



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

MINUTES

DATE: August 16, 2023
PLACE: College of Central Florida, Enterprise Center
3003 SW College Road, Ocala, FL 34474
TIME: 9:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ben Whitehouse
Deb Stanley
Erin Jones (Kevin Sheilley)
Gary Smallridge
Jeff Chang
John Hemken
Kathleen Betz
Mark Paugh
Pete Beasley, Chair
Phillip Geist
Staci Bertrand

MEMBERS ABSENT

Angie White
Joyce Wilson
Kevin Cunningham

OTHER ATTENDEES

Rusty Skinner, CSCLM
Dale French, CSCLM
Cory Weaver, CSCLM
Cathy Galica, CSCLM
Andrea Abrams, CSCLM
Cira Schnettler, CSCLM

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Cira Schnettler called roll and a quorum was declared present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Deb Stanley made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 10, 2023, meeting. Phil Geist seconded the motion. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

State Update

Rusty Skinner updated the committee on the following items:

- CareerSource Florida, Ernst and Young, and the Department of Commerce are working with the local areas to create larger regional planning areas as phase 3 of the realignment process.

- We are working with InsyAnalytics to assist us as we navigate and develop our local regional plan. There will be a presentation at the upcoming board meeting on September 27.
- InsyAnalytics representatives will also be making a targeted presentation for Citrus County at a Chamber luncheon on September 28.
- The Eligible Training Provider List has been recognized by local areas as a potential source of statewide improvements. Local directors are emphasizing to the State the significance of enhancing candidate services through increased program flexibility across different regions.

Dale French added that we've applied for a broadband infrastructure grant designed to bolster the workforce in Levy County. Should the grant be approved, it will cover the costs of providing fiber optics training to individuals interested in acquiring skills for installing and maintaining the infrastructure. Our collaboration would extend to Regions 6 and 7, with the grant's duration spanning five years. Anticipating notification in September, we're aiming to initiate the process by October.

Workforce Issues that are Important to Our Community

The committee did not have any items to discuss.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ACTION ITEMS

None

PROJECT UPDATES

Economic Development Partner Reports

Citrus:

- There were no updates for Citrus County.

Levy:

- There were no updates for Levy County.

Marion

- On behalf of Kevin Sheilley, Erin Jones shared the below:
 - Marion County continues to be a hub with project activity in manufacturing, distribution, and logistics.
 - There is increased activity in the healthcare field. Conversations have begun on the potential development of a new biotech park.

MRMA

Kathleen Betz's shared the below highlights:

- MRMA has launched their new website to their members.
- The Quality and Safety forums continue to grow and are successful. Additional training avenues are being researched to find other ways to support the businesses.
- Belleview High School RAD Program was awarded \$3000 from proceeds from the annual golf tournament.

- Four recipients received a total of \$2,250 in scholarships from the Rob Adamiak Memorial Scholarship program.

Talent Center

Andrea Abrams reviewed the quarterly Talent Center report. She explained that the Talent Center has seen consistent traffic patterns for professionals, 133 professionals were served this quarter. Ninety-five students were served. Talent Center staff participated in 9 outreach events. Staff conducted 29 classroom presentations to 488 students and reviewed 305 student resumes. The Talent Center is advertising for a Career Coach position.

Event Report

Cory Weaver highlighted items from the Event Report. She noted forty-seven hiring events have occurred in this program year, with a 37% hire rate. We have had an increase in partner job fairs and are having high levels of participation. Amazon and E-One have had the most participation. The Citrus County job fair will be August 31 and the Marion County job fair will be September 27.

Experiential Learning Contracts

Cory Weaver summarized each section of the report. Noting two unsuccessful completions, she further explained that we will continue to work with the candidates to find the best placement for them.

Metrix Users

Cory Weaver shared details from the report, noting the most popular pathways and courses. Usage has seen an uptick of 8 % and some of that is attributed to our partnership with the United Way.

Contract Reports

Cathy Galica reviewed the performance report for Citrus and Marion counties and the youth report. Overall, the partners did well on the report.

- County Reports:
 - Marion County continues to meet their goals.
 - Citrus County met their fourth quarter goals. They have met 80% of the annual goal.
- Youth Report: The Eckerd report has not been released by the State. Once that data is available it will be presented to this committee.

MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:33 a.m.

APPROVED:
