

ARIZONA COMMERCE AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 20, 2025, at 1:00 P.M.

Arizona Commerce Authority

100 N. 7th Avenue, Suite 100, Phoenix, AZ 8007

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Governor Hobbs, Chair, called the February 20, 2025, meeting of the Arizona Commerce Authority Board of Directors to order at 1:04 p.m. The meeting was noticed and properly posted. Governor Hobbs requested Melissa Mills to take the role. A Quorum of voting members confirmed present.

Board Members Present:

Governor Katie Hobbs

Sandra Watson

Mara Aspinall (virtual)

Co-Chair Michael Bidwill

Jenn Daniels

Dr. Stacy Klippenstein

Mark Gaspers

Jack Selby (virtual)

Simer Mayo (virtual)

Danny Seiden

Cathleen Walker

Pam Kehaly

Mayor Kevin Hartke

Clate Mask

President Warren Petersen

Dr. Suresh Garimella

Tony Astorga

Chad Sampson (virtual)

Board Members Not Present:

Wick Pilcher

Dr. Michael Crow

Dr. José Luis Cruz Rivera

Monica Garnes

Girish Rishi

Supervisor Lynn Pancrazi

Dr. Richard Gray

II. Welcome Remarks from Chair, Governor Katie Hobbs

Governor Hobbs recognized departing board member Cathleen Walker. She also welcomed two new members to the board – Dr. Garimella and Supervisor Pancrazi.

Governor Hobbs spoke about her theme for the year—Arizona Promise—and discussed investments proposed in her FY2026 Executive Budget. The investments include:

- \$529 million in new, general fund investments in K-12 schools
- More than \$380 million invested in our universities
- \$191 million to expand access to affordable child care
- Nearly \$135 million to keep housing affordable
- And nearly \$18 million for workforce and community college investments.

The Governor also discussed ACA-specific investments, including a \$10 million one-time deposit from the General Fund to the Arizona Competes Fund as well as the restoration of annual deposits going forward and a \$5 million one-time deposit from the General Fund to the Major Events Fund.

The Governor then highlighted the news that Arizona was selected as the site for the co-located NSTC Prototyping and NAPMP Advanced Packaging Piloting Facility. She spoke about Arizona's growing prominence in the semiconductor industry.

III. Welcome Remarks from Co-Chair, Michael Bidwill

Board Co-Chair Michael Bidwill discussed working with Governor Hobbs at the 2023 Super Bowl held in Arizona to help recruit companies. He talked about Arizona's growing momentum and recognized Speaker Montenegro and President Petersen for their leadership.

Mr. Bidwill stated that all leaders were now part of Team Arizona and competing against 49 other states for economic development. He said that, for that past ten years, Arizona has outpaced nearly every state in the nation in terms of job growth and led the nation in poverty reduction.

He touted TSMC's investment as the largest foreign direct investment in state history.

He also praised Arizona's financial programs, saying Arizona doesn't do backroom deals like our states. Arizona's programs are transparent and proscribed by law.

With the eyes of the world on Arizona, Mr. Bidwill urged policymakers to ensure Arizona's policy keeps up with our economic growth and to take the long view.

IV. Consent Agenda

Governor Hobbs called for a motion to approve the minutes from the September 18, 2024, meeting.

Michael Bidwill made a motion. Mara Aspinall seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

V. CEO Report – Sandra Watson (A.R.S. § 38-431.02(K))

Sandra Watson thanked Michael Bidwill and Governor Hobbs.

She discussed the ACA's 2025 fiscal year to date results, including winning 56 projects, representing 11,346 potential new jobs with average wages exceeding \$86,000. The projects also represent more than \$9.5 billion in capital investment - more than double the amount at this time last year.

Sandra then recognized 12 client companies in attendance who celebrated expansions recently, including:

- Blue Polymers
- Camelback Linen Service
- Chlorum Solutions
- Cognite
- Exceptional HeathCare
- Gulfstream
- Howmet Aerospace
- JX Advanced Metals USA
- MiiHealth
- Nestle
- Pure Wafer
- And Rehrig Pacific

VI. Pipeline Update, Ryan Ruiz

EVP of Business Development, Ryan Ruiz, provided a pipeline update.

Since the last meeting, the ACA added 115 new projects to the pipeline, expanding its active portfolio to a total of 479 projects. Collectively, these projects represent nearly 130,000 jobs and over \$106 billion in potential capital investment.

The leading sectors in the pipeline are aerospace & defense, with 78 projects. Headquarters projects represent the second-largest category, at 41 projects, making up 9% of our pipeline and contributing over 10,000 potential jobs.

Bioscience and healthcare projects have also shown remarkable growth, with capital investment growing by 265% and potential jobs increasing by 126%.

The ACA now has 40 logistics projects in the pipeline, contributing over 5,200 jobs—a 114% increase since the last update—along with a potential capital investment of \$1.1 billion.

International projects have reached an all-time high, now totaling 137 projects, contributing over 38,000 jobs and \$25 billion in capital investment.

Regarding mega projects, we've added 7 new projects since our last meeting, bringing the total to 48 mega projects in our pipeline. These projects represent over 70,000 jobs and \$81 billion in potential capital investment.

Sandra Watson thanked Ryan for his update. She briefly discussed a few more recent initiatives, including the Arizona Venture Alliance, Science Foundation Arizona, and recent Future48 Workforce Accelerator expansions.

VII. Executive Session

Governor Hobbs called a motion to move to executive session. Michael Bidwill made the motion; Mara Aspinall seconded the motion. Governor Hobbs called the Executive Session to order at 1:40 p.m. A brief pause occurred for photos with companies present.

VIII. Call to Board Members for Future Agenda Items

Governor Hobbs called the public session back to order at 2:29 p.m. The governor called for any future agenda items.

IX. Adjournment

Governor Hobbs, Chair, called for motion to adjourn. Danny Seiden made a motion. Michael Bidwill seconded the motion. All board members in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.