

Business Resources & Opportunities Committee (BROC) Minutes

Meeting Date: December 7, 2021 (2:00PM) via Zoom

Present: Larry Lombardi, Marcus Cutrell, Amber Morse (staff)


Absent: David Loope, David Carroll

1. **Call to Order:** Larry Lombardi called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM
2. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the November 2021 meeting were provided to committee members. A motion to approved was provided by Marcus Cutrell with a second provided by Larry Lombardi. With no discussion the minutes were unanimously approved.
3. **Business Services Updates:** Amber reported on the Veterans job fair hosted in the Elizabeth City Career Center on 11/9/2021. There were around 50 job seekers in attendance. Amber reported she spoke with the employers that were there and all were very impressed with the event. Amber presented business services metrics and BROC strategic plan update for the month of November.
4. **OJT Wage Review:** Amber informed committee she had not heard from remaining members regarding OJT wage review. At last meeting a flat rate of \$12 to \$12.50 was discussed based off new living wages for the 10 counties. Marcus asked Amber if she believed upping rate would negatively impact job seekers and businesses. Amber stated she believed it would not due to employers already paying the higher wage in areas where the average was higher and she believed it would encourage other counties businesses to pay a higher, livable wage. Committee members agreed on a \$12.50 flat rate.
5. **ETG Submission:** Amber presented new Employee Training Grant from Currituck Chamber of Commerce for ChamberThink Training. This training will teach three employees how to maximize their services and tiers to offer more benefits to their memebbers. Committee members are to return their scoring sheets to Amber no later than 12/14/2021.
6. **Committee Budget Requests:** Amber reviewed PY22 committee budget requests – Events and LMI Books. There are two rollover requests from ongoing projects. Larry suggested upping budget for events due to increased prices. Committee discussed number of books to be printed. Current request is for 100 books. Amber is to get a new estimate and update. Amber asked if there were any other projects that needed to be budgeted for. There were none.

7. **Open Discussion:** Amber reported that Paige Griffin, Business Counselor at SBTDC, has expressed interest in joining the committee. Committee members had no objection. Amber to follow up on next steps. Larry Lombardi gave economic development update for Currituck County.
8. **Adjourn:** With no future discussion a call to adjourn was provided by Marcus Cutrell with a second carried by Larry Lombardi.

Next committee meeting date: Tuesday, February 1, 2022.

Minutes prepared by Amber Morse

Approved by:  _____

Date: 3/7/2022 _____