

CareerSource Southwest Florida  
Business & Economic Development Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
March 27, 2025  
3:00 p.m.

**Members Present:**

John Talmage-Chair  
Keitha Daniels  
Brent Kettler-Virtual  
Adrian Llanes-Virtual

Sloan Nagy-Virtual  
Michael Wukitsch

**Members Absent:**

Rosemary Fllori  
Sarah Harrington  
Adrian Kerr

**Interested Parties:**

Amir B. Ferreira-Neto  
Melanie Schmees

**Guest Present:**

Fritz Roka, Associate Professor & Director of Center for Agribusiness,  
Florida Gulf Coast University  
Ronald Hamel, Florida Gulf Coast University Agribusiness Consultant,  
Florida Gulf Coast University

**Staff Present:**

Ed Fritz  
Rebecca Sandholdt  
Lyntoria Thomas

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 3:00pm by Chair, John Talmage. Quorum was confirmed and welcome and introductions were made. "Welcome everyone, thank you for coming!"-John Talmage.

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT-None**

**III. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 30, 2025 MEETING MINUTES**

Michael Wukitsch made a motion to accept the January 30, 2025 meeting minutes;  
Keitha Daniels seconded; the motion was unanimously approved.

**IV. FLORIDA GULF COAST UNIVERSITY (FGCU) AGRIBUSINESS**

Fritz Roka, Associate Professor and Director of Center for Agribusiness, Florida Gulf Coast University gave a detailed and engaging presentation on the future of agriculture

in Southwest Florida. Fritz emphasized economic and environmental contributions and roles, the commodity trends, the challenges, the opportunities, and the career opportunities available in agriculture.

**V. OPEN FORUM-** None

**VI. ADJOURNMENT-** The meeting adjourned at 4:21pm.