

**Meeting Minutes
Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc.
Warriors Hall
Crestview, Florida
October 23, 2018
11:00 a.m. CT**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Pam Dana, Ph. D
Don Gaetz, Chair
Ben Lee
Stephen Riggs, IV
Jason Shoaf

EXCUSED ABSENCE:

Allan Bense

Chair Don Gaetz called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m. CT and asked Mr. Jason Shoaf to lead the group in prayer. Mr. Shoaf offered a prayer for the families affected by Hurricane Michael, for the first responders working to help them, and for wisdom and guidance to help Triumph Gulf Coast make the best decisions to help our communities in the wake of the ongoing disaster and recovery. Chair Gaetz thanked Mayor David Cadle and the City of Crestview for hosting the meeting on short notice after the hurricane devastated Gulf County, the originally scheduled meeting location. The mayor welcomed the Board to Crestview and offered whatever assistance the city could provide.

Chair Gaetz noted that the aftermath of the hurricane prevented Mr. Allan Bense from being present, and family health issues prevented Ms. Susan Skelton, Executive Director from being present at the meeting. He said that due to the unusual circumstances surrounding the meeting some routine matters would not be taken up at the meeting, and some proposals that would normally have been considered would be heard at a later date. He pointed out that some applicants that were affected by the storm will need time to do damage assessments and make adjustments to their applications, as well.

Program Administrator Cori Henderson called the roll and announced the presence of a quorum. Chair Gaetz noted that Allan Bense was unable to attend due to pressing hurricane recovery duties in Bay County.

Chair Gaetz thanked David Tipton and Jennifer Davidson, the Board CPAs, for being at the meeting and noted that their business location was directly affected but they had been able to complete their obligations to the Board in the aftermath of the storm.

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Mr. Stephen Riggs, IV thanked the Tipton. Marler CPA firm for their work under stressful circumstances and then presented the Treasurer's Report. He noted that the report now breaks out the two contracts with Clark Partington Law Firm for General Services and Special Services as the Board has now engaged the firm for Special Services related to the Pensacola Airport proposal. The Board has spent less than its budget year to date.

Mr. Shoaf made a motion to approve the September 2018 Financial Statement. Dr. Pam Dana seconded the motion. The motion was adopted without objection (5-0).

Mr. Riggs asked Mr. Scott Remington, Legal Counsel, to explain the issue related to changes to the incorporation document required by the IRS for Non-Profit Status. Mr. Remington explained that the IRS had asked for clarification on the document and that the Board had previously voted to allow Chair Gaetz to make any clarifications needed. He said that no Board action would be needed today, but that the administrative action would be addressed with the Chair after the meeting.

Chair Gaetz reported that while the Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. letters of agreement for General Services and Special Services had expired in August 2018, the Board and the firm had agreed to continue the working relationship on a month to month basis until new agreements could be executed. He noted that the Board now has a year's experience in working with the firm and knows more about the types of legal services that are required going forward. As a result, he said that there are three letters of agreement to be considered for Board action at this meeting. The first Letter of Agreement is for General Legal Services and would be for the same amount as the last agreement at \$100,000 per year in equal monthly payments. Mr. Remington said that the firm looked forward to renewing its relationship with the Board. The second Letter of Agreement is for Special Legal Services and would be triggered for complex or large proposals that require extensive legal services. The Special Legal Services would be capped at \$100,000 per year to be paid in equal monthly installments with complete hourly records kept by the firm. Chair Gaetz noted that both contracts contain language that any unusual use of legal services would be reported to the Board. The third Letter of Agreement is for Litigation Services and would be triggered in the event of legal action against the Board, or if the Board needed to take such action. The agreement would be discounted hourly rates based on which counsel would be necessary for the litigation. Mr. Remington indicated that he hoped these events would never occur, but that having the agreement would allow for preparedness moving forward.

Mr. Ben Lee made a motion to approve the General Services Letter of Agreement with Clark Partington Law Firm. Mr. Shoaf seconded the motion. The motion was adopted without objection (5-0).

Dr. Dana made a motion to approve the Special Services Letter of Agreement with Clark Partington Law Firm. Mr. Shoaf seconded the motion. The motion was adopted without objection (5-0).

Mr. Shoaf made a motion to approve the Litigation Services Letter of Agreement with Clark Partington Law Firm. Mr. Ben Lee seconded the motion. The motion was adopted without objection (5-0).

Mr. Remington provided a review of the Proposed Grant Award for Proposal #72 – Whiting Aviation Park Improvements for \$8,523,655. He noted that the Grant Award is in line with the Term Sheet Agreement previously approved by the Board. He said that the County has already agreed to the contract and that the contract is substantially similar to other infrastructure contract awards already made by Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. The contract contains a 100% clawback provision if the County fails to reach one of the three agreed to performance measures. The County will provide an additional \$1.3 million in incentive matching for tenants. If the County fails to provide that incentive match there will be an additional clawback of Triumph funds of a percentage of the difference between \$1.3 million and that amount of incentive actually paid. Economic Advisor Dr. Rick Harper said that all of the performance metrics were

arrived at with the agreement of the County. Dr. Dana said that staff worked seamlessly with the County and that the County has already accepted the terms of the contract. She said there was a little negotiation that occurred on the incentive money but overall this was a very smooth project. She recommended acceptance of the contract. Commissioner Salter, Santa Rosa County, and Mr. Shannon Ogletree, Santa Rosa Economic Development Officer thanked Dr. Dana and the Board for this good contract. Commissioner Salter noted that Santa Rosa County had deployed emergency assistance to the counties to the east in Washington County. He said that the media picked up on the initial approval of this proposal by Triumph Gulf Coast that generated a large amount of interest from the aviation industry that could become future tenants. Mr. Riggs asked who would monitor and evaluate the performance metrics on this proposal. Dr. Harper said that while this is the first situation where this will occur, he thought there should be an independent auditing process that could be done by a third party which could then be reviewed by himself that would verify the information. Mr. Riggs asked if he should proceed to identify outside auditing capabilities for the Board's consideration. Chair Gaetz said that he thought that would be a good idea. He asked Mr. Riggs to bring a proposal to the Board at the next meeting. Mr. Lee asked about the additional interest in the area. Mr. Ogletree said that this proposal is already driving contacts from not only aviation industry, but other economic development parties to his office.

Dr. Dana made a motion to approve, consistent with the staff's recommendation, the contract with Santa Rosa County for Proposal #172 – Whiting Aviation Park Improvements for \$8,523,655. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lee. The motion was approved on a roll call vote with Mr. Allan Bense excused and not voting (5-0).

Chair Gaetz explained to the Board that in the process of term sheet negotiations with the City of Pensacola on Proposal #120 – City of Pensacola Airport MRO Aviation Campus it became clear that while the City was the managing partner in moving the proposal forward, the corporation, VTMAE, would be responsible for achieving the required performance metrics. He said this recognition caused the need for two term sheets, one with the City and one with the corporation. He thanked legal counsel and Dr. Harper for their perseverance in working through the difficult issues involved in the negotiations across all parties. He then asked Mr. Remington and Dr. Harper to explain the term sheets.

Mr. Remington proceeded to provide a review of the City of Pensacola Term Sheet for Proposal #120 – City of Pensacola Airport MRO Aviation Campus for \$56 million. He said that some of the items that the Board wanted to include in the term sheet had evolved through the course of the negotiation. He highlighted three of those items: (1) commitment of existing funds currently under the control of Triumph Gulf Coast versus staging out commitment of funds from future tranches of awarded funds, (2) the funding payment schedule, and (3) changes to clawback requirements. He said Triumph Gulf Coast funds would be used as partial funding for construction of Hangars 2, 3, and 4 as well as warehouse shops and support facilities, administrative offices, aircraft taxiways, aircraft aprons, and automobile ingress and egress roadways.

The contingencies for Board approval require the City to have, by December 31, 2018, cash in hand or firm and enforceable commitments for funding for the entire planning and construction cost of Project Titan (\$210 million); that the construction manager at risk has provided a guaranteed maximum price and a budget no later than December 31, 2020. Subject to satisfaction of the contingencies, the full amount of Triumph Gulf Coast funding, \$56 million, will be available for disbursement as of the date of the Grant Award Agreement from uncommitted funds currently held by Triumph Gulf Coast. Mr. Remington noted that this condition is a change

from the Board's previous discussion, but it was necessary for the City to obtain funding from other sources to have the money to be viewed as available funds. The funding mechanism and schedule are different from the originally discussed method. He said the original understanding was that the funding would be linear and when Hangar 2 work was completed, funds could be spent for Hangar 3, and so forth. That model was not how the work schedule was planned to go forward, with several projects scheduled to move forward concurrently. For that reason, the funding from Triumph Gulf Coast will never exceed 35% of the current construction costs throughout the duration of the project with the total funding from Triumph Gulf Coast at the end of the project not to exceed 27% of the total cost of construction.

Chair Gaetz noted that the impact of the change in funding is that the opportunity cost of committing the \$56 million from the original Triumph Gulf Coast funding means that those funds will not be available for expenditure on other proposals. While he believes that the trade off is necessary, he wanted to clarify for all present that this commitment takes funding away from other proposals across the region in the near term or if future legislatures do not allow Triumph funding to go forward. Mr. Remington noted that while the funds will be encumbered now, the first payment of Triumph Gulf Coast funds is not expected to be made until the first quarter of 2020. Mr. Shoaf noted that the documents still show a \$5 million shortfall. Mr. Remington agreed and said the City has until December 31, 2018 to produce that shortfall amount. He said if the shortfall is not met on our timeline, the Triumph Gulf Coast Grant Award would be subject to cancellation. In response to a question by Mr. Shoaf, Mr. Riggs confirmed that these funds would be restricted from other uses if the terms are accepted regardless of future actions of the legislature. Mr. Lee asked if the \$35 million being pledged by VTMAE will be put in escrow, and whether other project partners are being held to the same standards as Triumph Gulf Coast. Mr. Remington replied that VTMAE funds would be escrowed or held in trust somewhere. He said legislative and DOT commitments are at the pleasure of the legislature, but the City was comfortable with those partners' commitments. Mr. Riggs said that Triumph Gulf Coast has the ability to require some level of commitment by other partners pursuant to the proposed terms and if the Board is not comfortable, the contract would not move forward. Chair Gaetz noted that language in the contract allows for automatic termination if funding is not in place by December 31, 2018. Dr. Dana asked if the Governor's Jobs Growth Fund was under the same payout schedule as Triumph Gulf Coast. Mr. John Daniel, Counsel for the City of Pensacola, indicated that the Jobs Growth grant funds would be set aside for exclusive use for the project, as well, but are not "lockboxed." He noted that the problem with needing to commit the full amount of Triumph Gulf Coast funds was a result of banking institutions refusal to take on the risk of future funding availability if something were to impact the funding source. Chair Gaetz noted that there should be two additional payments from the settlement agreement prior to the first payout of funds to the project.

Mr. Remington noted that the new payment schedule will be reimbursed as needed within the constraints of the 35% and 27% limits. He said that clawback provisions will remain at 100% if any fraud or misrepresentation takes place by the City, but on the performance metrics side, there is a tiered clawback that will be guaranteed by VTMAE through its lease with the City and with a separate written guarantee with Triumph Gulf Coast. He then asked Dr. Harper to explain the performance metrics in the contract.

Dr. Harper explained that Santa Rosa and Escambia Counties make up 49% of the population in the eight-county region and will provide most of the workforce for the project. Triumph Gulf Coast funding will make it possible to bring approximately 1325 new well-paying jobs to the region. Approximately 4500 new indirect jobs will be created as a result of the proposed investment. He said that while the \$56 million is a large investment, it is a very good investment

in the region at a time when the jobs are desperately needed. He said it is a turnkey project and very well suited to the statutory mission of Triumph Gulf Coast as the facilities that will house the aviation industry partners will be publicly owned. He said that the proposed term sheet separates the expected 1325 jobs into two tiers with $\frac{3}{4}$ of the new jobs to be created within three years of beneficial occupancy of Hangar 4 with a minimum maintenance period of three years. The additional $\frac{1}{4}$ of the new jobs will be part of a spool up period and must be in place within three years of the end of the maintenance period for the first-tier jobs and maintained for a minimum of four years at that level. This formula allows for a seven-year guarantee period for the 1325 net new jobs. The corporate partner (ST Engineering as parent company of VTMAE) has verbally agreed to these terms with a clawback provision fashioned after the original IREF agreement with the company that funded Hangar 1. He said that he believes that the clawback is robust and meets Triumph Gulf Coast needs. Mr. Shoaf asked for a further description of the clawback. Dr. Harper said there would be two contracts. One with the City of Pensacola and one with ST Engineering (VTMAE). The city contract would provide that the City would be responsible for payment of legally allowable costs of any litigation (50% of costs) if needed. The contract with the private entity requires meeting performance metrics in job creation as specified in each and every year. The penalty for failure to meet the performance metrics each year is to repay \$42,000 per job for the number of jobs not met in that year. He said that the clawback is more robust than a proportional clawback. Mr. John Daniel noted that the term sheet explains the provision on page 10. Mr. Remington said he would need to take a closer look at the issue before answering further. The Chair asked counsel to confer and called a 15-minute recess at 12:32 p.m. CT.

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Chair Gaetz called the meeting back to order at 12:48 p.m. CT. Mr. Remington said there are two separate job requirements in the contract, tier one and tier two job requirements. The tier one jobs must be maintained annually for three years. If the job number falls short in any of the three years, there would be a clawback owed. If the company fell short in the first year it would owe \$42,000 for each job below the minimum number of required jobs. If it missed its goal by the exact number of jobs in year two, it would owe the same amount of money but would get credit in that amount for payment in year one. If the company fell short of more jobs in year two than in year one, it would owe \$42,000 for each of the jobs above the number paid in year one. There would not be a credit given for exceeding the required number of jobs in year two to offset the amount already paid in year one. The same is true for year three on the tier one jobs. For the tier two jobs, there is a four-year period where the required jobs are created. At the end of the four-year period the company would have to pay the full \$42,000 per job for any job not created. There is no credit given for having created tier one jobs in the tier two performance requirement. Mr. Remington said that the job creation will be guaranteed through the City's lease with the company. In addition, VTMAE has agreed to corporately guarantee the job creation to Triumph Gulf Coast directly through a separate direct contract. Chair Gaetz asked if Triumph Gulf Coast would have a right to leased funds as a third-party beneficiary. Mr. Remington said the right would be to litigation assistance from the City. He noted that an additional provision of the direct contract would be to commit Triumph Gulf Coast and VTMAE to work cooperatively to create an aviation training academy. Chair Gaetz noted that if there was a dissolution of Triumph Gulf Coast during the course of the contract, the Board could assign our rights and obligations to the State of Florida.

Dr. Harper explained that there are two term sheets. The VTMAE term sheet is currently being considered by the parent company ST Engineering at its Board meeting in Singapore. It is hoped that the term sheet will be agreed to and signed at that meeting this week. Chair Gaetz

asked if there might be some adjustments to the term sheet regarding the spool up period for creating jobs. Dr. Harper indicated that he believes the corporation would like to extend the period for the purpose of creating an "Airman Academy" to provide classroom and hands on training and provide Airframe and Power Plant certifications to students and be open to students who plan to apply for jobs at any aviation facility and provide for FAA testing that would also be open to any student needing that service. He said that the model would have students take classroom and on the job training while employed at VTMAE which would require a longer than normal training period. The company would like to have further conversation about the timeframes, curriculum and partnership model with Triumph Gulf Coast. He said that the educational component will involve modeling that Dr. Frank Fuller could work with the company on. He said he believed that the education component could be addressed conditionally once the term sheet is executed. There was a question about what the length of the spool up period should be relative to the company's request to create the Airman Academy.

Prior to the Board's consideration of the two term sheets, Mr. Remington reiterated that while the term sheets are non-binding, any changes that might come forward would be put before the Board for consideration if and when Grant Award Agreements are discussed. He noted that all documents relevant to the agreements must be signed concurrently.

Mr. Riggs made a motion that subject to the return of an executed term sheet from VTMAE within the next 72 hours, a term sheet between Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. and the City of Pensacola for Proposal #120 be approved and executed by Chair Gaetz. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lee. Chair Gaetz called for public comment. Mr. David Penzone, representing the City of Pensacola, thanked the Board for its action, but asked that a longer period be allowed for meeting the 72-hour deadline. Mr. Shoaf asked why the 72-hour deadline would be a problem. Chair Gaetz noted that the company has had the term sheet for some time and that there shouldn't be a problem with the timeframe. **Based on the discussion, the motion was amended to allow for the term sheet with VTMAE to be executed by close of business on October 30, 2018. On a roll call vote, the motion passed with Mr. Bense absent and not voting (5-0).**

Chair Gaetz said that he was pleased to be working with VTMAE and ST Engineering, the world leader in aviation MRO, and he has the highest regard for these companies. He said they have negotiated in good faith with Triumph Gulf Coast and that he looks forward to a successful partnership with the City of Pensacola and VTMAE.

Mr. Riggs made a motion to approve the term sheet with VTMAE for Proposal #120 subject to receiving a signed term sheet identical to the one before the Board at this meeting, with an allowance for an adjustment of the spool up period for up to 24 months, from VTMAE on or before close of business on October 30, 2018. Mr. Lee seconded the motion. Chair Gaetz asked for any public comment on the motion. No one from the public spoke on the motion. **On a roll call vote, the motion passed with Mr. Bense absent and not voting (5-0).**

Ms. Henderson reported that staff continues to meet with applicants, pre-applicants and interested parties and is working on responses to inquiries from the Auditor General's Office. She reported that the Oyster Industry Working Group has held one meeting at the end of September. She said that 164 pre-applications and 51 applications have been received to date. The applications total over \$471 million of requested funding. She noted that one of the applications was from the Franklin County School Board for an innovative certification and training program that will come to the Board for consideration at this meeting.

Mr. Shoaf reported that after the storm, things are uncertain in the oyster industry and assessments are ongoing. He said that the working group meeting was very productive with representation from all eight counties, including groups that want to restore the wild oyster beds and groups that want to kickstart the oyster aquaculture industry in the region. He said he hopes to be able to report back to the Board at the next meeting on the environmental and economic impacts to the oyster industry across the region so that proposals can be re-evaluated if needed.

Ms. Henderson reported that staff has reached out to all four of Triumph Gulf Coast's current Grantees to determine storm impacts on the awarded projects. She said that Wakulla School District and Okaloosa County reported no impacts to their projects. The Bay County School District has reported that Haney Technical School has suffered significant damage and we will be working with them to determine needs as they complete their storm assessments. The Port of Panama City indicated that the work funded by Triumph Gulf Coast had not yet commenced so that the project was not impacted. Chair Gaetz asked the Board for flexibility in dealing with the Bay County School District if the assessments cause them to have difficulty reaching their performance metrics on the agreed to timeline. Mr. Lee noted that Port of Panama City has resumed operations and is receiving its first ship call today. He said the Port is aware of the importance of keeping its customers, and that he is very proud of Triumph Gulf Coast's partnership with the Port as it works through this difficult time. Chair Gaetz asked staff to let Bay County School District and Haney Technical School know that Triumph Gulf Coast will work with them as they recover.

Ms. Henderson reported that Triumph Gulf Coast's presence and activities are being recognized in regional publications focusing on economic development. She said that there will be additional letters will be coming forward to applicants that do not appear to qualify for funding at this time.

Chair Gaetz recognized Dr. Frank Fuller, Triumph Gulf Coast Education Subject Matter Expert, to present Proposal #157 – Franklin County School District – Franklin Environmental Career and Technical Training in the amount of \$2,327,322 representing 70% of the total project cost. Dr. Fuller noted that Ms. Rhonda Griffin, representing the Franklin County School Board, was attending the meeting on behalf of the proposal. He went on to describe the proposal as a major commitment from a rural school district to provide CAPE certifications for 800 students over the project period. The areas of focus are medical academy to support nursing, welding, computer technology for elementary through high school, and drone operations. He noted that Franklin County is graduating students from high school with AA degrees. The district is aiming to graduate as many as 20% of their students with AA degrees in the next three years. Dr. Fuller said given the scope of the proposal in a rural school district is encouraging and he recommends moving this proposal forward to term sheet negotiations. Ms. Griffin thanked the Board for consideration and said that the district is excited for the opportunity to partner with Triumph Gulf Coast. She said that the school system has made great strides in turning around a failing situation. She noted that for the first time in eleven years, the administrative staff has returned for a subsequent school year, the district has increased its graduation rate from 45% to 70% in the last three years and increased the number of students graduating with AA degrees from zero to 19.6%. She said that under this proposal, IT certifications will be offered as early as kindergarten in ten categories. At the middle school level, offerings will expand to include culinary arts and food safety, and basic nursing such as CPR and first aid. Nursing will expand at advanced levels with EKG and CNA training. She said the welding program will provide industry standard exams for certification and the district has a long-term goal of adding carpentry. Dr. Dana asked if Franklin County supports this proposal. Ms. Griffin said the County

is not opposed to the proposal but has chosen not to give approval to any proposals from this round at this time. Chair Gaetz asked Dr. Harper if the jobs being trained for are jobs that are needed in the region. Dr. Harper said that the cost for certificate earned, at just less than \$3000 per certificate, is reasonable given the need for these skills in the region. Dr. Fuller recommended that the performance period be extended to three and one-half years because of the storm impacts.

Mr. Shoaf made a motion, consistent with staff recommendations, to move Proposal #157 to term sheet negotiations with the Franklin County School District with a performance period of three and one-half years. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lee. Chair Gaetz asked if there was anyone from the public that wished to comment on the proposal. No one from the public came forward. **On a roll call vote with Mr. Bense absent and not voting, the motion passed (5-0).**

As the Board moved into a discussion of the impacts of Hurricane Michael on Triumph Gulf Coast Counties Chair Gaetz reiterated the Board's actions at this meeting to provide flexibility to Haney Technical Center in Bay County in meeting its agreed to performance goals and to extend the performance goals timeline for the Franklin County Schools proposal for an extra year. He said that as good neighbors and good stewards, it will be important moving forward for the Board to take into consideration the extreme conditions faced in the counties which have been declared federal disaster areas (Bay, Gulf, Franklin and Wakulla.) He said as time goes on, and the recovery moves forward, the jobs that Triumph Gulf Coast is commissioned to induce and create will be more needed than ever. He said understanding will be needed as we work with our applicants. He suggested that the counties that were declared as disaster areas may want to reprioritize their projects for consideration of their communities. He said that the role of Triumph Gulf Coast should not be to replace insurance companies or FEMA and their proper roles in the recovery but should focus on the job creation needs of the affected communities as they seek to rebuild their economies.

Mr. Shoaf said that while it will take more time to give a full assessment in his community, almost every home in Port St. Joe and almost every business has sustained major damage. He said he did not know when or if businesses will be able to reopen. He said it may take several months to understand the total economic impact on Gulf County and that he is not sure even how to quantify the losses yet, but that he believes that the priorities in Gulf County have probably changed. He said that Triumph Gulf Coast's support could make the difference in bringing the economy back over the coming years.

Mr. Lee said that his community was destroyed. While the beaches to the west were not too affected, but the rest of the county needs help. He said that the offer to allow the county to reopen the conversation about what is most needed is important and greatly appreciated.

Chair Gaetz said that building something new a few weeks ago may have sounded like a great idea, but today it might be more important to rebuild something that has been lost.

Mr. Riggs said he had spoken with people from affected counties and he does believe that priorities have changed and that folks are going to face struggles with lack of housing, reduced property values, rebuilding school systems and public safety infrastructure. He said that allowing counties to re-evaluate their needs will be important. Dr. Dana concurred and said such action is the right thing to do.

Chair Gaetz asked Mr. Remington to communicate by letter, and otherwise, with the counties.

Mr. Shoaf said that at the next meeting there will be a better understanding of what can be done.

Councilman Parker Destin, City of Destin, spoke against limiting beach access for the public in Walton and Okaloosa Counties. He said the city is trying to find willing private sellers to place beach access back into public hands. He asked the Board to focus on proposals that are generational in nature.

Jessica Bibza, National Wildlife Federation, spoke about the importance of supporting resilient infrastructure proposals so that jobs are not lost in the future. She pointed to the oyster restoration proposals as supported.

John Holdnak, President of Gulf Coast State College, said that his school is committed to getting back on its feet and serving the community. He said that initial estimates show that approximately 30% of his faculty (including himself) have uninhabitable homes at this point. He said one employee has already left the community and he is afraid that others will follow. He said the work that Triumph Gulf Coast is doing is critical. He said that for the last few years, he had been totally focused on new business, but that focus has totally changed to focus on how to put the community back to work. He said many businesses will not recover and there needs to be a focus on replacing those businesses and jobs. He said the north Bay campus is being used as a base of operations for approximately 3000 first responders, and the school radio station was the only local station that was able to stay on the air throughout the storm. He said that he is committed to be sure that all 8000 students will be able to finish the semester and those that are ready to graduate will be able to graduate on time.

Amanda Negrón, Executive Director of the Hsu Foundation, said that her organization has been working with its education partners in the area to hold a "big tent event" to raise funds for putting STEM programs back in place in the affected communities. She thanked Triumph Gulf Coast for serving as the catalyst for getting groups to work together.

Mr. Lee said Representative Neal Dunn asked him to tell the group that Tyndall Air Force Base will be back. He went on to say that the importance of operating as a region has become clear and he wanted to say thank you to everyone across the region and the nation for its support in this devastating time of need. He said the proposals approved today are the types of stories that will bring the economy back to our region.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m. CT.

Public Comment

Adjourn