

CEDS COMMITTEE MEETING

SEPTEMBER 24, 2015

M I N U T E S

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Belinda Akes called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM.

II. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Denyse Airheart, Jennifer Evans, Bobby Davis, Sam Hosler, Belinda Akes, Jim Rhodes, Chris Collopy, Bill Bolin

Staff Present: Brad Mecham

Guests:

A quorum was established.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES, February 24, 2015

Mr. Hosler made a motion to approve the May 28, 2015 CEDS Committee minutes as presented. Mr. Rhodes seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Outline of New CEDS Requirements

Mr. Mecham presented a brief overview of the new CEDS requirements that were published in January 2015. The new guidelines provide an outline for five sections: 1) Summary Background; 2) SWOT Analysis; 3) Strategic Direction/Action Plan; 4) Evaluation Framework; and 5) Economic Resilience. Mr. Mecham also highlighted the EDA's grant programs.

B. Define Vision and Goals Using SWOT Analysis

The CEDS Committee had a discussion about what the vision and goals for the CAG Region would be in the next 15-20 years. The previous CEDS identified goals at the height of the recession and new goals were discussed. Per the discussion, eight goals were identified. These include:

- 1) Workforce Development

- 2) Broadband Infrastructure
- 3) Traditional Infrastructure
- 4) Economic Diversification
- 5) Water Conservation/Management (Manage existing and develop new resources)
- 6) Regional Flood Control
- 7) Quality of Life
- 8) Regional Transportation Network

C. Additional CEDS Committee Membership

No additional members were recommended at this time.

D. CEDS Committee Roundtable

Each member of the CEDS Committee had the opportunity to share what is going on in their communities and professions. Mr. Rhodes shared that Central Arizona College is expanding workforce development. Mayor Hosler reported that ASARCO has planned for a second and third round of layoffs at the Ray Mine, which would affect approximately 350 people. Mayor Hosler also reported that the Copper Corridor EDC was hosting skills workshops for interviewing and resume writing. Ms. Evans reported that the solar plant was completed, not bringing many jobs, but bringing renewable energy to the area. Ms. Evans also reported that downtown retail is coming back to Florence. Mr. Bolin reported on CCEDC activities and highlighted their most recent meeting that covered telemedicine. As part of this, there will be a telemedicine forum in Phoenix on October 20th. The CCEDC has obtained a Rural Business Development Grant for tourism and broadband for the copper corridor.

V. CALL TO THE PUBLIC/MEMBERS

There were no comments from the public.

VI. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next CEDS Committee meeting will take place December 3, 2015 at 2:00 PM, to be held in the main CAG office in the City of Apache Junction.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Belinda Akes adjourned the meeting at 3:30 PM.

Approved by: _____ DAY OF _____, 2015