

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**APRIL 07, 2016**

The Joint Workshop between the Charlotte County Board of County Commissioners and the Enterprise Charlotte Economic Council was held at the Murdock Administration Complex in Room B-106, Port Charlotte, Florida.

The following Board of County Commissioners present were: Chair Bill Truex, Commissioner Christopher Constance, Commissioner Stephen R. Deutsch, Commissioner Ken Doherty, and Commissioner Tricia Duffy.

The following Enterprise Charlotte Economic Council members present were: President Rob Humpel, Treasurer Jeri Ebole, Attorney Kevin Russell, Gary Quill, Charlotte County Airport Authority, Julie Mathis, Charlotte County Chamber of Commerce, Dennis Wright, Florida SouthWestern State College, Michael Grant, Ambitrans, Andrew Stultz, Atlas Building Company, Mike Martin, Punta Gorda Chamber of Commerce.

Also in attendance were: Charlotte County Administrator Raymond Sandrock, Charlotte County Attorney Janette Knowlton, Charlotte County Economic Development Director Lucienne Pears, and Minutes Secretary Russo.

**1. Call to Order**

**Chair Truex called the Meeting to order at 3:00 pm**, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Welcome and Introduction of Workshop Participants**

Ms. Pears gave a brief overview of past strategic plans, marketing processes, recommendations, noted feedback from all attendees was welcomed, and introduced Melissa Medley, CME VisionFirst Advisors, and Nancy Blum-Heintz VisionFirst Advisors Senior Consultant.

**3. Presentation of DRAFT Strategic Plan priority elements**

Ms. Medley spoke to the Scope of Work, Project Approach, Research & Level Setting, Gathering Input, Interest Survey, Initial Findings, Initial Product Development Recommendations, Initial Product Development Recommendations – Workforce, Innovation, Entrepreneurial Support and Business Growth, Initial Strategic Partnership Recommendations, Initial Marketing Recommendations, Initial Other Recommendations, and the Next Steps.

**4. Questions and Feedback from Workshop Participants**

**Chair Truex** mentioned he could assist with North Port, pointed out police and fire trades, the need for community efforts, and detailed Washington DC Agenda. **Commissioner Constance** requested information to take on Washington DC trip, suggested Chamber of Commerce involvement, spoke to education perception, suggested North Port involvement, and recommended a Joint Meeting with the City of Punta Gorda. **Commissioner Deutsch** commented on the need for a vision to attract a skilled workforce, affordable housing, and utilization of senior citizens.

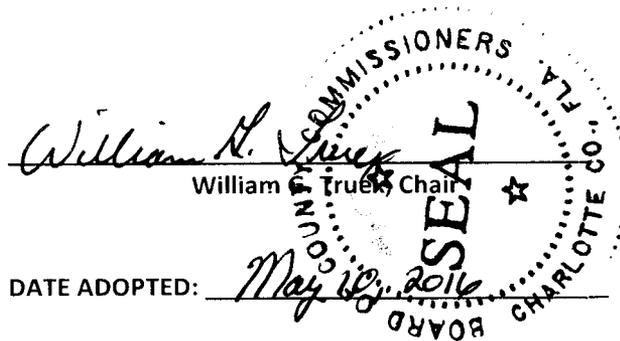
**Commissioner Doherty** noted risk factors, expressed excitement to begin suggestions from advisors, and questioned what could begin immediately for growth. **Commissioner Duffy** spoke to the trades offered at the Charlotte Technical Center, the economy, and attendance issues.

Ms. Mathis requested the link for survey questions and noted she would supply the survey to local businesses. Mr. Humpel commented on education, lack of skilled trade students in the area, and Western Michigan opportunities. Mr. Martin pointed out the lack of skilled workforce and mentioned education. Mr. Stoltz spoke to 90 day implementation and expressed excitement for Western Michigan and Florida SouthWestern State College. Mr. Wright pointed out education, testing, student interests, and interaction with teachers.

Ms. Medley commented on population, industry interests, workforce judgments, age groups, suggested new ideas to bring more growth to the area, public relations campaign, and collaborative efforts.

County Attorney Knowlton commented on the venue for the Joint Meeting. **Chair Truex** suggested Western Michigan be invited as well.

**ADJOURNED: 5:13 PM**

  
DATE ADOPTED: May 12, 2016

ATTEST:

BARBARA T. SCOTT, CLERK  
OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND  
EX-OFFICIO TO THE BOARD  
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By: Michelle DiBerardino  
Deputy Clerk