Heather Escobedo, Operations Project Manager (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 May 15, 2019 Meeting**

Keith Watkins moved to approve the minutes, as is. Mayor Tom Murphy seconded the motion; all in favor; the motion was approved.

**III. Business Attraction/Expansion Updates-Paul Hughes, EVP Business Attraction/Expansion**

Paul Hughes provided an overview of recent activities and updates of the ACA's business attraction and expansion projects which included Covid-19.

**IV. Marketing Resources-Jena Coolidge McGovern, SVP Marketing/Communications**

Jena Coolidge McGovern gave a presentation on the ACA's Marketing and Communications departments recent projects and activities mainly focusing on COVID-19 support and tools on ACA's website.

**V. Broadband update – Brian Sherman, EVP Innovation**

Brian Sherman provided an overview of recent Broadband activities at the ACA and rural communities. He also provided tools reviewed tools available on the ACA website which included the daily bootcamps ACA provides.

*ACTION: Brian to provide Angie Harman with Broadband Hotspot expansion list in rural areas.*

**VI. Roundtable Discussion**

Each attendee gave an update regarding their respective community.

**VII. Call to Public**

No members of the public were in attendance.

**VIII. Adjournment**

Keith Watkins moved to adjourn; all voted in favor; the meeting adjourned at 11:13 A.M.

