

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

Tuesday, February 18, 2025, 10:00 A.M.  
100 N. 7th Avenue, Suite 400,  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

**I. Opening Remarks, Call to Order and Roll Call**

Chairman Danny Seiden, Arizona Chamber of Commerce, called the meeting of the Rural Business Development Advisory Council to order at 10:04 AM. Heather Escobedo, Arizona Commerce Authority, noted roll call.

**Committee Members Present**

- Angie Harmon, Statewide
- Mayor Tom Murphy, Pima County
- Tony Boone, Cochise County
- Danny Seiden, Maricopa County (Chairman)
- Nathan Levi Esquerra, Tribal Representative
- Deanna Beaver, La Paz County
- Danny Smith, Graham County
- Doug Nicholls, Yuma County
- Keith Watkins, Arizona Commerce Authority (ACA)

**Committee Members Not Present**

- Paul Ramsey, Apache County
- Keith Johnson, Navajo County
- Tricia Lewis, Yavapai County Committee
- Julie Pastrick, Coconino County
- Gary Kellogg, Mohave County
- Jaime Chamberlain, Santa Cruz County
- Dustie Robinette, Greenlee County
- Fernando Shipley, Gila County
- Steven Miller, Pinal County

**Others Present**

- Jamie Kerr, Vice President, Rural Economic Development (ACA)
- Heather Escobedo, Project Manager, HR & Talent Management (ACA)
- Allison Grigg, Sr. Vice President & Team Lead (ACA)

**I. Consent Agenda**



**Approval of June 18, 2024 & October 15, 2025, Meeting Minutes**

Deanna Beaver moved to approve June 18, 2024, and October 15, 2024, meeting minutes, Mayor Tom Murphy seconds to approve; all in favor, minutes are approved.

**II. Preview of current Legislation session, Danny Seiden, Chairman**

Chairman Seiden provided an update on the ACA Legislative update and budget. If you have any questions, please reach out to Chairman Seiden.

**III. ACA Business Development Report, Allison Grigg, Sr. Vice President & Team Lead, ACA**

Allison Griggs provided updates on Business Development. Please see Allison for questions and details.

**IV. Arizona Commerce Authority update, Keith Watkins VP, Rural Development**

Keith Watkins provided updates on Rural initiatives, please see Keith for questions and details.

**V. Roundtable Discussion**

Members gave an update regarding their respective communities.

**VI. Call to the Public**

Chairman Seiden excused himself early and asked Keith Watkins to take over administering the meeting. Keith Watkins called for comments from members of the public. No members of the public were in attendance.

**VII. Adjournment**

Keith Watkins moved to adjourn meeting; all moved to approve the motion; all in favor; the meeting was adjourned at 10:56 AM.