

NORTH FLORIDA

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP



2020 Regional Rural Development Grant Second Quarter Report

Submitted to:

Robert Gitzen, Grants Specialist III
Florida Department of Economic Opportunity
Division of Community Development
107 East Madison Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-4135

By

North Florida Economic Development Partnership
3200 Commonwealth Boulevard, Suite 7
Tallahassee, FL 32303
September 8, 2020



A PARTNERSHIP OF BAKER, BRADFORD, COLUMBIA, DIXIE, GILCHRIST, HAMILTON, JEFFERSON, LAFAYETTE, LEVY, MADISON,
PUTNAM, SUWANNEE, TAYLOR AND UNION COUNTIES
3200 COMMONWEALTH BOULEVARD, SUITE 7, TALLAHASSEE, FL 32303 850-487-1870

NORTH FLORIDA

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP



DELIVERABLES

Administration

- Overview/Summary
- Compliance Certification Form
- Minority & Veteran Form
- Invoice -DEO
- Matching Fund Documentation
- NFEDP Board Approval Agenda,
Minutes & Authorization Letter

Marketing

- Website Analytics
- Website Cost Reimbursements
- Printing Cost Reimbursements

Scholarships

There were no Scholarships during the 1st Quarter.

Technical Assistance

- Technical Assistance Forms



Board of Directors

Todd Gray, Chair
Gilchrist County BOCC

Glenn Hunter, Vice Chair
Columbia County Economic Development Department

Diane Head, Secretary
Executive Director, CareerSource North Florida

Dave Pieklik, Treasurer
Levy County EDO

Darryl Register – Past President
Executive Director Baker County Chamber of Commerce

James G. Bennett, Commissioner
Baker County BOCC

Chris Dougherty, Commissioner
Bradford County BOCC

Pam Whittle, Director
N FL Regional Chamber

Tim Murphy, Chairman
Columbia County BOCC

Mark Hatch, Commissioner
Dixie County BOCC

Carol West, Executive Director
Dixie County Chamber of Commerce

Bobby Crosby, County Administrator
Gilchrist County BOCC

Beth Burnham, Commissioner
Hamilton County BOCC

Chadd Mathis, Executive Director
Hamilton County BOCC

Gene Hall, Commissioner
Jefferson County BOCC

Henry McCray, Commissioner
Lafayette County BOCC

Steve Land
Clerk of the Court, Lafayette County

Matt Brooks, Commissioner
Levy County BOCC

Rick Davis, Commissioner
Madison County BOCC

Sherilyn Pickels, Interim County Administrator
Madison County BOCC

Larry Harvey, Commissioner
Putnam County BOCC

Brian Bergen, Vice President
Economic Development Putnam County Chamber

Len Stapleton, Commissioner
Suwannee County BOCC

Jimmy Norris
Suwannee County Economic Development Director

Thomas Demps, Commissioner
Taylor County BOCC

Tisha Penny, Executive Assistant
Taylor County Development Authority

Karen Cossey, Commissioner
Union County BOCC

Sara Owen, Deputy City Manager
City of Lake Butler

Elizabeth Godwin, Manager, Economic Development
Duke Energy

James Bush, External Affairs Manager
Florida Power and Light

Lauren Yeatter, Senior Planner
NCF Regional Planning Council

Patrick Wnek, Executive Director
NEFEC

Derick Thomas, Chief Public Relations Officer
Clay Electric Cooperative

Jeff Hendry, Executive Director
NFEDP



NORTH FLORIDA

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

Robert Gitzen, Grants Specialist III
Florida Department of Economic Opportunity
Division of Community Development
107 East Madison Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-4135

August 25, 2020

Dear Mr. Gitzen:

This is the North Florida Economic Development Partnership's (NFEDP) Second Quarter Report for the 2020 Rural Regional Development Grant-D0166. The Partnership continues to enhance the region's economic development recruitment efforts in our leadership role through outreach, shared resourcing, world-wide marketing and responding to the needs of the 14-county region due to the COVID-19 virus, and various forms of administrative and technical assistance to our stakeholders.

The Florida Rural Economic Development Association (FREDA) had plans in place for the Rural Summit to be held April 20 thru May 2, 2020. However, due to the COVID-19 virus state and federal guidelines, FREDA postponed the 2020 Rural Summit which was to be held at the Hilton Orlando Lake Buena Vista at Disney Springs in Orlando. FREDA has tentatively rescheduled the Rural Summit for October 25-27, 2020 but has not fully committed based on a survey sent to former attendees from years past.

The NFEDP website enhancement project funded by USDA is complete but for the official launch and its Marketing Campaign by Marketing Alliance. The NFEDP engaged GIS Planning the first quarter to enhance the website with its state-of-the-art demographic and COVID-19 map layers, and the new Business Directory component which has been populated during the 2nd 2020.

Technical assistance has continued to be a valuable component and service to all the counties. NFEDP staff has continuously provided information and responded to specific COVID-19 questions from the counties and communities. As an example, some of SBA's list of approved bankers for the Small Business loans were outdated, and the NFEDP assisted in getting updated lists to SBA.

The NFEDP has expended \$89,325.00 since the Effective Date, February 8, 2020, and has accomplished no less than one hundred percent of its objectives in the Scope of Work. There were no scholarships funded in the 1st or 2nd quarters due to the COVID-19 No Travel Ban/Stay Home Order.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact me at (850) 487-1870 or via e-mail at jhendry@iog.fsu.edu.

With Gratitude,

Todd Gray, Chair
North Florida Economic Development
Partnership, Inc.

FROM:
North Florida Economic Development Partnership, Inc.
3200 Commonwealth Blvd. Suite 7
Tallahassee, FL 32303
Phone: 850/487-1870

COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATION FORM

TO:
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY (DEO)
DIVISION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
ATTN: Robert Gitzen
107 East Madison Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-4135
850-717-8497

DATE: August 25, 2020

DESCRIPTION: Deliverables Including Minimum Performance Standards	Invoice Period: May-July 2020
Contract Invoice #D0166	\$46,450.00
INVOICE AMOUNT	\$46,450.00

Contractor Certification:

I certify, by evidence of my signature below, the above information is true and correct; and accurately reflects the terms and conditions of the executed contract document on file. I understand that the office of the State Chief Financial Officer reserves the right to require additional documentation and/or to conduct post-audits of any agreements.

Contractor Name printed: Todd Gray

Title: NFEDP Chairman

Contractor Signature:  _____

Date: August 25, 2020

DEO-Division of Community Development Contract Manager

I certify, by evidence of my signature below, the above information is true and correct; the goods and services have been satisfactorily received and payment is now due. I understand that the office of the State Chief Financial Officer reserves the right to require additional documentation and/or to conduct post-audits of any agreements.

DEO Contract Manager Name printed: Robert Gitzen

Title: Grants Specialist III

DEO Contract Manager Signature: _____

Date: _____

**DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
MINORITY SERVICE-DISABLED VETERAN BUSINESS ENTERPRISE REPORT**

EXHIBIT B

Company Name: North Florida Economic Development Partnership, Inc.

Invoice #: 2-2020

Date: August 25, 2020

Contract Amount: \$150,000.00 -

MBE Participation Amount: \$-0- -

MBE Percentage: 0%

DV Participation Amount: \$-0- -

DV Percentage: 0%

MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (MBE)

**Include consultants, sub-contractors, travel agents, etc. who provided services on this project

**Minority Business Enterprise	Description	** MBE Status	State Certified MBE (Yes or No)	MBE Contract \$ Amount	\$ Amount this Invoice	Total Paid	Balance Due	Project Type (Commodities or Contractual Services)
				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
TOTALS				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
							\$ -	

Certified MBE: **H - African American **I** - Hispanic **J** - Asian/Hawaiian **K** - Native American **M** - American Women
Non-Certified MBE: **N** - African American **O** - Hispanic **P** - Asian/Hawaiian **Q** - Native American **R** - American Women

SERVICE-DISABLED VETERAN (DV) BUSINESS ENTERPRISE

**Include consultants, sub-contractors, travel agents, etc. who provided services on this project

**Service-Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise	Description	** DV Status	State Certified DV (Yes or No)	DV Contract \$ Amount	\$ Amount this Invoice	Total Paid	Balance Due	Project Type (Commodities or Contractual Services)
				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
TOTALS				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
							\$ -	

*Certified DV: **W** - Service-Disabled Veteran Business
Non-Certified DV: **Y - Service-Disabled Veteran Business

INCLUDE THIS FORM WITH YOUR INVOICE

**North Florida Economic Development
Partnership FEIN: 20-4360126**

INVOICE

Agreement #: D0166

Invoice No.: 2-2020
Date: August 25, 2020

TO:

Florida Dept. of Economic Opportunity
Division of Community Development
Attn: Robert Gitzen
107 E. Madison Street,
Caldwell Bldg. MSC 160
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1160

FOR:

North Florida Economic Development Partnership
3200 Commonwealth Blvd.
Suite # 7
Tallahassee, FL 32303
850-487-1870

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
Dates of Service: May 1, 2020 – July 31, 2020	
Deliverable 1: Website Enhancement Analytics Support & Map Enhancement	\$1,300.00
Deliverable 4: Technical Assistance	<u>\$45,150.00</u>
Expenditures:	
Contractual Services	\$1,300.00
Staff Time	\$45,150.00
TOTAL	\$46,450.00

Make all checks payable to North Florida Economic Development Partnership FEIN: 20-4360126
I certify, by evidence of my signature below, the above information is true and correct; the goods and services have been satisfactorily delivered and payment is now due. I understand that DEO and other state personal have authority to require additional documentation and/or conduct audits or inspections of grant records.

Name Printed: Todd Gray Title: Chairman

Signature:  Date: August 25, 2020



“VIRTUAL” MEETING

**North Florida Economic Development Partnership
Board of Directors and General Membership Meeting
September 4, 2020
9:30– 11:00 am**

Agenda

- I. **Meeting Call to Order (A)**
Todd Gray, NFEDP Chair, Commissioner Gilchrist County
- II. **Welcome and Overview of Meeting Protocols(I)**
Jeff Hendry, Executive Director
- III. **Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation(I)**
- IV. **Comments from Public(I)**
- V. **Consideration of June 5, 2020 Meeting Minutes (A)**
Diane Head, NFEDP Treasurer and Executive Director
CareerSource North Florida
- VI. **Consideration of Treasurers Report (A)**
David Pieklik, NFEDP Treasurer and Executive Director
Nature Coast Business Development Council
- VII. **Update: 2020 RRDG 2nd Quarter Report (A)**
Diane Scholz/Hendry/Board Action
- VIII. **Update: Rural Economic Development Summit 2020 and Webinars (I)**
Hendry/Board Discussion
- IX. **Small Business Development Center Network Response to COVID-19 Financial Assistance to Small Businesses (I)**
Mark Yarick, Small Business Development Center, Live Oak

- X. **Presentation: NFEDP Website Launch Thru Social Media (I)**
Marketing Alliance, John Abbate-President, Mark Kitchens-VP
Creative Services, and Natalia Payton-Digital Marketing Director
- XI. **Update: Sites and Buildings Database for Website,
ZoomBusiness Component & Site Tracker Leads (I)**
Mike Rycko, IOG IT & Marketing Director, and Diane Scholz
- XII. **Presentation: M-Cores Update (I)**
Ryan Asmus, Florida Department of Transportation
- XIII. **Suwannee County Catalyst Site Sawmill Facility Update (I)**
Jimmy Norris, Suwannee County Economic Development Director
- XIV. **Roundtable: Local/Regional Projects and Other Issues (I)**
Board/Attendee Discussion
- XV. **Next Board Meeting Date (I)**
December 4th, 2020
- XVI. **Adjournment (A)**



DRAFT MINUTES

North Florida Economic Development Partnership Board of Directors and General Membership Meeting September 4, 2020 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 am VIRTUAL MEETING

NFEDP Board Members in Attendance

Darryl Register (Baker County), Pam Whittle (Bradford County), Glenn Hunter (Columbia County Economic Development Department), Carol West (Dixie County EDO), Commissioner Todd Gray (Gilchrist County), Steve Land (Lafayette County), Dave Pieklik (Levy County), Commissioner Rick Davis (Madison County), Elizabeth Godwin (Duke Energy), Diane Head (CareerSource North FL), Jim Bush (FP&L), Commissioner Larry Harvey (Putnam County), Jimmy Norris (Suwannee County EDO), Scott Koons, Lauren Yeatter (North Central FL RPC), Robert Krefting (Central FL Electric Coop), and Jon Little (Suwannee Valley Electric Coop).

Others in Attendance

Eric Anderson (EFI), Jennifer Goff-Daniels (Columbia County ED Dept.), Mayor Drinda Merritt (City of Inglis), Gabrielle Redfern (City of Live Oak CRA), Brunilda Robles (USDA), Gina Salvati (City of Live Oak), David Tyler (FDOT), Stew Lilker (Columbia County Observer), Jenny Anderson (FSU-IOG), Larry Bernaski (EFI), Doug Brown, Danny Collins (Duke Energy), Eric Cook (USDA), Tracey Gallentine (McKimcreed), Jordan Green (FDOT), JJ Harris (Choose Clay.com), Jessica Harris (FDOT), Mayor Lenwood Herron (?), Jessica Holley (FL House), Lowell Klepper (Town of White Springs), Linda Lampl (Lampl & Associates), Cheryl Lynch (University of North FL), Mayor Helen Miller (Town of White Springs), Crawford Powell (Baker County ED Consultant), Jack Shad (North East FL RPC), Chereese Stewart (?), Mark Tomczyk (Woolpert), David Tyler (FDOT), Paula Vann (Columbia County Chamber of Commerce), Berlon Weeks (Town of Bronson), Sandi Walkker (Government Services Group), Michelle Wilson (CRICPA.com),

NFEDP Board Members Absent

Commissioner Beth Burnam (Hamilton County), Alvin Jackson (City of Bunnell), Chadd Mathis (Hamilton County Development Authority), Sherilyn Pickels (Interim Madison County Coordinator), Commissioner Gene Hall (Jefferson County), Ryan Hart (Seminole Electric Coop), Brian Bergen (Putnam County Chamber of Commerce), LaWanda Pemberton (Taylor County Administrator), Tisha Penny (Taylor County Development Authority), Commissioner Karen Cossey (Union County), Patrick Wnek (Northeast Florida Educational Consortium), Commissioner James Bennett (Baker County), Chris Dougherty (Bradford County), Commissioner Tim Murphy (Columbia County), Commissioner Mark Hatch (Dixie County), County Administrator Bobby Crosby (Gilchrist County), and Commissioner Henry McCray (Lafayette County), Sara Owen (City of Lake Butler, Union County) Denny George (Central FL Electric Coop), Ryan Hart (Seminole-Electric Coop) and Kaitlyn Culpepper (Tri-County Electric Coop).

NFEDP and IOG staff in Attendance

Jeff Hendry, Executive Director, NFEDP and Florida Institute of Government
Diane Scholz - Director of Rural Economic Development, Florida Institute of Government

Debby Kent, Events Coordinator, Florida Institute of Government
Jenny Anderson, Program Director – Media, Marketing & Communications
Dena Hurst, Ph.D., Certifications Program Director
Mike Rycko, Marketing & IT Services Director

I. Welcome and Meeting Call to Order

Chairman Todd Gray, NFEDP Chair, Commissioner Gilchrist County called the meeting to order at 9:30 am and thanked everyone for attending the virtual NFEDP Board meeting by Go-To-Webinar. He provided guidance as a reminder to identify yourself before you speak for those who did not have video, only audio. He explained he himself only had audio due to lack of broadband strength. Commissioner Gray stated that Public Comments will be at the end of the meeting with 3 minutes allowed each speaker unless anyone had an objection. No one objected.

II. NFEDP Executive Director Provided Additional Guidance

Jeff Hendry, NFEDP Executive Director, explained anyone who wishes to speak during the meeting should “raise their hand” virtually or enter their question in the chat box. Additionally, he asked for people to minimize background noise in whatever location from which they are participating.

III. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Gray asked Darryl Register, NFEDP Immediate Past-Chairman, to lead the attendees in prayer and stated he would lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance (full-screen American flag was on the monitor).

IV. Public Comments

(Commissioner Gray moved to the end of the agenda.)

V. Approval of June 5, 2020 Meeting Minutes (A)

Chairman Gray asked for consideration and approval of the draft June 5, 2020 Board meeting minutes which were sent out by email prior to the meeting for review and a motion was needed to approve. Motion was made by Dave Pieklik, seconded by Commissioner Matt Brooks. The minutes were approved unanimously.

VI. Treasurer’s Report (A)

Chairman Gray recognized NFEDP Treasurer Dave Pieklik asked him to present the Treasurer’s Report. Mr. Pieklik stated the Treasurer’s Report had been reviewed and forwarded out via email before the meeting. Dave made a comment that the NFEDP appears to be in a great financial shape even though this has been a surreal year. Dave Pieklik asked Jeff Hendry if he had any additional comments. Jeff Hendry stated he agreed the NFEDP is in good financial shape and added that the NFEDP had voted last year to contribute \$1,500 to the January 16, 202 Rural Counties Day (RCD). However, the check had never actually been cut and sent to the RCD. He let everyone know that the check will be written immediately and sent to the RCD for deposit. Motion was made by Diane Head and seconded by Patrick Wnek. Motion approved unanimously.

VII. Update: 2020 RRDG 2nd Quarter Report and 2020 RRDG (A)

Chairman Gray recognized Diane Scholz to make comments regarding the 2020 Rural Regional Development Grant (RRDG) 2nd Quarter report and request for reimbursement. Ms. Scholz stated the 2020 2nd Quarter Report & Request for Reimbursement Final Report has been prepared along with the request for reimbursement of \$46,450. She added that Bob Gitzen had been made aware that the NFEDP board meeting would be held 4 days after the deadline for submission and he gave permission to submit the report

and request for reimbursement as soon after meeting minutes could be prepared and included in the report. Todd Gray requested a motion to approve the submittal of the report. Motion was made by Commissioner Matt Brooks and seconded by Diane Head. Motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Update: Rural Economic Development Summit 2020 and Webinars (I)

Chairman Gray called on Jeff Hendry to provide the updates. Jeff Hendry told everyone that the Rural Economic Development Summit 2020 will be postponed until 2021 based on continuing issues with COVID-19. The survey sent out to all of past attendees and others revealed a 50/50 split between those willing to attend the in-person event and those not willing to attend an in-person event. As plans for a 2021 event develop, the FREDAs will keep everyone apprised.

In an effort to keep rural information in the forefront of Rural Florida, a series of monthly webinars are being developed and will soon be announced.

IX. Presentation: Small Business Development Center Network Response to COVID-19 Financial Assistance to Small Businesses (I)

Commissioner Gray introduced Mark Yarick, Small Business Development Center, Live Oak. Mark provided an informative PowerPoint presentation to explain to attendees the assistance the Florida Small Business Development Center Network has been providing since the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic in early March 2020. The FSBDC Network administered the Florida Bridge Loan Program (\$9 million), assisted Businesses and Farmers with PPP (\$11 million), assisted Businesses and Farmers with the federal Economic Injury Disaster Loan program (\$6 million +), assisted Farmers with USDA-CFAP while still providing all of its regular services.

X. Presentation: NFEDP Website Launch Thru Social Media (I)

Chairman Gray introduced Marketing Alliance staff, John Abbate-President, Mark Kitchens-VP Creative Services, and Natalia Payton-Digital Marketing Director, to the attendees. Natalia explained the various social media platforms which were used to do the state-of-the-art social media website campaign launch. The website enhancement project was funded thru a USDA grant and the campaign launch was funded by a Duke Energy Marketing grant of \$15,250.

XI. Update: Sites and Buildings Database for Website, ZoomBusiness Component & Site Tracker Leads (I)

Chairman Gray introduced the topic, which was presented by Mike Rycko, IOG IT and Marketing Director and Diane Scholz. Diane began the presentation by introducing Mike who has been with the IOG for several years, but for the most part works in the behind the scene in support of many of the IOG and NFEDP initiatives. Diane explained the need for all counties to review, update and delete expired properties for their specific counties. She gave the example of the system notifying her that Levy County had a property which would expire September 30. When she notified Levy County EDO, she was informed that the property was no longer available because it has become a KOA Campground. She used this example to make the point that it should be removed from the Properties Database since is no longer available for economic development and placed in the ZoomBusiness component to make the public aware it is available as an overnight campground facility. This helps those who have been housebound for the past 6 months due to COVID-19 to know a place to get away and be in their own RV, tent or travel trailer for their personal protection. Mike explained arrangements are underway to provide training each of the counties. We just need all of the counties to provide that specific contact and multiple training sessions will be made available.

Diane then explained the benefits of ZoomBusiness to both the public and the local businesses. She strongly stressed that without county chambers of commerce or some other county resource, it is very time consuming to attempt to capture the information from online. Mike explained the more technical aspects of how the program works for the business and how easily they can update their information as often as need be. Mike reiterated many times that the individual business owner's email would not be seen by the public to assure those who have the needed data will not be sharing any contact email information.

Site Tracker is not a new component to the website but one that NFEDP staff believes could be better utilized by forwarding the leads to the local economic development officials (EDO). Although Lead Forensics is a new component supported by GIS Planning, it too can be utilized by forwarding to the EDOs. Mike explained the type of information supplied and the frequency with which the NFEDP receives from both Site Tracker and Lead Forensics. NFEDP board members agreed that it could be very beneficial to them to have such leads with which they could follow up.

XII. Presentation: M-Cores Update (I) (This presentation was moved to the end of the virtual meeting due to technical difficulty)

Ryan Asmus, Florida Department of Transportation, was introduced by Chairman Gray to provide an update on the Multi-use Corridors of Regional Economic Significance (M-CORES). Ryan provided a brief PowerPoint presentation which included maps specific to the Suncoast Corridor that could potentially be built through a number of NFEDP counties. FDOT had to transition from in-person community and taskforce meetings to virtual meetings, but have managed to maintain their timeline to move thru the community input process. The Suncoast Corridor is approximately 150 miles starting in Citrus County going north through Levy County up to Jefferson County where it will intersect with I-10. The taskforce is made up of 41 individuals representing stakeholders from state and regional agencies, environmental groups, and local governments. Currently the M-CORES project is in the taskforce phase which is the pre-planning phase with the focus on getting feedback from the taskforce regarding recommendations and needs for the study area which is a requirement of the M-CORES legislation. The taskforce has held 7 meetings in addition to several webinars. The compilation of the final report is to be delivered to the President of the Florida Senate, the Speaker of the Florida House and the Governor by November 15, 2020.

XIII Suwannee County Catalyst Site Sawmill Facility Update

Chairman Gray introduced Jimmy Norris, Suwannee County Economic Development Department Director who shared information on what used to be Klausner Lumber One, LLC, reportedly the world's largest sawmill. Jimmy provided a general timeline of the events since Klausner filed bankruptcy in March 2020 with brief explanations as to the cause and effect. A virtual auction was conducted August 21, 2020 with 3 vetted and qualified bidders. Binderholz had the winning bid at \$61 million and had made it known to Jimmy that they had plans for expansion and to locate additional projects in Suwannee County.

Public Comments Delayed from Agenda Item IV

Public Comments were requested, and Jeff Hendry reiterated how to raise your hand virtually. No one raised their hand at this time.

XIV. Roundtable: Local/Regional Projects and Other Issues

Jeff asked the board member if any of them had projects they would like to share. Glenn Hunter (Columbia County EDO) stated that the rail spur into the Columbia County *Catalyst Site* is under construction.

The tub was set for the crossing this week and the first phase will be completed in about three months. Then we'll be starting on the first leg of the second phase of the rail spur into the North Florida Mega Industrial Site.

Carol West (Dixie County EDO) announced that even during this COVID-19 pandemic the Dixie County Education Foundation will be awarding \$190k in scholarships in a drive-thru ceremony to graduating high school 66 students. And of those 66 students, 11 will get full tuition packages to a Career and Technical Certification Program. Career and Technical program received \$45k from the former Suwannee Lumber Company now under new ownership.

Stew Lilker (Columbia County Observer) complimented the board on their great new website but expressed dissatisfaction with the lack of posting all handouts, presentations and the agenda prior to the meeting. He requested this improvement be made. Jeff Hendry, NFEDP Executive Director, stated he was committed to making the improvement. Chairman Todd Gray commented it would be helpful to have the agenda posted as well.

Next Board Meeting Date

December 4, 2020

XIII. Adjournment

Board of Directors

Todd Gray, Chair
Gilchrist County BOCC

Glenn Hunter, Vice Chair
*Columbia County Economic
Development Department*

Diane Head, Secretary
*Executive Director, CareerSource
North Florida*

Dave Pieklik, Treasurer
Levy County EDO

Darryl Register – Past President
*Executive Director
Baker County Chamber of Commerce*

James G. Bennett, Commissioner
Baker County BOCC

Chris Dougherty, Commissioner
Bradford County BOCC

Pam Whittle, Director
N FL Regional Chamber

Tim Murphy, Chairman
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Chadd Mathis, Executive Director
Hamilton County BOCC

Gene Hall, Commissioner
Jefferson County BOCC

Henry McCray, Commissioner
Lafayette County BOCC

Steve Land
Clerk of the Court, Lafayette County

Matt Brooks, Commissioner
Levy County BOCC

Rick Davis, Commissioner
Madison County BOCC

Sherilyn Pickels, Interim County Administrator
Madison County BOCC

Larry Harvey, Commissioner
Putnam County BOCC

Brian Bergen, Vice President
*Economic Development
Putnam County Chamber*

Len Stapleton, Commissioner
Suwannee County BOCC

Jimmy Norris
*Suwannee County
Economic Development Director*

Thomas Demps, Commissioner
Taylor County BOCC

Tisha Penny, Executive Assistant
Taylor County Development Authority

Karen Cossey, Commissioner
Union County BOCC

Sara Owen, Deputy City Manager
City of Lake Butler

Elizabeth Godwin, Manager, Economic Development
Duke Energy

James Bush, External Affairs Manager
Florida Power and Light

Lauren Yeatter, Senior Planner
NCF Regional Planning Council

Patrick Wnek, Executive Director
NEFEC

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Clay Electric Cooperative

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NFEDP



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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

Robert Gitzen, Grants Specialist III
Florida Department of Economic Opportunity
Division of Community Development
107 East Madison Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-4135

September 8, 2020

Dear Mr. Gitzen:

On September 4, 2020, the North Florida Economic Development Partnership (NFEDP) conducted the NFEDP full board quarterly meeting virtually over the internet due to social distancing requirements by Governor DeSantis. The second quarter 2020 report and request for reimbursement for NFEDP Rural Regional Development Grant #D0166 was on the agenda for approval and submission to DEO. NFEDP staff presented information on the report and asked for questions.

The report was provided to board members prior to the virtual for their review. After the brief overview of the report by Diane Scholz, Executive Committee members were provided the opportunity to ask questions and make comments. Commissioner Matt Brooks, Levy County BOCC, made a motion to submit the report and reimbursement invoice to the Department of Economic Opportunity, and Diane Head, CareerSource North Florida Executive Director, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously approving the submittal of the 2nd Quarter 2020 Report, and reimbursement invoice DEO for \$46,450.00.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Diane Scholz at (850) 728-5191 or at dscholz@iof.fsu.edu.

Sincerely,

Todd Gray
Chair, NFEDP

NORTH FLORIDA

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP



Marketing

May 1 – July 31, 2020

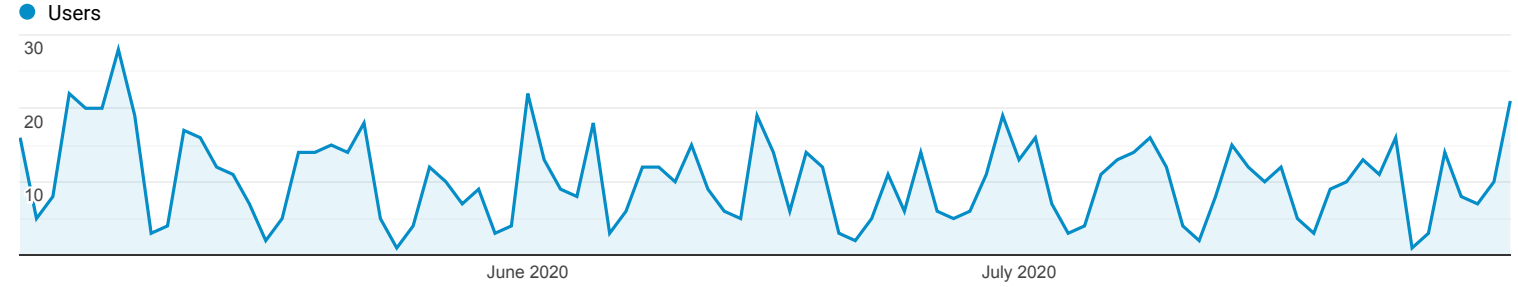
Website Analytics
Website Cost Reimbursement

Audience Overview

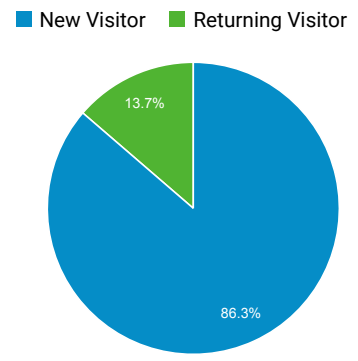
All Users
100.00% Users

May 1, 2020 - Jul 31, 2020

Overview



Users 769	New Users 745	Sessions 1,094
Number of Sessions per User 1.42	Pageviews 2,580	Pages / Session 2.36
Avg. Session Duration 00:02:23	Bounce Rate 58.96%	



Language	Users	% Users
1. en-us	635	82.47%
2. en	89	11.56%
3. ko	25	3.25%
4. c	6	0.78%
5. en-gb	5	0.65%
6. zh-cn	3	0.39%
7. de	1	0.13%
8. en-ph	1	0.13%
9. es	1	0.13%
10. fr-fr	1	0.13%



MARKETING ALLIANCE

201 W. Marion Ave., Suite 1206
Punta Gorda, Florida 33950

Invoice

Date	Invoice #
7/31/20	24360

Bill To:

North Florida EDP
Jeff H. Hendry / Liz Register
3200 Commonwealth Blvd., Ste. 7
Tallahassee, FL 32303

RRDG FUNDED

P.O. No.	Terms
	Net 30

Item	Description	Amount
Website Hosting	Hosting Services renewal for nflp.org - one year - 07/30/2020 through 07/30/2021	400.00

Thank you for your business. If you have any questions please call 941-347-7412.	Sales Tax (7.0%)	\$0.00
	Total	\$400.00

NORTH FLORIDA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

3200 COMMONWEALTH BOULEVARD
SUITE 7
TALLAHASSEE, FL 32303

1819

63-68/631
002

DATE 08.05.2020

CHECK AMOUNT PROTECTION

PAY TO THE ORDER OF

Marketing Alliance

\$ 400.00

NO

Four hundred dollars & ~~3~~ ~~xx~~

DOLLARS

Photo Safe Deposit Details on back



DOWNTOWN OFFICE
TALLAHASSEE, FL

FOR pmt of invoice # 243600

[Signature]

RRDG funded

⑈001819⑈ ⑆063100688⑆0228437001⑈



8/19/2020 12:08 PM

AbFrBsCk 0001

*****7001

NORTH FLORIDA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP
 3200 COMMONWEALTH BOULEVARD
 SUITE 7
 TALLAHASSEE, FL 32303

1819
 63-68/631
 002
 DATE 08-05-2020

PAY TO THE ORDER OF Marketing Alliance \$ 400.00
 Four hundred dollars 3/xx DOLLARS

Capital City Bank DOWNTOWN OFFICE
 TALLAHASSEE, FL

FOR mnt of invoice # 243600
RRDG Funded

⑈001819⑈ ⑆063100688⑆0228437001⑈

4013 40130000569903>082902757< 081020

PAY TO THE ORDER OF
 CENTENNIAL BANK
 PUNTA GORDA, FL 33950
 ⑆082902757⑆
 FOR DEPOSIT ONLY
 MARKETING ALLIANCE INC
 0503473144

Amount: -400.00
 Description: Check
 Check Number: 1819
 Posted Date: 8/11/2020
 Type: Debit
 Status: Posted



MARKETING ALLIANCE

201 W. Marion Ave., Suite 1206
Punta Gorda, Florida 33950

Invoice

Date	Invoice #
7/31/20	24372

Bill To:

North Florida EDP
Jeff H. Hendry / Liz Register
3200 Commonwealth Blvd., Ste. 7
Tallahassee, FL 32303

RRDG FUNDED

P.O. No.	Terms
	Net 30

Item	Description	Amount
Analytics	Enhanced SiteTracker Analytic Services for nflp.com - quarterly - 08/01/2020 through 10/31/2020	900.00

Thank you for your business. If you have any questions please call 941-347-7412.	Sales Tax (7.0%)	\$0.00
	Total	\$900.00

NORTH FLORIDA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

3200 COMMONWEALTH BOULEVARD

SUITE 7

TALLAHASSEE, FL 32303

1820

63-68/631
002

DATE 08.05.2020

CHECK ARMOR
FAST DEPOSIT

PAY
TO THE
ORDER OF

Marketing Alliance

\$ 900.00

Nine Hundred dollars & ^{NO} xx

DOLLARS

Photo
Safe
Deposit
Details on back



**Capital City
Bank**

DOWNTOWN OFFICE
TALLAHASSEE, FL

FOR pmt of invoice # 24372

[Signature]

USDA Funded

⑈001820⑈ ⑆063100688⑆022843700⑆⑈



8/19/2020 12:09 PM

AbFrBsCk 0001

*****7001

NORTH FLORIDA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP
 3200 COMMONWEALTH BOULEVARD
 SUITE 7
 TALLAHASSEE, FL 32303

1820
 63-68/631
 002
 CHECK NUMBER

DATE 08-05-2020

PAY TO THE ORDER OF Marketing Alliance \$ 900.00
Nine Hundred dollars & ^{NO} xx DOLLARS

capital city Bank DOWNTOWN OFFICE
 TALLAHASSEE, FL

FOR amt of invoice # 24372
PRDG funded

[Signature]

PHOTO SAFE DEPOSIT BOX

⑈001820⑈ ⑆063100688⑆022843700⑈

4013 40130000509904>082902757< 081020

PAY TO THE ORDER OF
 CENTENNIAL BANK
 PUNTA GORDA, FL 33950
 ⑆082902757⑆
 FOR DEPOSIT ONLY
 MARKETING ALLIANCE INC
 0503473144

Amount: -900.00
Description: Check
Check Number: 1820
Posted Date: 8/11/2020
Type: Debit
Status: Posted

NORTH FLORIDA

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP



Scholarships

May 1 – July 31, 2020

There were no Scholarships approved during the 2nd Quarter due to COVID-19 state and state & federal guidelines to “Stay At Home”.

NORTH FLORIDA

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP



Technical Assistance

May 1 – July 31, 2020

All NFEDP Counties

Bradford County

City of Bunnell

Columbia County

Dixie County

Town of Greenville

Jefferson County

Levy County

Suwannee County



REGIONAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FORM

DATE: 8/25/20 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY: Jeff Hendry & Diane Scholz

CLIENT CATEGORY


 BUSINESS (FLORIDA) X LOCAL GOVERNMENT

CONTACT:	Commissioner Todd Gray, Chairman
ORGANIZATION:	Gray Construction Services, Inc.
ADDRESS:	222 W Wade St, Trenton, FL 32693
E-MAIL:	tgray@gray-construction.com
PHONE:	(352) 463-3939

DATE	ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY: Jeff Hendry & Diane Scholz	HOURS
5/1/20-7/31/20	- During the 2nd quarter of 2020, the NFEDP provided a wide variety of technical assistance that impacted all the NFEDP counties. NFEDP staff continues to build on the enhancement of the NFEDP website by adding a Member Page which includes bios and photos of all board members from across the 14-county region. The NFEDP staff received a Duke Energy Foundation Marketing grant to augment the costs of a Campaign Launch of the newly enhanced website using state-of-the art social media platforms. A new COVID-19 component was added to the website in support of the new Business Directory, and a new GIS-Planning Property and Demographic component was added.	386
Space below <u>must be completed</u>		

CLIENT CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that I received the technical assistance as described above.

NAME: 
 Todd Gray

DATE: August 25, 2020

REGIONAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FORM

DATE: 8/25/2020 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY: Jeff Hendry & Diane Scholz

CLIENT CATEGORY

_____ BUSINESS (FLORIDA) X LOCAL GOVERNMENT

CONTACT:	Rachel Rhoden
ORGANIZATION:	Bradford County Board of County Commissioners
ADDRESS:	P. O. Drawer B, Starke, Florida 32091
E-MAIL:	Rachel_rhoden@bradfordcountyfl.gov
PHONE:	(904) 966-6327

DATE	ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY: Jeff Hendry & Diane Scholz	HOURS
5/1/20-7/31/20	- During the 2nd quarter of 2020, the NFEDP provided technical assistance to the Bradford County regarding the Keystone Heights Airpark Florida Jobs Growth Grant Fund project, and the RIF-FS for the FAA-EA for the Airpark. The NFEDP continues to attend/participate with the Keystone Airpark Authority regarding infrastructure improvements and potential funding resources for those improvements.	18
Space below <u>must be completed</u>		

CLIENT CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that I received the technical assistance as described above.

NAME: _____ DATE: _____
 Rachel Rhoden

REGIONAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FORM

DATE: 8/25/2020 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY: Diane Scholz

CLIENT CATEGORY

 BUSINESS (FLORIDA) X LOCAL GOVERNMENT

CONTACT:	Dr. Alvin Jackson, City Manager
ORGANIZATION:	City of Bunnell
ADDRESS:	201 W. Moody Blvd., Bldg. 1
E-MAIL:	ajackson@bunnellcity.us
PHONE:	386.437.7500

DATE	ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY: Diane Scholz	HOURS
5/1/20- 7/31/20	- During the second quarter of 2020, NFEDP provided a letter of support for a Technical Assistance Grant from the Florida Department of Economic Development. Dr. Jackson's innovative planning strategy for the City of Bunnell will be supported by the DEO funding which will help offset expenses of the process.	3
Space below <u>must be completed</u>		

CLIENT CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that I received the technical assistance as described above.

NAME: 
Dr. Alvin Jackson

DATE: 8/26/2020

REGIONAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FORM

DATE: 8/25/2020 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY: Diane Scholz

CLIENT CATEGORY

_____ BUSINESS (FLORIDA) X LOCAL GOVERNMENT

CONTACT:	Glenn Hunter
ORGANIZATION:	Columbia County Economic Development Department
ADDRESS:	971 W. Duval Street, Suite 150, Lake City, Florida 32055
E-MAIL:	ghunter@columbiacountyfla.com
PHONE:	(386) 758-1033

DATE	ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY: Jeff Hendry & Diane Scholz	HOURS
5/1/20- 7/31/20	- During the 2nd quarter of 2020, NFEDP staff provided technical services to Columbia County's Department of Economic Development regarding many economic development projects at it related to incentives, master plans for economic development areas, permitting, and water and wastewater improvements.	44
Space below <u>must be completed</u>		

CLIENT CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that I received the technical assistance as described above.

NAME: 
Glenn Hunter

DATE: 08/26/2020

REGIONAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FORM

DATE: 5/30/2010 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY: Diane Scholz

CLIENT CATEGORY

BUSINESS (FLORIDA) LOCAL GOVERNMENT

CONTACT:	Steve Conner
ORGANIZATION:	Cross City Lumber, LLC
ADDRESS:	59 NE 132 Ave, Cross City, FL 32628
E-MAIL:	Steve@dupontyard.com
PHONE:	(912) 218 4563

DATE	ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY: Diane Scholz	HOURS
5/1/20-7/31/20	- During the second quarter of 2020, NFEDP staff provided technical services to Cross City Lumber, LLC (CCL) and Dixie County regarding a huge modernization upgrade of this local major employer. The Dixie County BOCC is supportive in applying for a DEO-Rural Community Development Loan on behalf of CCL but needed assistance with the application. NFEDP staff has worked closely with CCL in preparing the application which hopefully will be funded by DEO in the 3rd quarter of 2020.	70
Space below <u>must be completed</u>		

CLIENT CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that I received the technical assistance as described above.

NAME: 
Steve Conner

DATE: 8/25/2020

REGIONAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FORM

DATE: 8/25/2020 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY: Diane Scholz

CLIENT CATEGORY

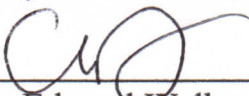
 BUSINESS (FLORIDA) X LOCAL GOVERNMENT

CONTACT:	Edward W. Dean, Town Manager
ORGANIZATION:	Town of Greenville
ADDRESS:	P.O. Box 235, Greenville, FL 32331
E-MAIL:	Edwardwalkerdean@embarqmail.com
PHONE:	850.948.2257

DATE	ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY: Diane Scholz	HOURS
5/1/20- 7/31/20	- During the second quarter of 2020, NFEDP staff provided extensive technical services to the Town of Greenville regarding their new Grocery Store Project and Twin Oaks Mattress Factory. The technical assistance provided included: grant writing and review for a Rural Infrastructure Fund-Total Participation grant, USDA Rural Business Development Grant, drafting monthly reports for DEO for the Florida Jobs Growth Grant Fund, and reviewing other quarterly reports for accuracy. Assisted the Madison County Development Council with their website.	41
Space below <u>must be completed</u>		

CLIENT CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that I received the technical assistance as described above.

NAME: 
Edward Walker Dean

DATE: 8/25/20

REGIONAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FORM

DATE: 8/25/2020 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY: Diane Scholz

CLIENT CATEGORY

 X BUSINESS (FLORIDA) LOCAL GOVERNMENT

CONTACT:	Steve Wingate
ORGANIZATION:	Wingate Consulting
ADDRESS:	P.O. Box 933 Monticello, FL 32345
E-MAIL:	Swingate53@gmail.com
PHONE:	850.294.5696

DATE	ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY: Diane Scholz	HOURS
5/1/20- 7/31/20	- During the second quarter of 2020, NFEDP staff provided technical research information to a Jefferson County water/wastewater consultant regarding the utilities at SR59/I-10 interchange, and information regarding grant programs.	3
Space below <u>must be completed</u>		

CLIENT CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that I received the technical assistance as described above.

NAME: Steve Wingate DATE: 8-25-2020
Steve Wingate

REGIONAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FORM

DATE: 9/17/2020 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY: Diane Scholz

CLIENT CATEGORY

BUSINESS (FLORIDA)

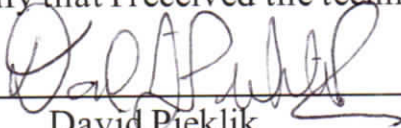
LOCAL GOVERNMENT

CONTACT:	Dave Pieklik
ORGANIZATION:	Nature Coast Business Development
ADDRESS:	P.O. Box 1112 26 Hwy. 40 W. Inglis, FL 34449
E-MAIL:	director@naturecoast.org
PHONE:	352.221.5113

DATE	ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY: Diane Scholz	HOURS
5/1/20-7/31/20	- During the second quarter of 2020, NFEDP staff provided technical research on behalf of a project interested in existing Florida Benzanite mines. Multiple calls were made to local governmental and economic development officials which revealed due the location of the existing mines they are unusable due to saltwater intrusion.	5
Space below <u>must be completed</u>		

CLIENT CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that I received the technical assistance as described above.

NAME: 
David Pieklik

DATE: 9-17-20

REGIONAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FORM

DATE: 8/25/20 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY: Diane Scholz

CLIENT CATEGORY

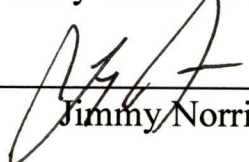
 BUSINESS (FLORIDA) X LOCAL GOVERNMENT

CONTACT:	Jimmy Norris, Economic Development Director
ORGANIZATION:	Suwannee County
ADDRESS:	Suwannee County Economic Development Office 100 Court St SE Live Oak, FL 32064
E-MAIL:	jimmyn@suwgov.org
PHONE:	386.364.1700

DATE	ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY: Diane Scholz	HOURS
5/1/20 - 7/31/20	- During the 2nd Quarter of 2020, the NFEDP assisted Suwannee County EDO with researching and finding answers to many historic issues regarding Klausner Lumber One, LLC. The sawmill facility was being auctioned off after the company filed bankruptcy earlier this year. Many of the companies interested in purchasing the facility had questions regarding utility services, permitting, and prior liabilities of the company.	32
Space below <u>must be completed</u>		

CLIENT CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that I received the technical assistance as described above.

NAME: 
Jimmy Norris

DATE: 8/25/20