

Economic Development Council Meeting ♦ August 4, 2016

Little America Hotel, Flagstaff, AZ

Members:			(Absences YTD)			Members:			(Absences YTD)		
Sharon Adams	Present	0	Art Babbott	Present	1						
Rich Bowen	Present	1	Wendy Bridges (GTM)	Present	1						
Becki Christensen	Absent	1	Karalea Cox (GTM)	Present	1						
Carol Curtis	Present	0	Coral Evans	Absent	1						
Paul Ferris	Present	0	Jodie Filardo	Present	1						
Linda Hatch	Absent*	0	Richard Heath	Present	1						
Mae Horseman	Present	3	Kimberly Johnson	Present	1						
Susan Johnstad	Present	0	Steve North	Present	1						
Lora Lee Nye	Present	1	Julie Pastrick	Present	1						
Kelly Patton (GTM)	Present	0	Norman Perry	Present	0						
Paul Ramsey	Absent	1	Casey Rooney	Present	1						
John Rueter (Phone)	Present	1	Tami Ryall (GTM)	Present	2						
Ed Steinback	Present	0	Jesse Thompson	Present	0						
Paul Watson	Present	1	Steve West (GTM)	Present	2						
Jim Wurgler	Absent	2									

*= Excused Absence

Guests: Michelle Conway, Vice-Chairman of the Tourism Sub-Committee
Matthew Williams, Community Services Manager, Pinetop-Lakeside

Staff: Teri Drew, Regional Director
Julia Sawyer, Executive Assistant

1. Call to Order/Welcome/Introductions

Chairman Jodie Filardo called the meeting to order at 10:10 AM. She asked for introductions around the table, all introduced themselves.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Vice Chairman Filardo asked Supervisor Jesse Thompson to lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Approval of April 7, 2016 Minutes

Vice-Chairman Filardo asked for a motion to approve the June 2, 2016 minutes. **Norman Perry made a motion to accept the June 2, 2016 minutes, seconded by Paul Ferris. The motion passed unanimously.**

4. Chair's Report

• Executive Committee Report

Chairman Filardo reported on plans she is making plans with Regional Director Teri Drew for an October 2016 road trip to visit each of the areas in the NACOG district, with goals to reach as many of the NACOG communities within each of the 4 counties within the year as possible.

She then announced that Supervisor Jesse Thompson has been selected to join the Executive Committee, and he has accepted appointment to the Executive Committee.

5. Director's Report

• Program Update

Ms. Drew started out by saying "Happy New Year", in reference to the new fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016. She then welcomed Jodie Filardo to her new position as Chairman, Paul Watson as Vice Chairman, and Richard Bowen as Chair At Large. She also thanked Karalea Cox for her service as Chair and now immediate Past Chair, and noted that she has a gift to present to her, but as Ms. Cox is attending by phone, she will present the gift to her at the Rural Conference in Pinetop-Lakeside next week. She then recognized and presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Casey Rooney for his many years as Past Chair on the Executive Committee. She expressed thanks to all of the Council for their dedication and service as well.

Ms. Drew noted that the Regional Council has re-certified the EDC for another year. Regional Council has also signed Resolutions as recommended by the EDC, designating the NACOG Economic Development District (EDD) to the Economic Development Administration (EDA), and the EDD has completed its contracting and received funding from the EDA for this Program Year in the amount of \$75,000, the same as the last Program Year contract, to be used along with matching funds from community assessments of \$49,000.

Regional Council has also approved the amended 2016-17 EDC Scope of Work, with a late addition of Focus Area 6 – Focus on fire relief funding opportunities. This Focus Area was added at the June 23, 2016 Regional Council meeting in response to recent wildfires that have devastated various areas within the EDD. This support allows for Technical Assistance grants, and public infrastructure replacement and/or repair.

Ms. Drew reported that Regional Council also appointed the new officers. Chairman Archuleta has completed her term, and the newly appointed chair of Regional Council is Mayor John Moore from Williams, Councilwoman Lora Lee Nye of Prescott Valley has been appointed as Vice Chairman, and Vice Mayor John Leech of Show Low was appointed as Secretary/Treasurer. The next meeting of the Regional Council will be on September 7-8, 2016 in Show Low. Ms. Drew passed out a schedule of meetings for the rest of the year for Regional Council, as well as the latest contact list of members. She also distributed the schedule of meetings for the EDC for the remainder of 2016 through 2017.

Ms. Drew then reported that an Annual Report has been submitted to the EDA for the Program Year 2015-2016. The Report describes the activities that happened across the District and an Economic Update, including the Scope of Work. She stated that there has been activity on all of the Scope of Work items last year except for a presentation from the Forest Service, which will happen this year. Included with the EDA Year-End Report was the EDA GPRA Report, which measures return of investment through the various EDA-funded projects that received approval from the EDC and Regional Council. Included in this report were the total private investments for the district in the amount of \$49,000, which is the EDD assessed amount for matching funds, and the Northern Arizona Center for Entrepreneurship and Technology (NACET) reported 76 total jobs created and retained over the past year. Chino Valley's EDA project has been held back due to some engineering difficulties, so there were no numbers to report from them at this time. Ms. Drew noted that, at the request of the Executive Committee, the Year-End Report will be sent to the EDC members via email.

Ms. Drew shared an EDA update, reporting that EDA appropriations have been released for Fiscal Year 2017, and includes \$265 million for the United States EDA. This is \$3.5 million above the enacted 2016 levels. Economic Assistance received a \$3 million increase over last year, now at \$225 million. Ms. Drew noted that this is the first increase she has seen for EDA in years.

Ms. Drew shared information she requested from Jeff Hayes, the rural representative for USDA grants and lending. The USDA has shared a report identifying projects that have been funded this year in the NACOG district. There was a USDA total investment of \$21.6 million. The report was broken down by the 4 counties in the NACOG district, and reported that 9 projects were funded in Apache County, including the Industrial Park in Eagar (this Council had approved an EDA project application in September 2015, that had been denied for EDA funding, but was fulfilled by the USDA grant); 7 USDA projects were funded in Coconino, including \$154,000 to Northern Arizona University for a training project; Navajo County received funding for 4 projects, including a feasibility study; and 6 in Yavapai County, including a \$605,000 revolving loan funds to Verde Valley Regional Economic Organization. She congratulated Apache County for the number of projects launched with USDA assistance. Some positive discussions followed regarding the appreciation for Jeff Hayes at USDA for his work.

Chairman Filardo asked for questions regarding Ms. Drew's report. A question was asked regarding comparison of other USDA projects in the past to this year's numbers, whether it is on the rise. Ms. Drew noted that it is definitely on the rise. She said that she does not have a report from the previous year for comparison, however, she often refers communities to Mr. Hayes for projects and she communicates with him regularly; he is very responsive and USDA has a broader range of funding opportunities.

6. Membership Committee Report

The 6th Agenda item was originally the R.E.A.L. Arizona presentation by Paul Watson, however, Mr. Watson deferred until after the other agenda items were heard, as he would need to use the laptop computer for his presentation which was currently being used for the attendance of the meeting online for those who could not attend in person. Supervisor Jesse Thompson asked a question of Ms. Drew regarding the Little Colorado project's progress, and Ms. Drew answered that, to her understanding, they are pending until contracts are received.

Having agreed to allowing the change in the Agenda order, Chairman Filardo then turned the meeting over to Carol Curtis, Chairman of the Membership Committee, to report on membership renewals and approval of a new member.

Chairman Curtis identified the process the Membership Committee goes through as they evaluate candidates for membership renewal as well as new members. The Membership Committee utilizes an evaluation form with each application and resume, which gives guidance in the form of a point system for specific criteria that would demonstrate relevance and value to the EDC, based on longevity in the District, work experience, residency within an Economic Development District assessed community, recommendation by a member of the Regional Council, and knowledge of the Northern Arizona economic development/labor market. Chairman Curtis then reported on the July 14, 2016 meeting for membership renewals of Paul Ferris, Ed Steinback, Kim Johnson and Supervisor Jesse Thompson. She presented these names to Chairman Filardo with recommendation from the Membership Committee to renew their memberships. She then presented a new applicant for consideration for recommendation for appointment, Matthew Williams, the Community Services Director for Pinetop-Lakeside in Navajo County, who was recommended by Regional Council Member Dara Vanesian as well as the Mayor of Pinetop-Lakeside. Chairman Filardo asked for a motion to send the names of Paul Ferris, Ed Steinback, Kim Johnson and Supervisor Thompson to Regional Council for re-appointment to the EDC, and Matthew Williams to be appointed as a new member of the EDC. **Kim Johnson moved to recommend these members to Regional Council for re-appointment and to recommend Matthew Williams to membership on the EDC, Susan Johnstad seconded. The motion carried unanimously.**

7. Tourism Report

Chairman Filardo then turned the meeting over to Dr. Susan Johnstad for her report. Dr. Johnstad acknowledged Matthew Williams, who was in attendance as a guest at this meeting, and introduced him as the newest member of the Tourism Committee. She then gave a report of the Executive Committee's appointment of Brian Bressel to the Tourism Committee, who is the General Manager of the Sunrise Ski Resort in the White Mountains. She also reported that EDC member and former Tourism Committee member Sharon Adams has expressed her desire to rejoin the committee, and Dr. Johnstad noted her approval also.

Dr. Johnstad then moved on to report that the Executive Committee also approved the Forum planning thus far at their earlier meeting this morning. She noted the scheduled dates of the Forum as October 11 – 13, 2017 in the White Mountains of Navajo and Apache Counties. She shared an overview of the draft agenda as follows: The plan is for Wednesday, October 11 to be the day to travel, register and check in to the Resort at Pinetop-Lakeside, followed by a 5:00 PM reception, featuring a performance highlighting the region. Thursday, October 12 will be a full day of sessions focusing on the intended value of the event. On Friday, the idea is to offer a trip to the Sunrise Ski Resort to showcase that area, to include a meal and a feature speaker, as well as recreational offerings to encourage attendees to stay after the conclusion of the Forum and enjoy the surroundings.

The Forum focus will stress best practices for those working in the tourism industry as well as economic development components for tourism and how the dollars are used in communities, and what it would look like if those dollars were not there. She shared the goal of engaging partners, such as Arizona Office of Tourism (AOT) and Arizona Tourism and Lodging Association (AZTLA). She discussed sponsorships for the Forum. She encouraged the members of the EDC to consider sponsoring the Forum as well. The sponsorship levels currently being planned are in the amounts of \$250, \$500 and \$1,000. The idea being considered is to use some of the money generated by the sponsorships to award mini-grants for the participating communities to boost their tourism efforts and goals.

Dr. Johnstad also reported that the Executive Committee approved the timeline for the Forum planning. She said that the Tourism Committee will be working on getting bids for the venue to host the Forum, as well as asking for commitment from the municipal groups and agencies in the area who are willing to invest in the event. She asked the Council for ideas on speakers for the Forum who would add value to the goals and scope of the Forum. She hopes that they can confirm the speakers by spring.

Dr. Johnstad also noted that the registration fee is being discussed. The Committee's goal is to make the registration fee realistic to encourage broad participation and to attract people from across the Region to invest and come to the Forum. Originally, \$100 was discussed, and there has been feedback that it's too high, some also that it's too low. Dr. Johnstad asked for comments and suggestions. Ideas were circulated about recreational activities that have been enjoyed in the past. It was mentioned that the Rural Policy Forum was being held in the same Pinetop-Lakeside area next week, and the members were encouraged to attend and seek out some ideas on building a successful forum while there. Chairman Filardo commented that Thomas Combrink of NAU would be a good speaker regarding the economic impact of tourism for the 4-county region. She also suggested a base registration fee, which is what was done by Kimber Lanning of Local First Arizona, the sponsor of the Rural Policy Forum, with additional dollars for any of the dinners and events that participants choose. Supervisor Art Babbott noted that positive impact of public lands and monuments for tourism could also be shared. Rich Bowen noted that the questions of what the next steps are for communities to bring forward after the Forum would be something to discuss. Others also noted the need for collaboration between the counties to boost community ability to participate in the Forum. Steve North noted that he had suggested for the last Forum planning to put together a session for entrepreneurs in tourism, building

business based on tourism attraction. There was a suggestion to catalog all of the amenities in the District for Tourism. More discussion followed regarding ideas for boosting the Forum participation. Ms. Drew reminded everyone about the Governor's Office for Economic Opportunities (GEOO), a new effort to bring tourism and economic development together, assisting people who come to Arizona on vacation but might be looking to find a location for their business start-up. She anticipates receiving an update on this from Keith Watkins soon, but noted we should all be pushing in that direction to use all tourism opportunities to be new business opportunities as well.

Dr. Johnstad thanked everyone for their input, to keep these dates in mind, to think about what would draw people to the Forum, and to please consider sponsorship. Dr. Johnstad closed her part of the report by asking Teri Drew to mention her request regarding getting postcards from every area of the district to be included in power points and media materials. Dr. Johnstad then turned the meeting over to Michelle Conway, Vice-Chairman of the Tourism Committee.

Vice-Chairman Conway reported that the economic update portion of the Tourism Committee report is being prepared by Don Prince, Tourism Committee member, and that presentation will be shared at a future meeting. She then reported on the status of the Tourism Toolbox, a portion of the Tourism Committee webpage located on the NACOG website. She began by reciting the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Objective #2 of the Tourism Experience Target Opportunity, "The Tourism Committee shall serve as an informal resource for assistance to EDD communities regarding marketing promotions, and encourage Regional joint opportunities." With that in mind, the Tourism Committee has chosen to advocate for tourism and be the "voice" of the Region with elected officials of the Arizona Office of Tourism. Their goal is to attend events related to tourism, such as the Governor's Forum on Tourism held in July, and share what they learn. Lastly, they will act as a Resource Bureau, which is the goal of the newly designed webpage.

She opened the website page on the computer and navigated the various links now available as a resource and information about marketing trends, best practice, tourism promotion ideas and case studies. The Tourism Committee biographies are there with contact information for each member. The Tourism Toolbox is a resource of links that can be followed for information and ideas, marketing quick tips, case studies, educational resources, and more. There are also links to presentation power points, as well as other tourism webpage resources. She asked for assistance from the EDC for links to the Economic Development Resources and Funding Organizations section of the website. She closed her presentation by asking for questions. Comments were made regarding the important opportunities, and some of the opportunities that Coconino County specifically has been involved in that could be shared on the website. Vice-Chairman Conway requested clarification as to who the resource suggestions and information should go to, and Ms. Drew noted that this information should be shared directly with Executive Assistant Julia Sawyer for dissemination. With that, Vice-Chairman Conway concluded her report. Chairman Filardo thanked her and Ms. Sawyer for their work.

8. R.E.A.L. Arizona Presentation

Chairman Filardo then turned the meeting over to Vice-Chairman Paul Watson for his presentation. He began his presentation noting that Navajo County also has a Regional Tourism Organization, and will share the website with the Tourism Committee.

Vice-Chairman Watson spoke about how Navajo and Apache Counties have a lot of small communities that do not have in-house economic development directors, but the burden typically falls on the managers to oversee. R.E.A.L. Arizona Corridor is a compilation of the governing entities of the two counties and the private sector. Its mission is to expand and diversify the economy of Navajo and

Apache Counties by attracting industry and investments into the region and to assist existing industry in the region to reach its full potential.

He shared how the organization adopted its brand, which is R.E.A.L., and stands for Resources, Energy, Access and Lifestyle. They have a website, which is currently being upgraded. He noted that one of the primary focuses at this time is the forestry-relation industry. Fires are a significant issue, private industry needs to participate in forest protection. He stated that the forest service budget spent 50% in fire-suppression versus prevention. Broadband is also an issue, so R.E.A.L. initiated a Broadband Forum, having received a grant to do a study on broadband. The Forum was a gathering of the Information Technology professionals of the area, as well as educators and government agencies.

He reported that the Apache Railway was a part of the Catalyst Paper Mill, and when Catalyst closed, they were very concerned about losing the Railway infrastructure. R.E.A.L. AZ assisted in securing the Railway, and the Railway is operating and is a source of business attraction to the area.

Vice-Chairman Watson commented on building new and existing industries, such as the cattle industry. There are not many new projects pending. Recently they have been conducting surveys of the communities to get a list of resources and assets that they can use to help market the area. They are also taking advantage of trade shows to promote business. Their goal is to continue to work with existing industry, such as the Forest Service. He shared a success story regarding the Forest Service, which was under the 4-Forest Restoration Initiative (4FRI), whose mission was to release about 30,000 acres per year. In the R.E.A.L. AZ area, they have seen only about 6,000-8,000 acres released. A study was conducted regarding what was needed to maintain, which is 15,000 acres per year. Much has been done to improve those statistics, and they have, this year, received 15,000 acres plus additional land from the White Mountain Apache Tribe, as well as some private land.

Vice-Chairman Watson spoke about demographics, which always present a challenge. He reported about a meeting with NACOG Executive Director Chris Fetzer and Transportation Manager Jason Kelly, who shared some valuable demographic data to help them reach goals. He then spoke about some of the other federal and state partnerships. He then shared a promotional video about REAL AZ. Vice-Chairman Watson concluded his presentation asking for questions. Ms. Drew asked about membership, and Vice-Chairman Watson reported that there are 7-9 government entities and 6 private members. Other questions followed regarding their broadband research, and Vice-Chairman Watson reported that it is currently a "work in progress". He then concluded his report by recognizing Congresswoman Ann Kirkpatrick for her support of the Apache Railway as well as the broadband studies.

Following Vice-Chairman Watson's presentation, Chairman Filardo briefly recessed the meeting for lunch.

9. Member Comments

Upon re-convening, Chairman Filiardo asked for member comments, starting with those who were attending by phone and GoToMeeting. Chairman Filardo then turned to those present commented on the happenings in their neighborhoods. Mayor John Reuter reported interest in Tusayan about what may happen with the Grand Canyon Watershed National Monument. However, Mayor Rueter did not elaborate. Wendy Bridges reported new businesses opening in Prescott, one of which is Sprouts grocery store, and an unnamed manufacturer looking to relocate to Prescott. Sharon Adams reported that she has been busy with the re-election campaign of Congresswoman Kirkpatrick. Carol Curtis was grateful for the support of the Regional Director Teri Drew, USDA and Jeff Hayes for grant writing during their process of preparing for their Regional Resilience Project. Ms. Drew noted that the Regional Resilience Project will be a "flagship" project of the EDD in terms of a true partnership with

the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act, together with economic development and gave congratulations to Carol Curtis and her team.

Rich Heath reported that the Greater Prescott Regional Economic Partnership (GPREP) is now 3 years old, and they are currently updating their 3-year action plan, and should be done in October. He shared upcoming plans for GPREP. Paul Ferris shared successes in Winslow regarding site selectors for two timber/paper industry investors. He also noted that several highway-oriented retail businesses are looking at Winslow. Susan Johnstad reported that Prescott Valley's campus of NAU opened a new visitor's center in July, located in the Prescott Valley Entertainment District. She also said that Dr. Cheng, President of NAU, is planning to attend a Prescott Valley Town Council meeting to report on a recently completed study that had been commissioned with the Town of Prescott Valley to look at new program development and opportunities across Yavapai County. Dr. Johnstad then reported on her new role in Extended Campuses, which has introduced to their Personalized Learning Program Bachelor of Science in Nursing, geared toward continuing education for experienced Registered Nurses.

Mae Horseman reported on the poor conditions of the Navajo Nation. The community she lives in was created by the Navajo-Hopi Indian Reservation, a land that was purchased for the Navajo people who were living on the Hopi partition of the Reservation. Their community settlement started in 1986 and is the youngest chapter in the Navajo Nation. They are trying to become a local governance under the Navajo Nation at the junction of Sanders, Arizona at 1-40 to Penjong, Apache County. She spoke about the elders who were the first residents of the community, who were uneducated and living off the livestock, and were offered housing and an education, and given opportunity for skilled labor, although there are no jobs available to them. Today they do not have any economic development programs or jobs for their people. They have a public school, but not much else. She reported that some infrastructure for a shopping center was built in 2007, but since then the Navajo Nation has not been able to secure funding for the rest of the shopping center to be completed. Ms. Horseman noted that they are at a standstill, but that there is a lot of potential for growth, being located at the crossroad of a major highway. She said it takes 2-5 years to get a response on business applications, which causes detriment for her community. She stated they would appreciate any help available.

Kim Johnson reported that Page, Arizona's tourism industry is in full swing. Two additional hotels are under construction with more in the planning process. There is a large development community interested in Page for future development. Steve North reported on the opening of a new Harbor Freight Tool store, and a Firehouse Subs restaurant is preparing to open in Show Low. They are in the planning process of implementing an aggressive marketing plan for industrial growth, including a website update. Richard Bowen reported on NAU's enrollment growth, expecting an additional 800 students this fall. They are looking forward to getting friends and family of their students to come to Flagstaff and enjoy some of the events of the area. He asked the EDC members to contact their legislators to increase the state budget for NAU, which had been decreased during the economic downturn of a few years ago. Their goal is to expand more into the rural areas to make educational opportunities accessible. He noted that President Cheng is very aggressive in growing the University's capacity. Her goal is to be within the top 200 research universities in the country over the next 2 years, above their current holding in the top 3rd, ranking #222 of the 800 research universities in the country. Ms. Drew noted that our unemployment rate is below national and levels, and as economic developers it is important to improve the quality of our labor force in order to attract new business into Northern Arizona.

Councilwoman Lora Lee Nye reported on the Upper Verde Watershed Protection Coalition, which she chairs. She noted that they are almost a year into a \$1 million grant they received with the U.S. Forest Service. She stated that biofuel and biomass was always an intended use of this grant, and last week

Drake Cement notified her that they have activated their railspur behind their plant. She also noted that Prescott Valley is the new home to the Arizona Suns basketball team. Councilwoman Nye also reported that there is a Chic-Fil-A coming in, as well as a Rue 21 moving from the mall into Prescott Valley. She will be attending the grand opening of the Laz-Z-Boy furniture store next week. Residential areas are growing quickly, and Prescott Valley's bond rating rose 2 points, and only 1 point to go in order to have the highest bond rating. Ms. Nye reported that the Discovery Channel did a story called "Killing the Colorado", in which she had an opportunity to have a feature part, scheduled to be on at 9:00 this evening. Prescott Valley also has a new Economic Development Coordinator, Mr. Ben Hooper.

Norman Perry reported his disappointment this year in the lack of people coming forward requesting bonds from the Yavapai County Industrial Development Authority. Mr. Perry also mentioned that he is on the Advisory Council for the Prescott National Forest, and they approved \$300,000 in grants for people who had plans that would improve the life of Prescott National Forest, such as trailheads, either on private or public land. It took a year to get it funded, but it has been funded as of 2 weeks ago. They must meet by the end of September this year for final approval in order to receive an additional \$300,000 funding, and the word needs to get out for people to apply for the funding. A question was asked as to where to find the application, and Mr. Perry responded to go to the U.S. Forest Service website to find the application.

Casey Rooney reported on a new project in downtown Cottonwood, an old Masonic Lodge is being turned into a winery. Also, the Boutique Tavern Hotel will be adding 26 new hotel rooms. He also reported about a few more retail/commercial/residential projects in planning stages. Mr. Rooney also announced that the Verde Valley Regional Economic Organization has hired Mary Chicoine as a staff person. He then announced a speaker series with VVREO coming on October 21, and a symposium about improving downtowns on October 26. He then mentioned the VVREO revolving loan fund. He deferred to Michelle Conway to announce Sedona's new Economic Development Director, Molly Spangler. Mr. Rooney then spoke positively about the widening improvement to State Route 260, which is going to be a big economic boost for Cottonwood.

Ed Steinback reported that the Sons of the American Revolution held their first national event in Prescott for the Frontier Days Parade. Supervisor Jesse Thompson noted that the infrastructure on the Indian Reservation north of I-40 is inadequate. Indian Health Services is coming in to the area, as well as some other commercial development, however, the lack of water has been a difficulty. They are seeking to import water. He also mentioned the Little Colorado Community Economic Development wants to be a part of the growth of Winslow.

Chairman Filardo invited Matthew Williams to share a report. He reported that he came from Lafayette, Georgia, where he worked for 3 years as the Mainstreet Manager, and worked in economic development there. He and his wife moved to Arizona in the fall of last year, and he began working for the Town of Pinetop-Lakeside in December 2015 as the Community Services Manager. He spoke of the importance of meeting with people and talking together with them. He also noted that Pinetop-Lakeside will be hosting the Rural Policy Forum August 11-13, and encouraged all to attend. He spoke of the need for mid to high level industry to come to Pinetop-Lakeside and noted that there is a lot of empty retail space needing to be filled. He mentioned that they have a new Town Manager, Keith Johnson, who came just a few weeks ago from New Mexico. Mr. Williams also expressed the need for tree thinning in Pinetop-Lakeside because of the fire hazard it poses.

Chairman Filardo noted that Clarkdale held the last of its Summer Block Parties last Friday. They will be hosting the VVREO State of the Regional Economy on October 21 in their newly renovated auditorium. She noted that their new agricultural zoning code is new to Clarkdale, as no agricultural uses are

permitted currently in any of their zones, so they are proposing introducing agricultural uses in their central business district, and the commercial and industrial zone. This will enable some experimental vineyards to be planted in Clarkdale. They are also looking to try a water polishing project that will naturally purify the A+ effluent water to make it useable for watering grapes. She also noted that Clarkdale is looking to diversify their housing stock with town homes and patio homes in the planning stages, as well as a “tiny house nation” of Clarkdale. She then reported that they are doing industrial planning in the Bitter Creek area.

10. Public Comments

Chairman Filardo called for comments from the public, there were none.

11. Adjournment

Chairman Filardo called for a motion to adjourn. **Norman Perry moved to adjourn the meeting, and Supervisor Jesse Thompson seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 12:44 PM.**