



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

MINUTES

DATE: May 13, 2021
PLACE: College of Central Florida, Enterprise Center
3003 SW College Road, Ocala, FL 34474
TIME: 9:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Angie White (John Cook)
David Pieklik
Jeff Chang
Kathleen Betz
Bart Rowland (Kevin Sheilley)
Mark Paugh
Phillip Geist
Pete Beasley, Chair

MEMBERS ABSENT

John Hemken
Kevin Cunningham
Mike Kelly (Mark Vianello)

OTHER ATTENDEES

Rusty Skinner, CSCLM
Dale French, CSCLM
Cory Weaver, CSCLM
Andrea Abrams
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

Jeff Chang made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 11, 2021 meeting. Dr. Geist seconded the motion. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

State Update

Rusty Skinner updated the committee on the following items:

- The State is confident that at the end of May the work search restrictions will be expiring. Individuals will need to utilize our services for assisting with job searching to continue to receive benefits.

- Bills 1507 and 98 were approved. Details will be provided in future meetings on how this will impact the local board.
- The administrative changes that have taken place at DEO and the partnership with CareerSource is moving in a positive direction.
- CF recently held a ribbon cutting for the new apprenticeship program lab supported by Lockheed Martin. Jeff Chang applauded the efforts to create the program and thanked CLM and CF for their partnerships. Rusty Skinner acknowledged Dale French and Cory Weaver as being instrumental in moving the process along.
- The Citrus County BOCC approved \$100,000 in funding for Citrus County businesses to hire Citrus County residents through the CARES Act. Attached to these minutes will be an outline of services that CLM will provide to Citrus County businesses. Of the \$100,000, \$30,000 is earmarked for child-care services. CLM will be partnering with the YMCA for child-care services.

Workforce Issues that are Important to Our Community

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ACTION ITEMS

None

PROJECT UPDATES

Economic Development Partner Reports

Citrus:

- David Pieklik shared that he has been in his new position only a few months. He is encouraged by the potential activity in the county.

Levy:

- The Nature Coast economic development director position is open and CLM is assisting in hiring for the position. The Chair of the Nature Coast Business Development Council provided a partner report, which is attached to these minutes.

Marion

- Bart Rowland presented on behalf of Kevin Sheilley. Bart Rowland invited the members to attend the Career Signing Day event. Combined sixty high school and college graduates will be participating. He also invited everyone to the June 2nd groundbreaking for the new Red Rock distribution Center. He highlighted Amazon's Pathway to Leadership program for veterans and noted that Dollar Tree will have a second public hearing on its expansion project.

MRMA

Kathleen Betz highlighted the below items from her report:

- MRMA is continuing efforts on the development of a new Industrial Machinery and controls Technician program at WTC in Citrus County.
- Scholarship applications will be received until June 1st.

- Program funding has been approved for a variety of programs in Citrus, Levy, and Marion Counties. These funds are generated by the success of the annual MRMA Golf Tournament.

Event Report

Cory Weaver highlighted items from the Event Report, noting the top three hiring events so far have been with AutoZone, Amazon, and the World Equestrian Center. Hiring event activity in general is increasing and could potentially increase significantly as the work search restrictions are lifted. We hope to see increased activity in Levy County once the economic development director position is filled.

Talent Center

Andrea Abrams reviewed the quarterly Talent Center report. Traffic has remained steady with student activity. There were significant decreases in the areas of resume assistance, referrals, and placements. She also noted that a new business development coordinator will be joining the Talent Center team in June.

Youth Expos

All three of the expos were very successful. Survey results were consistent for all three expos and positive feedback was received. Through the virtual platform more students were reached. This is a great avenue to reach middle schoolers to help them identify program pathways through their high school education. Potentially, next year's expo will be a hybrid of in-person and virtual.

YouthBuild

Cory Weaver was happy to report that the second cohort is underway and is going successfully. Further details for graduation will be provided soon and invitations will be sent out.

Experiential Learning Contracts

Cory Weaver summarized each section of the report and noted successful hires in all categories.

Metrix Users

Cory Weaver shared details from the report, noting the most popular pathways and courses.

MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:34 a.m.

APPROVED:

CITRUS COUNTY CARES ACT Outline of Process and Services

The Citrus County BOCC recently approved providing \$100,000 to use as sign-on bonuses to Citrus County businesses for hiring Citrus County residents. Of which, \$30,000 will go to the Citrus YMCA for child-care.

- Citrus County employers must list their jobs with us.
- Qualifying jobs pay less than \$15.00 per hour.
 - We will take the job listing and note that it is a “Bonus eligible” job and post it in Employ Florida.
 - Our business team will also contact the business and discuss other incentives that we can offer the business, such as an OJT contract where we reimburse the business for a percentage of the wages they pay while training a qualified person.
- Hires must be referred through us (we will send a referral “invoice” that the employer can complete upon completion of the retention period).
- Only Citrus residents qualify for the bonus
- Qualifying hires must be unemployed and cannot have been eligible and received a bonus previously.
- Hires must complete 90 days of employment to qualify for the bonus.
- Employer will pay the bonus (\$1,000) and use the “invoice” to request reimbursement from us.
- 10% of the funds are available to CLM and the YMCA for administration

At our Lecanto Career Center, we will display “Bonus Qualified Jobs” in our resource room and note that on the job listing in Employ Florida.

We will develop a marketing piece that will highlight the “rules” for both employers and job seekers as well as some media promotions.

We will also tie into our marketing the child-care piece.

Nature Coast Business Development Council

I. Open Items

1) Updates - Replacement for Executive Director

- a) Cathy Galica and Team – Awesome resources! They have been aiding us with our recruitment efforts.
- b) CareerSource has been a great asset for the NCBDC and our community. We hope to funnel more community related requests to CareerSource as the economy in our area grows and we move back to some form of normality.

2) Welcome Aboard New NCBDC Members

- a) Heidi Schwiebert – Two Hawk Hammock
- b) Daniel Vaudreuil – ANCorp

1) Community Spotlight

a) New Projects in the Chiefland Area

- i) Distributorship – FritoLay.
- ii) KFC – Same location as current Pizza Hut.
- iii) Old CFEC office – Popeyes Chicken.
- iv) Duke Energy Solar – Projected January 2022.
- v) Continued Construction at Chiefland Middle High.