



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

**MINUTES**

DATE: February 10, 2022  
PLACE: College of Central Florida, Enterprise Center  
3003 SW College Road, Ocala, FL 34474  
TIME: 9:00 a.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Pete Beasley, Chair  
Angie White  
Jeff Chang  
John Hemken  
Kathleen Betz  
Kevin Sheilley  
Mark Paugh  
Mike Kelly (Mark Vianello)

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Kevin Cunningham  
Lewrissa Johns  
Phillip Geist  
Scott Osteen

**OTHER ATTENDEES**

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

Cira Schnettler, CSCLM  
Joyce Wilson, NCBDC

**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**

Kevin Sheilley made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 18, 2021 meeting. Mike Kelly seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**State Update**

Rusty Skinner updated the committee on the following items:

- House Bill 1507 called for a review and realignment of the workforce system. Last November, DEO, CareerSource Florida, and region directors met to discuss. Throughout the month of January, DEO made inquiries to the regions regarding upper management members' positions, pay, and length of service, as well as performance outcomes in Wagner Peyser, Dislocated Workers, and Adult Services for the last three years.

Region directors have agreed that a better understanding of the DEO's objectives in realigning will provide better insight for giving appropriate feedback and input from the regions. Region directors have been encouraged to reach out to their local elected officials.

The committee further discussed similar concerns affecting education partners.

The issue will be closely monitored, and updates will be provided to the Board.

### **Workforce Issues that are Important to Our Community**

None

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **ACTION ITEMS**

None

### **PROJECT UPDATES**

#### **Economic Development Partner Reports**

Citrus:

- David Pieklik resigned his position with as the economic director with Citrus County. Rusty Skinner provided the update. Rusty Skinner informed the committee that Citrus County held a workshop recently to discuss the future of economic development. They are pursuing the creation of an economic development board that is similar to their tourism development board.

Levy:

- Joyce Wilson, representing Nature Coast Business Development Council stated that Central Florida Electric is continuing efforts to expand broadband in Levy County. She was also happy to report that NCBDC recently received a \$10,000 grant.

Marion

- Kevin Sheilley shared the below:
  - The Labor Force Participation Study is moving ahead. The surveyors have reached out to community partners and will be onsite surveying the public the first week of March.
  - Businesses are being encouraged to participate in the Apprenticeship

- Challenge being rolled out this month.
- Marion County currently has well over 80 active projects in manufacturing, distribution, and office.
  - Several new manufacturing projects are in different phases of development.

### MRMA

Kathleen Betz stated that MRMA will be updating their branding and website. The complete rebrand is expected to be finished by May. The MRMA Board changed their committee structure to include a Workforce and Education committee.

### Good Jobs Grant

Rusty Skinner explained that the Grant has been submitted and if awarded implementation should begin by July. Notification should happen by the end of May. This is a federal grant provided through the Build Back Better program. Initial efforts will be focused on establishing a training program for manufacturing and logistics in Levy County. In the meantime, community partners will come together to organize and be proactive to develop a pilot program. If the grant is not awarded the plan is to move ahead with the pilot. Initial stages will be to convene local businesses to identify common training needs to develop online and in-person training. We will be working with the K-12 school system, College of Central Florida, Nature Coast Business Development Council, SBDC and MRMA. Mike Kelly stated that business partnerships are vital to the success of these types of programs.

### Talent Center

Cory Weaver updated the committee on the Talent Center activities. There was an uptick in traffic in December and this has continued into January. Staff continues to provide resume development in the classroom environment. Staff has had some success with reaching out to local real estate agents that are advising newcomers to the region of our services.

### Event Report

Cory Weaver highlighted items from the Event Report, noting the top three hiring events so far have been with AutoZone, Amazon, and E-One. Events, job fairs, and expos all have improved attendance. She noted incorrect figures in the attendance summary at the top of the report. The report will be updated and attached to these minutes.

### Experiential Learning Contracts

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

### Citrus Sign-On Bonus

Cory Weaver reviewed the report, noting one hire with a wage of \$11.56. This program is now closed and there will be no further reports.

### Metrix Users

Cory Weaver shared details from the report, noting the most popular pathways and courses. The reports reflect consistent enrollment in the three counties. She also noted a shift in popular pathways that now includes Human Services and Government/Public Sector. These results aligned with a recent survey responses that were received from students at the Marion County Youth Expo.

### YouthBuild

Cory Weaver was happy to report that the fourth cohort is underway and successful outcomes in the first three cohorts. The wall raising for the last cohort should occur in March. Invitations will be sent. Another grant submission for a fourth term of Youth Build was submitted in January. We hope to be awarded and continue with this very successful program.

### **MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR**

None

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

### **APPROVED:**

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