

21ST CENTURY PARTNERSHIP FOUNDATION, INC

MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 8, 2022, 11:00AM, ROBERT F. HATCHER, SR CONFERENCE CENTER,

MIDDLE GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY, MACON, GA

PRESENT: Dan Slagle, Ivan Allen, Malcolm Burgess, Charlie Cantrell, Roy Fickling, Brad Fink, Todd Giddens, Toni Hannah, Dwight Jones, Robert Hatcher, Lester Miller, Andi Mitchell, Jeremy Nelms, Christina O'Brien, LaRhonda Patrick, Bob Walker, John Kubinec, Dan Rhoades, Jamie Cook, Debra Cox, and Lori Freeman

ABSENT: Mark Byrd, Dr. Penny Elkins, Gary Garrard, Kirby Godsey, George Greer, Todd Kinnebrew, Randy Meade, Emily Myers, Marlan Nichols, Dr. Mark Scott, Chris Sheridan, Tommy Stalnaker, Rob Brooks, Eddie Wiggins,

GUEST: Dr. Henry Childs, Angie Gheesling, Col Don Layne, Laura Mathis, Chrissy Miner, Dan Perdue, Chairman Ned Sanders

The 21st Century Partnership Board Meeting was called to order by Chairman Dan Slagle at 11:25 AM.

Chairman Slagle recognized Ned Sanders, past Chairman of the Houston County Board of Commissioners, Dan Perdue, Chairman-Elect Houston County Board of Commissioners, board members Dwight Jones and Bob Hatcher, as we were meeting in the Charles H. Jones Science Building of the Robert F. Hatcher, Sr. Conference Center.

Dr. Ivan Allen gave the invocation and Chairman Slagle led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Brief introductions were given by those in attendance.

21st Century Partnership President/CEO, John Kubinec acknowledged Ned Sanders and his service in the military and Don Layne, Col USAF, Ret as the new Chief Operating Officer of GA VECTR Center.

John Kubinec gave an update on the Build Back Better Grant and how the 21st Century Partnership, in conjunction with Angie Gheesling- Middle Georgia Innovation Project, Laura Mathis- Middle Georgia Regional Commission, and Fort Valley State University, worked together to hopefully bring funding to the Middle Georgia Innovation Project and STEM alliance. If granted, this grant would provide funding for opportunities with a software, robotics, and STEM focus.

John Kubinec also gave an update on the President's budget impacts on Robins Air Force Base and the state of the future missions for Robins AFB. The partnership has had a role in advocating to the Air Force leadership to ensure Robins Air Force Base is positioned well to receive future missions. New leadership was announced for the Air Force Material Command (AFMC), Air Force Sustainment Center (AFSC), and the Robins Air Logistics Complex (WR-ALC)

Dan Rhoades gave an update on Robins Air Force Base/Middle Georgia Regional Commission (MGRC) Sustainability Plan. The initial draft study areas have been reviewed by working groups and drafts should be available to the community leaders in the fall time frame. There are 7 focus areas with an expectation of seeing recommendations on housing, healthcare, and crime.

Jamie Cook gave an update on the Middle Georgia STEM Alliance. The First Robotics Competition (FRC) held the State Championship at Mercer University on April 8-9, 2022, where several middle Georgia leaders spoke. The Houston County team went on to the semifinals. Jamie Cook also spoke on Project Synergy's 2nd year of summer internships and "Reality U" events the partnership team has been involved in.

John Kubinec gave an update on the FY 2022 Budget and Fundraising. John Kubinec recognized our new sponsors for 2022 and thanked our continued supporters. The new donation capability on the 21st Century Partnership website was shared with the group as well.

Dan Slagle thanked the staff for being dedicated and engaging and using their unique talents, making a great team.

Dan Slagle adjourned the meeting at 12:28 pm.