

Real Arizona Development Council

June 13, 2013 Meeting
Snowflake Heritage Hall 123
North Main Street Snowflake,
Arizona

Present: David Tenney, Lori Martinek, Paul Watson, Ken Bond, Steven Quinn, Ron Lee (Congressman Ann Kirkpatrick's office), David Newlin, John Sorensen (IBEW), Bill Greenwood, Donna Porter (Larson Waste), Kathleen Smith, Andy Leon (Holbrook Chamber), Liz Flake, Steve North, Ed Davidson (Dakota Fabricating).

- 1. Welcome:** David Tenney. Chairman Tenney called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.
- 2. Approval of Minutes:** The meetings from the April 2013 meeting and the May 2013 meetings were approved. Paul Watson, motion. Paul Ramsey, second.
- 3. Marketing Update, Lori Martinek of ED/c Partners** - Lori was present and provided an update on the ACA Vision Grant, which will end in September. All projects are on track to be completed. She will begin development of the Future Forestry/Forest Management Sector Marketing Strategy this month and expects to have it ready for review in July. The sector website debuted in June at www.futureforestsector.com, with a landing page at www.forestproducts.com. A new page was also added to the Real AZ Corridor website. Lori asked the group if they wanted to continue with the Real Arizona News e-newsletter and it was decided to address this topic at the July meeting. There was also discussion of how to deal with employment inquiries. Ken Bond of Passport Potash said that he refers inquiries to the Real AZ website. It was suggested that the new two-year NPC mechatronics program be added to the Real AZ and Potash Sector websites. Steve North reported on the lead tracking tool project and it was generally decided that creating a simple database will suffice for the Corridor until lead volume increases. Lori talked about EDA and other grant opportunities in general, but deferred further discussion until later in the meeting. Karalea Cox asked about the role of NACOG in the EDA grant application process and there was discussion of RADC's ability to apply for funds on its own, with NACOG's endorsement. David Newlin asked about identifying other grant opportunities. Lori encouraged everyone to send her links to grant sites and offerings, so that she can get RADC added to their notification lists. Karalea and David N. suggested that community profiles be created for each member community and posted on the Real AZ website. Community profiles summaries already appear on the Communities page of the Real AZ Corridor website, with links to each of the communities. Information is updated as it is provided.
- 4. 4FRI Update** - David Tenney talked about the statement that he had made in the media regarding the delay in 4FRI operations. RADC continues to support 4FRI. Representatives hope to meet with the new USFS regional representative in Albuquerque soon.
- 5. Leadership Status** – David Tenney proposed an RADC leadership structure which would use rotating Chairs/Co-Chairs to run the organization. Each volunteer Chair would serve a one-year term, during which he or she would be responsible for planning and promoting meetings and other events, general RADC operation, leadership and programs, and acting as the coordinator. A Co-Chair would be nominated every six months and serve with the Chair for half a year, before becoming Chair. It was suggested that each community or stakeholder could 'take a turn' in the leadership role. David reported that 4FRI has operated effectively with a similar system. Liz Flake asked how this would impact the bylaws that were created for RADC last year. Steve North agreed to provide a copy of the current bylaws to everyone for further discussion at the July 11 meeting. Lori Martinek reminded the group that the ACA Vision Grant will end in September and that the funds that

provide her support services would also be gone at that time. She suggested that RADC also work to build membership, as a way to fund ongoing programs. The group will also address membership levels and definitions in July. David suggested that the Executive Committee get together to discuss these issues so that a recommendation can be made to the membership in July.

6. 501(c)(3) Status - Attorney Sterling Solomon reported via text message during the meeting that the RADC application had been completed and submitted to the Arizona Corporate Commission, and that he is awaiting notification of status.

EDA and Other Grant Opportunities – Lori Martinek provided an outline and a timeline for the grant application process. There is an EDA grant opportunity with a submission date of September 13, 2013. The grant has a maximum value of \$100,000 and RADC appears to be eligible for it on all counts. Lori also provided some suggestions for what such a grant could be used for. Discussion followed and it was generally agreed that any new grant funds should be used for active prospecting and lead generation in all sectors, and not just in potash mining and/or forestry. Job creation remains the key goal of RADC. Paul Watson suggested that the Executive Committee meet to review and discuss the grant opportunity and application process.

7. Community Reports:

- David Newlin/LCRC&D – Talked about the new Arizona Game & Fish Economic Analysis and said that he would send a link to Lori Martinek to share with the RADC list;

- Bill Greenwood/NAWPA – Talked about the fire at Forest Energy and reported that some of the neighbors wanted to see the company move. That could cause a loss of 39 jobs. David Tenney asked Bill what RADC could do to save those jobs;

- Liz Flake/NAU – Talked about the new NAU Personalized Learning program;

- Paul Esparza/PTLS – Overseas Aircraft Support used an ACA grant to create 10 new jobs;

- Sharon Adams/WMLT – Talked about an upcoming workshop.

- Paul Watson/Snowflake – Reported on the effort to save the Apache Mountain Railway. The \$2 million ACA loan was approved by the legislature as part of the new state budget, which just needs to be signed by Governor Brewer. The federal loan application is now in process. BNSF approved the railway for car repair and additional storage, which represents new business. Both are good news for the railway.

- Ken Bond/Passport Potash – The company's new COO is a 21-year veteran of Potash Corp. in Saskatchewan. The State of Arizona released nine sections of land, which have now filled in 'checkerboard areas' on the company's mining map. This will provide better access and is good news for the project.

8. The next RADC meeting will be held on July 11, 2013. The August meeting was moved to 8/15/13 to avoid conflict with the Rural Business Advisory Conference.

9. The meeting adjourned at 1:46 p.m.