



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

333 North Central Avenue, Suite 1900
Phoenix, Arizona 85004

Wednesday, March 26, 2014
10:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Julie Pastrick, Chairwoman, called the March 26, 2014 meeting of the Rural Business Development Advisory Council to order at 10:11 a.m. and asked all attendees present to introduce themselves including: name, position, and title for the benefit of our latest appointee Ron Gould—Mohave County. Julie thanked all members present for taking the extra time to meet for the extended Council Meeting. Jourdan Harding, ACA, was called upon to take roll. A quorum was present.

The meeting was noticed and properly posted.

Committee Members Present In-Person

Julie Pastrick (Chairwoman)
David Bentler
Julie Engel
Ben File
Ron Gould
Angela Harmon
Ellen Kretsch
Nolan Larson
Les Orchekowsky
Stephen Rutherford
LeRoy Shingoitewa
Keith Watkins
D.L Wilson

Committee Members Not Present

Bill Assenmacher
Teri Lynn Grier
Kip Kempton
Matthew Mandel

ACA Staff Members

Jourdan Harding
Marisa Walker

Guests Present

Dr. Ioanna Morfessis
Sapna Gupta

II. Approval of Minutes of January 29, 2014*

Les Orchekowsky moved to approve the minutes of the January 29, 2014 Rural Business Development Advisory Council Public Meeting; LeRoy Shingoitewa seconded. The motion was approved.

III. Strategic Futures Initiatives—

Marisa Walker, Keith Watkins, Ioanna Morfessis

The RBDAC was selected as the inaugural stakeholder engagement group for the Strategic Futures Initiative. The purpose of the segment was to brainstorm specific strategies that will strengthen Arizona's ability to compete in the global economy. To begin the dialogue, a background on Strategic Planning and Infrastructure was given by Marisa Walker, ACA.

Following the presentation, Ioanna Morfessis, Contractor, posed four critical discussion questions to serve as stepping stones for the conversations. Group collaboration as well as individual ideas were catalogued. Going forth, the Strategic Futures Initiatives will be scheduled at each of the RBDAC respective regions to continually discuss and share ideas on how to keep Arizona a viable state for business attraction and expansion.

IV. Approval of Resolution No. R2014-01—Ben File*

Ben File, Committee Member, began by illustrating the importance of a healthy forest then segmented into Resolution No. R2014-01. The purpose of Resolution No. R2014-01 is to urge the U.S Congress and the U.S Forest Service to take meaningful steps to provide increased financial support to Arizona's local forests.

The council voted to table the resolution until the legal department had the opportunity to review the Resolution. D. L. Wilson moved to approve the motion to table the item; Julie Engel seconded.

V. ACA Update Discussion—Keith Watkins

Keith Watkins, Committee Member, updated the Council on the progress of Certified Sites; detailed the status of the Rural Grant Applications; briefly updated the status of Arizona Commerce Authority's Program Manager position; highlighted the purpose and progress of the Rural Economic Development Survey; and tasked the Members to critically think how their

communities may benefit and promote themselves during the 2015 Super Bowl and Phoenix Open.

VI. Call to Council Members for Future Agenda Items

Stephen Rutherford, Committee Member, proposed that every council meeting begin with an open forum to relay any community projects that might be of pertinence or need assistance from the council. Julie Engel, Committee Member, suggested that we create Council Core Pillars to denote individual region support. Ioanna Morfessis, Contractor, suggested that Kevin Sullivan, SVP of Business Attraction and Expansion, addresses the next council meeting to highlight the types of opportunities in the Arizona Commerce Authority Pipeline in order to illustrate if the opportunities fit into Rural Communities.

Additionally, for the next council meeting, it was suggested and affirmed by majority council members to invite a Department of Administration Representative to discuss broadband and a State Land Official to discuss land procedures and restrictions.

VII. Call to Public

No public comments were made.

VIII. Adjournment

Ron Gould moved to adjourn; Julie Engel seconded.
The Committee adjourned at 2:08p.m.