

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD ACTION MINUTES

March 4, 2025

The Economic Development Advisory Board of the City of Mesa met in the board room at 120 North Center Street, on March 4, 2025, at 7:32 a.m.

BOARDMEMBERS PRESENT

Richard Blake
Mark Drayna
Kurt D. Ferstl
Michelle Genereux
Charles Gregory
Amanda Kay
Frank Sanders
Laura Snow

BOARDMEMBERS ABSENT

STAFF PRESENT

Jaye O'Donnell
Maribeth Smith
Rob Stirling
Jack Vincent

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT

Sally Harrison
Sonny Cave
Jennifer Zonneveld*

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS ABSENT

Mayor Freeman (Excused)
Chris Brady (Excused)
Ed Carr (Excused)
Natascha Ovando-Karadsheh (Excused)

GUESTS

Terry Madeksza
Kelley Keffer
Chris Molnar

(*Participated in the meeting through the use of video conference equipment)

1. Call meeting to order.

Vice Chair Genereux called the meeting to order at 7:32 a.m.

Vice Chair Genereux excused Board member Ferstl from the beginning of the meeting; he arrived at 7:34 a.m.

2. Items from citizens present.

Discussion only; no formal action taken by the Board.

3. Approval of minutes from the February 4, 2025, Economic Development Advisory Board meeting.

It was moved by Board member Amanda Kay, seconded by Board member Mark Drayna, that the February 4, 2025, Economic Development Advisory Board meeting minutes be approved.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Blake-Drayna-Genereux-Gregory-Kay-Sanders-Snow

NAYS – None

ABSENT – Ferstl

Vice Chair Genereux declared the motion carried unanimously.

4. Election of Chair & Vice Chair through FY25-26.

Board member Laura Snow nominated Michelle Genereux as Chair of the Economic Development Advisory Board through FY25-26. Board member Amanda Kay seconded the nomination.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Blake-Drayna-Ferstl-Genereux-Gregory-Kay-Sanders-Snow

NAYS – None

ABSENT – None

Vice Chair Genereux declared the motion carried unanimously.

Board member Laura Snow nominated Kurt Ferstl as Vice Chair of the Economic Development Advisory Board through FY25-26. Board member Rick Blake seconded the nomination.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Blake-Drayna-Ferstl-Genereux-Gregory-Kay-Sanders-Snow

NAYS – None

ABSENT – None

Vice Chair Genereux declared the motion carried unanimously.

5. Hear a presentation on the Downtown Mesa Association, followed by a discussion.

Discussion only; no formal action taken by the Board.

6. Hear a presentation on Mesa Business Builder, followed by a discussion.

Discussion only; no formal action taken by the Board.

7. Economic Development Director's current events summary including conferences attended.

Discussion only; no formal action taken by the Board.

8. Board discussion to assess how recent federal policy changes may affect Mesa's business community and suggest potential economic development response strategies.

Discussion only; no formal action taken by the Board.

9. Introduction of new business to be discussed at a future meeting.

Discussion only; no formal action taken by the Board.

10. Schedule of meetings.

Next meeting scheduled for April 1, 2025.

11. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Economic Development Advisory Board meeting adjourned at 9:06 a.m.