

Meeting Minutes: Special Meeting to approve Wine Grant Applications

Arkansas Wine Producers Council

Wednesday June 24, 2026 10:00am

Wiederkehr Wine Cellars Wiederkehr Village, Arkansas

Appointed Members

Mr. Dennis Wiederkehr, Chair

Ms. Audrey House

Mr. Dan O'Shea, Secretary

Mr. Andrew Post

Dr. Renee Threlfall

Mr Michael Post, Treasurer

Ex Officio Members – None

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- A. Call to Order at 10:06 am – Dennis Wiederkehr, Chair
 - B. Council Member Roll Call- all present.
 - C. Committee Reports
 - a. The Arkansas Wine Agri Marketing Grant FY2025 (19-6-839) Committee considered 10 applications for the grant. All were approved.
 - b. 2025 Agricultural Grant Applications
 - 1. Mount Bethel Winery
 - 2. Post Winery
 - 3. Railway Winery
 - 4. Rusty Tractor Vineyards
 - 5. Sassafras Springs Vineyard
 - 6. Sax Winery
 - 7. Tontitown Winery
 - 8. Wiederkehr Wine Cellars, Inc.
 - 9. Chateau Aux Arc, LLC
 - 10. Keel Creek Winery
 - c. Motion to approve by Andrew, Dan 2nd. Motion carried 5 to 1. Andrew will send list to DF&A and will forward conformation to Dennis when received.
 - d. Questions were raised about whether some of the wineries actually met the 800 gallon production minimum and/or the 75% Arkansas grown requirement. Dennis stated that, as it stands now, the committee's only responsibility is to verify the 2 acre vineyard requirement, not the volume or Arkansas grown requirements. It was generally agreed

among the council members that this process is inadequate. Potential changes to the current process will be discussed in future quarterly meetings and implemented and in place before next year's Grant approval process.

D. Meeting was adjourned at 10:46 am.

NOTE: All exhibits for this meeting are available by electronic means and are accessible on the General Assembly's website at www.arkleg.state.ar.us

Notice: Silence your cell phones. Keep your personal conversations to a minimum. Observe restrictions designating areas as "Members & Staff Only" and know these public meetings are recorded for reporting purposes.