



**CAREERSOURCE CITRUS LEVY MARION
Business and Economic Development Committee**

MINUTES

DATE: August 14, 2018
PLACE: College Of Central Florida, Enterprise Center, Building 42, Ocala, FL
TIME: 9:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Pete Beasley, Chair
Bruce Register
Kevin Sheilley
Phillip Geist

MEMBERS ABSENT

Amy Meek
David Pieklik
Kevin Cunningham
Mark Paugh
Mark Vianello
Peter Shepis

OTHER ATTENDEES

Rusty Skinner, CSCLM
Kathleen Woodring, CSCLM
Brenda Chrisman, CSCLM
Dale French, CSCLM

Cira Schnettler, CSCLM

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Pete Beasley, Chair, at 9:01 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Cira Schnettler called roll and a quorum was declared present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Kevin Sheilley made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 22, 2018 meeting.
Bruce Register seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS

Regional Workforce Study for North Florida Economic Development Corporation

- Bruce Register made a motion to approve the contribution of \$5000 to the NFEDP for purposes of conducting a comprehensive economic development study of the region. Phillip Geist seconded the motion. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Apprenticeship Training and Employment Notice

- Rusty Skinner and Kathleen Woodring gave a brief overview of the Notice regarding development apprenticeship programs. The focus of the Notice is to start the ball rolling with getting grants for programs. The goal is for individuals to build competencies in the programs through hands on training and for community partners to work together to create career paths for the targeted industries.
- Rusty Skinner announced that the Executive committee approved hiring an internal apprenticeship program manager. The program manager would effectively provide clerical support, gain an understanding of navigating the logistics of apprenticeship programs, and provide a go-between for the Department of Education and businesses.

PROJECT UPDATES

Citrus County Economic Development

- Bruce Register introduced himself as the new representative for Citrus County. He stated that Citrus County has received a grant for strategic planning that will explore the strengths and weaknesses in the county and provide an economic development system. At the first BOCC meeting in September a business plan will be presented to the Commissioners. The business plan will adopt a structure and system for economic development.

Marion County Economic Development

- Kevin Sheilley expressed excitement about all of the positive activity happening in business retention and new businesses coming to the area. He believes the strong relationship built between the community partners and businesses is proliferating economic development in Marion County.
 - Project Palm is moving forward and if it comes to fruition would provide for hundreds of jobs and is set to become the biggest building in all of Marion County.
 - Marion County was awarded 5.5 million dollars to develop the Florida Crossroads Commerce Park.
 - Kevin encouraged members to make a positive vote to renew the million dollar funding for CTE.
 - In the next school year Dunnellon High School will begin a Power Electric Academy. The power companies have joined forces and have created a viable academy that will have a significant impact on the future labor force.
 - As part of the Talent Attraction Initiative the CEP is teaching local businesses how to promote the positive aspects of the community to recruit people to move to Marion County.

Talent Center Update

- Brenda Chrisman provided an overview of the Talent Center and its services. She presented the traffic report included in the packet and noted the fluctuations that are due to summer vacation at CF. Overall traffic is increasing at the Talent Center. The Talent Center has new leadership in place, as well as, new software (Akken) that is less intrusive to the job

- seekers for personal information. A recent invitation only mixer was held at the Talent Center was for the IT industry, 5 businesses participated and 9 professionals attended, so far 1 candidate was hired and 1 is pending an offer. Similar events will be hosted out of the Talent Center in the future.
- Phillip Geist asked about tracking of traveling spouses. As we try to attract professionals from other areas to our area is assistance provided to their family members in finding employment and if so, is that information tracked. Rusty Skinner responded by saying that we currently do not track that information and that we ask minimal questions of the professionals in the Talent Center. Potentially, marketing materials could be created to distribute about all the services we offer.
 - Rusty Skinner informed the committee that Employ Florida is scheduled for a rebuild. There is a discussion of how to reshape the platform between the State and CareerSource Florida. Kathleen Woodring will be attending a CareerSource Florida meeting where input from the regions is being taken.

YouthBuild

- Kathleen Woodring invited the committee to two upcoming events for YouthBuild. The last graduated class will have a House Blessing on Wednesday, August 22nd at 9 am. The new class will have a Wall Raising on Thursday, August 23rd, at 8:30 am.

Business Services

- Brenda Chrisman stated that Business Services is robust with activities.
- Job orders are increasing. Job fairs and hiring events are increasing as well. Future hiring events will be industry specific. There is a medical focused job fair in August and one for only trades is scheduled for September.
- The CDL program at MTC currently has 12 enrollments and has many applicants in waiting for a continuous rotation of classes.
- We are working with Marion and Citrus counties builders' associations and technical schools to build construction academies focused on masonry, electric, plumbing, HVAC, and general carpentry.
- The Marion County Youth Expo has been extremely successful and the committee is reconvening to discuss next year's expo.
- Incentive program awards to businesses doubled last year from the prior year. Rusty Skinner commended the Business Services team for doing a great job.

BEDC Video Series

- Rusty Skinner explained that Marion County has been very successful with the video series and Levy County has started the process of creating the video series. Citrus County School Board: Rusty will be meeting with school principals on Tuesday to educate them about the positive impact the videos will have for the schools' programs.

MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:53 a.m.

APPROVED: _____