



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

MINUTES

DATE: August 13, 2020
PLACE: Teleconference Only
TIME: 9:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Pete Beasley, Chair
Bruce Register
David Pieklik
Jeff Chang
John Hemken
Kathleen Betz
Kevin Cunningham
Kevin Sheilley
Mark Paugh
Phillip Geist

MEMBERS ABSENT

John Cook
Mark Vianello
Nicole Nash
Stacy Swain

OTHER ATTENDEES

Rusty Skinner, CSCLM
Kathleen Woodring, CSCLM
Dale French, CSCLM
Cira Schnettler, CSCLM

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Pete Beasley, at 9:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Cira Schnettler called roll and a quorum was declared present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Bruce Register made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 14, 2020 meeting. David Pieklik seconded the motion. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

State Update
None

Workforce Issues that are Important to Our Community

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ACTION ITEMS

None

PROJECT UPDATES

Economic Development Partner Reports

Citrus:

- Bruce Register shared that a logistics company has re-located to Citrus County and is looking to hire up to 80 employees.

Levy:

- David Pieklik stated that employment opportunities are returning to pre-pandemic levels and possibly above. Vanguard Manufacturing has been working successfully with the CLM OJT program. There is also a hotel resort project in discussion.

Marion

- Kevin Sheilley stated that there continues to be activity in hiring in the manufacturing, distribution, and technology industries. Additional available building space will be key to driving economic success in Marion County. Construction projects are likely to begin by the end of the year. The CEP and Marion County government are partnering for allocating the CARES Act funds. There are four programs available. Applications will be available on Friday, August 15th at the website movingbizforward.com. Rusty Skinner informed the committee that CLM will also be creating a proposal and submitting application to Marion County for funding through the CARES Act.

MRMA

Kathleen Betz highlighted several items from her report including MRMA's co-branding with CF on their manufacturing program, fostering a robotics program, and continued participation with the FloridaMakes program. The MRMA board is making fundamental changes, expanded their board and adding new members.

Talent Center

Dale French reviewed the June Talent Center report noting the decline in traffic due to the pandemic and summer break for CF. Talent Center staff are assisting customers remotely and are keeping pace with pre-pandemic figures in reporting.

Event Report

Dale French highlighted items from the Event Report, noting hiring events for the Dollar Tree Distribution Center and Vanguard Manufacturing. The K Country job fair was hosted through the Zoom platform and was successful. We will be looking at how to

maximize the technology to host other job fairs and individual hiring events. Kevin Sheilley shared that Dollar Tree representatives were very impressed with the hiring assistance provided by CLM staff for the hiring and expressed gratitude as well.

Online Learning Platforms – Metrix

Dale French stated that starting next week CF in Levy County will be opening up their computer labs for individuals to use the Metrix learning platform on Wednesdays and Fridays from 10 am – 3 pm. The Metrix learning system contains 5,000 learning opportunities for upskilling. Rusty Skinner explained that the training classes taken by individuals will be tracked and provided to CF, so that more in-depth classes can be offered to the residents of Levy County.

Experiential Learning

Dale French updated the committee on the number of agreements in process for the CBT, OJT, Work Experience and Internships programs. Dale French also stated that we have received funds through a Covid-19 emergency grant that provides temporary worksite opportunities to individuals that were laid off due to the pandemic. The positions pay \$15 per hour.

MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR

Bruce Register inquired about unemployment activities. Rusty Skinner responded stating individuals that have exhausted their RA benefits, may apply for another 13 weeks under the PEUC program. As the transition happens where more individuals will be looking for work, the staff focus will also switch from assisting with unemployment claims to assisting with job searching. The work search requirement is set to be reinstated after September 5. We will continue to provide services remotely where possible and set appointments to meet in-person with those individuals that need additional services. When individuals do enter back into the workforce they may look towards positions that allow for remote work with limited exposure and companies that make safe work environments a priority.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:36 a.m.

APPROVED:
