

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Minutes Approved on March 2, 2026

Governor's Agricultural Best Management Practices (AgBMP) Committee Meeting

Thursday, April 10, 2025, 11:00 a.m.

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81497520060?pwd=j8AW5pSylwYe8bcRK5kAJIQkiXzGPW.1>

Meeting ID: 814 9752 0060 Passcode: 361048

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Paul Ollerton, Cotton Producer

William Thelander, Grain Producer

Kimberly Butler, Maricopa, County Air Quality Department

Dr. Joseph Blankinship, Soil Taxonomist

James Boyle Jr., Dairy Operations

Harold Payne, Citrus Producer

William Paul Heiden, Beef Cattle Feedlot

Jamilah McCoy, USDA NRCS Director or Designee

Glenn Hickman, Poultry Facilities

William Heiden, Beef Cattle Feedlots

Daniel Czecholinski, AZ Department of Environmental Quality Director or Designee

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Sheldon Jones, AZ Department of Agriculture Director or Designee

Dr. Ethan Orr, Dean of the College of Agriculture at U of A or Designee

Alfredo Sotomayor, Swine Facilities

Robert Boyle, Alfalfa Producer

Vacant, Vegetable Producer

OTHER MEETING ATTENDEES:

Russell Van Leuven, AZ Department of Agriculture

Hether Krause, AZ Department of Environmental Quality

Kelly Poole, AZ Department of Environmental Quality

Chelsey Fenton, AZ Department of Environmental Quality

Steven Burr, AZ Department of Environmental Quality

Lisa Tomczak, AZ Department of Environmental Quality

Dennise Flanigan, AZ Department of Environmental Quality

Luke Messer, AZ Department of Environmental Quality

Tara Ousley, AZ Department of Environmental Quality

Gina Bunn, AZ Department of Environmental Quality

Laura Ballard, Maricopa Association of Governments

Robert Phalen, Hickman's Family Farms

Jadee Rohner, AZ Cotton Growers Association

Jackie Ronstadt, Pima Department of Environmental Quality

Abigail Okrent, Pima Department of Environmental Quality

Rupesh Patel, Pinal County Air Quality Department

Anna Otto, AZ Farm Bureau

I. CALL TO ORDER:

A. Introduction of Committee Members and Roll Call.

At 11:03 a.m., Chairman Ollerton called the meeting to order. Hether Krause called roll and a quorum was established. Hether Krause introduced Lisa Tomczak to the committee who will be taking a more prominent role providing administrative support to the committee.

II. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIR PERSON:

A. Nomination and election of committee members to serve as Committee Chair.

Chairman Ollerton asked for a nomination of a committee member to serve as Committee Chair Person because his term as Chair Person has expired. Glenn Hickman moved to nominate Paul Ollerton to remain as the Committee Chair Person, seconded by James Boyle and the motion passed.

III. REVIEW AND APPROVE PRIOR MEETING MINUTES:

A. Review and approve February 7, 2025, meeting minutes.

Chairman Ollerton asked for a motion to approve the February 7, 2025 meeting minutes. Glenn Hickman moved for the Committee to approve the February 7, 2025 meeting minutes, seconded by James Boyle and the motion passed.

IV. DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:

There were no disclosures of conflicts of interest.

V. AGENDA ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND DISCUSSION:

A. Review and consider approval of the Agricultural Best Management Practices (AgBMP)

Committee's comments to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regarding the proposed SIP-related rules published on January 17, 2025.

Chairman Ollerton discussed the draft comment letter to the EPA regarding the proposed State Implementation Plan (SIP)-related rules published on January 17, 2025. Steven Burr clarified that the SIP that EPA is acting on is the separate SIP that the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) submitted with the AgBMP rule revision which was submitted on March 3, 2023, so the completeness date in the draft comment letter of September 3, 2023, is correct. Daniel Czecholinski asked Chairman Ollerton if he would like to sign the EPA comment letter or if he prefers that Daniel Czecholinski sign the letter on behalf of the AgBMP Committee. Chairman Ollerton said he prefers that Daniel Czecholinski sign the letter on behalf of the AgBMP Committee and Daniel Czecholinski said that the letter would be revised reflecting that change. Harold Payne said that the draft comment letter says that there is approximately 245,000 acres of actual farmland, not including the Gila River Indian Community land, within the boundaries of the serious non-attainment area.

Harold Payne asked if the letter should also include the total acres of the non-attainment area. Lisa Tomczak was assigned an action item to find out the total acres of the non-attainment area and add that total acreage number to the letter. Chairman Ollerton said that the comment letter is due to the EPA by April 18, 2025. Daniel Czecholinski stated he would provide the revised draft comment letter to Chairman Ollerton for his final review and approval of the edits before signing the letter on behalf of the AgBMP Committee. Glenn Hickman moved for the Committee to approve the EPA comment letter regarding the proposed SIP-related rules published on January 17, 2025, seconded by William Heiden and the motion passed.

VI. **CALL TO THE PUBLIC:**

A. This is the time for the public to comment.
No members of the public spoke.

VII. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Chairman Ollerton asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Glenn Hickman moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by William Heiden and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.