



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

MINUTES

DATE: August 5, 2026
PLACE: CareerSource CLM
2703 NE 14th Street, Ocala, FL 34470
TIME: 9:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ben Whitehouse
Carl Flanagan
Edward Suor
Jeff Chang
Jesi Young
Mark Paugh
Matt McCormick
MJ Toscano

MEMBERS ABSENT

Deb Stanley
Gary Smallridge
Kent Guinn
Pete Beasley, Chair

OTHER ATTENDEES

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

Chris Wilkinson, CSCLM
Sandra Crawford, CSCLM
Cira Schnettler, CSCLM

CALL TO ORDER

In the Chair's absence, the meeting was called to order by Carl Flanagan, Committee Member, at 9:04 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Cira Schnettler called roll and a quorum was declared present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mark Paugh made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 6, 2026, meeting. Edward Suor seconded the motion. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

State Update

Rusty Skinner updated the committee on the following items:

- We are working on the local plan along with an addendum for regional planning.
- We are in the process of negotiating performance goals with the State.
- Board members will be receiving invites for informational sessions to explore self-

insurance healthcare options.

- The State has requested that CSCLM submit a revised bid for the provision of dislocated worker services.

Workforce Issues that are Important to Our Community

- There was discussion on the progress of the Williston Airport. Rusty Skinner advised that we are working on researching State funding for the project. We continue to be optimistic that the project will move forward in a positive direction.
- The funding for the drone training program has not been renewed. CF is looking into alternate resources.
- Our communications team is working on new materials to showcase the variety of experiential learning programs available to businesses. The marketing materials will be rolled out in phases. Committee members can help spread the word by sharing the materials, driving customer traffic to our centers, and encouraging business associates in the community to inquire about our services.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ACTION ITEMS

None

PROJECT UPDATES

Economic Development Partner Reports

Citrus: No updates were provided.

Levy: No updates were provided.

Marion

- Matt McCormick highlighted three economic development activities:
 - Recently E-One had a groundbreaking and potentially will hire about 100 employees.
 - The Classrooms to Careers program targeting 8th grade students has been successful.
 - CareerSource CLM has been partnering with the CEP on the Worlds of Work program targeting high school freshmen guiding them to career paths in their junior and senior year.

MRMA

MJ Toscano reviewed the MRMA report.

Williston Airport

Update provided during Workforce Issues that are Important to Our Community.

Talent Center

Metrix Users

Chris Wilkinson reviewed the reports provided in the packet.

Event Report

Experiential Learning Contracts

Melissa Saco reviewed the reports provided in the packet. There has been significant interest from businesses in the experiential learning opportunities.

Grant Update

YouthBuild

Contract Reports

Sandra Crawford reviewed the reports and highlighted the following items:

- Contract Reports: Citrus County did not meet their 4th quarter goals. Levy and Marion did meet the goals. New goals have been set for the three counties. The Eckerd contract has not been renewed for the 2026-2027 program year. The Eckerd Youth team has transitioned to internal staff, and we anticipate continued success in our youth program.
- Broadband Grant: The Broadband grant program continues to have multiple participant success stories. The program manager has been doing a wonderful job with enrolling new participants and keeping current participants engaged.

MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:43 a.m.

APPROVED:
