

# MINUTES

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## LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT 19 REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE BUSINESS MEETING

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DATE: July 12, 2025

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LOCATION: Elks Club, Sierra Vista, AZ

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### I. CALL TO ORDER (Invocation/Pledge/Quorum)

The Chairman and the Secretary being present, the meeting was called to order at 10:00 am.

The invocation was given by State Representative Lupe Diaz.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by State Representative Gail Griffin.

Chairman Gasper recognized elected officials from Graham, Cochise, Greenlee, and Santa Cruz.

A credential report was provided; quorum was met.

### II. CREDENTIAL REPORT

COUNTY	PRESENT	PROXIES	TOTAL
Cochise	21	0	21
Graham	1	0	1
Greenlee	0	0	0
Pima	15	21	36
Santa Cruz	1	0	1
Total	38	21	59
Guests	8	--	8
Online	6	--	6
Grand Total	52	21	73

### III. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

A motion to approve the meeting Agenda was unanimous.

#### IV. APPROVAL OF JUNE 2025 MINUTES

The minutes of June 2025 business meeting were accepted.

#### V. Chairman's Report

Chairman Gasper recognized LD 19 State Legislators, County Chairman, and elected officials. Keith Alexander, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair, was recognized by Chair Gasper for the warm welcome, excellent facility, and refreshments offered at the LD 19 meeting in Thatcher, AZ in June.

Chairman Gasper highlighted the new website, encouraging committee members to review it for upcoming meeting schedules and contact information. The 2025-2026 calendar is on the website at [www.azld19republicans.com](http://www.azld19republicans.com)

Chair Gasper announced the appointment of Vice Chair Ron Hale to lead a bylaws committee. VC Hale joined Chair Gasper on stage to discuss the bylaws and he welcomed bylaw committee member John Backer to discuss the formulation of the bylaws. VC Hale pointed that the bylaws would focus on the need for regular communication with legislators and maintaining a town hall style meeting. The goal is to keep the LD 19 organization's purpose aligned with legislative engagement. The County Chairs will retain the responsibility for PC recruitment, training, and events.

In the absence of the LD 19 Treasurer, Chair Gasper announced the LD has approximately \$3,100 in the bank.

Chair Gasper introduced Representative Gail Griffin to discuss the 2026 Arizona State budget.

## VI. LEGISLATOR'S UPDATE

Representative Griffin discussed:

- State budget process – Senate/House/Governor and the challenges faced with a Democrat Governor.
- The timing of the budget, (completion by June 30) and the fact that four legislators were absent for the vote of the budget-- (Gress, LD 4; Biasiucci, LD 30; Kupper, LD 25; and, Hendrix, LD 14). Questions from the audience were answered regarding accountability for absence; the Speaker's power to call absent members back into session or remove them from committees was discussed.
- Budget key provisions—funding for roads, infrastructure, law enforcement, veterans, and developmental disabilities were discussed
- Improvements for small businesses and reform in government operations were also discussed
- Reforms to welfare programs were highlighted
- Process for the next session to review the budget details

Secretary Kais requested a Point of Privilege to thank our legislators for their work and to recognize Representative Diaz for his exemplary attendance in session.

## VII. TREASURER REPORT

No Treasurer's Report provided.

## VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Name Tags. Name tags are available for \$10. Please see Jo Ann Gasper to order your name tag.

## VII. NEW BUSINESS

Representatives Griffin, Diaz and Senator Gowan provided *Legislative Session Updates and Priorities*

- The importance of maintaining a Republican majority was highlighted
- 1,854 bills were introduced
  - 439 sent to the Governor

- 265 signed by the Governor
- 174 vetoes
- 35 resolutions
- Democrats proposed *automatic voter registration, enhanced early voting*
- Three resolutions will be put to the public for vote; a food tax, declaring drug cartels as terrorist organizations, prohibits city/county from taxing your mileage
- There are socialist and communist influences within the Democrat Party; our legislators urged us to remain united in the election of conservative candidates.

## VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Gasper thanked our legislators for their briefing. He gave a shout out to VC Suzanne Jenkins for managing the 50/50 raffle that raised \$156.

Santa Cruz County Chair Dan Delinges asked to provide an update on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration in Santa Cruz and shared how the event changed from a Spanish-only to an English-only event.

Chair Gasper adjourned the meeting at the time set adjournment of 11:30.

The next meeting will be August 9, 2025, at the Kino Conference Center at Quail Creek, Sahuarita AZ. Credentialing beginning at 9:00-9:55; meeting promptly at 10:00 am

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Shelley Kais, Secretary Date \_\_\_\_\_

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Initials: Approved: \_\_\_\_\_