

ARIZONA COMMERCE AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 1, 2024 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 1, 2024, meeting of the Arizona Commerce Authority Board of Directors to order at 1:06 p.m. The meeting was noticed and properly posted. Governor Hobbs requested Lauren Masseur take the role. A Quorum of voting members confirmed present.

Board Members Present:

Governor Katie Hobbs

Sandra Watson

Mara Aspinall

Tony Astorga

Co-Chair Michael Bidwill

Jenn Daniels

Phil Gallagher

Monica Garnes

Dr. Rick Gray

Sharon Harper

Pam Kehaly

Sherry Martin

Wick Pilcher

Girish Rishi

Dr. Robert Robbins

Danny Seiden

Jack Selby (virtual)

Cathleen Walker (virtual)

Board Members Not Present:

John Arnold

Dr. Michael Crow

Dr. José Luis Cruz Rivera

Mark Gaspers

Simer Mayo

President Warren Petersen

Speaker Ben Toma

Dr. Stacy Klippenstein

Mayor Doug Nicholls

Wes Kremer

Clate Mask

Supervisor Steve Miller

II. Welcome Remarks from Chair, Governor Katie Hobbs

Governor Hobbs welcomed all board members and audience members. She thanked board members for their tireless efforts on the economy.

She spoke about some of her priorities for the coming year, starting with Prop 123. The Governor outlined her proposal to expand Prop 123, saying it will increase distributions from the State Land Trust to 8.9% and talked about the importance of education for workforce development and business attractiveness.

She next spoke about water and highlighted groundwater as a priority and updated laws from 40 years ago.

Next, the Governor discussed childcare as a large factor in enhancing Arizona's workforce. She highlighted her budget proposal, which includes a \$100 million investment to support the Child Care Assistance Program.

Lastly, the Governor brought up the importance of the continuation of the Arizona Commerce Authority.

She cited extremists in the Legislature that are playing political, who want to put an end to job growth and investments, as well as broadband and Arizona's reputation of trailblazing. She said we must continue uplifting the role and successes of the ACA.

III. Welcome Remarks from Co-Chair, Michael Bidwill

Co-chair Michael stated he was looking forward to working with Governor Hobbs and couldn't agree more on workforce and education being essential for our future.

He discussed Prop. 123 and the work to pass it initially.

He talked about his role on the initial ACA board and the work to make more jobs for Arizona students. He talked about putting the right programs and policies in place, along with the leadership of Sandra Watson.

Fast forward 13 years later, he pointed out Arizona's economy has diversified and how the ACA has become the model others look too.

He discussed the importance of the CEO Forum and the strategy of bringing CEOs to Arizona to experience our quality of life and value proposition firsthand. He talked about the success of the 2023 CEO Forum working with Governor Hobbs.

He said we need to come together to make sure ACA programs survive in order to pay dividends for our kids and grandkids. He said the ACA has been a tremendously successful program for Arizona – increasing tax rolls, diversifying our economy, and making a more resilient economy.

IV. Consent Agenda

Governor Hobbs called for a motion to approve the consent agenda and minutes from the September 13, 2023 meeting.

Jenn Daniels called a motion. Michael Bidwill seconded the motion. The Governor called for the ayes. No nays were recorded. The consent agenda and minutes were approved.

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

Sandra Watson thanked Governor Hobbs for her leadership.

Sandra updated on year-to-date wins, including 61 jobs representing 13,301 projected new jobs and over \$4.6 billion in projected investment.

Sandra announced that 11 companies from who closed projects in the state in FY24 were in attendance and recognized them.

Pipeline Update, Vic Narusis

Vic Narusis announced that, since the last board meeting, 40 pipeline projects selected Arizona, representing a 40% win ratio.

Additionally, the ACA business development team added 109 new projects to the pipeline (19 more than last quarter) resulting in a net total of 414 pipeline projects.

Vic updated on areas like manufacturing, headquarters, and research and technology pipeline projects.

Vic announced that the total number of mega projects stands at 52, representing over 93,000 potential jobs and \$321 billion in potential capital expenditures.

Board members took a break during the photo session with clients.

Governor Hobbs announced that there will be a break before the executive session to take photos with the businesses present at the meeting. She called a motion to move to executive session. Pam Kehaly made the motion; Sharon Harper seconded the motion.

VI. Executive Session

Governor Hobbs called the Executive Session to order at 1:40 p.m.

VII. Call to Board Members for Future Agenda Items

Governor Hobbs called the public session back to order at 2:18 p.m. The governor called for any future agenda items.

VIII. Adjournment

Governor Hobbs, Chair, called for motion to adjourn. Michael Bidwill made a motion. Mara Aspinall seconded the motion. All board members in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.