



*Broward County Small Business Development Advisory Board (SBDAB)*

**Location:**

**OESBD CONFERENCE ROOM**

**115 S. Andrews Ave., Room A-680**

**Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33301**

**Meeting Summary**

Date and Time: Wednesday, May 15, 2024, at 4:00 pm

**SBDAB Members in attendance:**

Darren Badore – in-person

Richard Bonchick (Vice Chair) - in-person

Patrick Ceres - in-person

David Welch - in-person

Marty Sherwood – via Teams

**\*Quorum not met**

**County Staff:**

Maribel Feliciano, Assistant Director, OESBD

Sandy Steed, Assistant County Attorney (Virtual)

Jennifer Jurado, Resilient Environment Department

**Members from the Public:**

Natasha Thompson, Robert Half Management Resources

**I. Introductions**

Prior to the meeting, a quorum was expected, however only 5 members were present and six were needed for a quorum. The meeting proceeded as if there was a quorum of members, therefore all motions will be repeated for the July 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**II. Invited Guest: Dr. Jennifer Jurado, Chief Resilience Officer**

Dr. Jurado introduced the Resilient Environment Department's "Carbon Conscious Business Program", through which the department wishes to reach out and partner with Broward County's private sector. The idea is to get a diversity of voices working together on working toward zero emissions by 2050. Broward County has been a leader in climate adaptation and resilience for 20 years. Dr. Jurado spoke to some of the successes in collaborating with the private sector and noted some of the economic impacts of these partnerships. She introduced a voluntary carbon reporting registry. She went over the benefits of "carbon accounting" and elicited the Board's help in completing the Carbon Calculator survey and answering the questions posed by her office. The intention is to develop a partnership between the business community and Broward County to achieve the resiliency goals of the agency.

### **III. Staff Updates**

#### **A. Welcome to New Advisory Board Member**

Maribel Feliciano welcomed new Board member David Welch, CEO of Megawattage, a local company based in Broward County. Mr. Welch stated he is happy to join the Board.

#### **B. Small Business Micro Grant**

Ms. Feliciano introduced OESBD's Small Business Micro Grant Pilot Program, designed to assist "the smallest" of Broward's small businesses with \$2,500 per awardee for eligible expenses. Technical assistance sessions - both in-person and virtually - have been scheduled to teach business owners how to complete the application and which supporting documents will be required to accompany the application. Applications were being accepted starting in May 2024.

#### **C. Events**

Ms. Feliciano mentioned the Business Resiliency Webinar, which will provide information about resources and methods to prepare businesses for unforeseen emergencies like hurricanes and flooding events, for example. She also reminded the Board about the annual FITCE conference coming up October 23-24, 2024. Finally, Ms. Feliciano mentioned that the Board has been sent, via email, the most current MAP report, along with the Agenda and Minutes from the previous Board meeting.

**Since there was no quorum at this meeting, the other items discussed will be added to the agenda for the July 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.**

### **IV. Next Meeting – July 17, 2024**

**Disclosure: The above is a summary of the workshop conducted in lieu of an official Board Meeting, which lacked a quorum. To obtain a complete audio recording of the meeting or any presentation or handout materials, please submit a public records request to Cheryl Roberts, Small Business Development Supervisor, who can be reached at [chroberts@broward.org](mailto:chroberts@broward.org) or 954-357-6400.**