Chamber Education Committee / Business Advisory Council Minutes
October 27, 2026

Location Host: Beaver Excavating, 2000 Beaver Place Ave. SW, Canton, OH 44706

Attendance:

Karen Abel Jepsen	Emil Alecusan	Krista Allison	Rick Baxter	Marty Bowe
Shawn Braman	JoAnn Breedlove	Joe Chaddock	Jeff Dafler	Chris DiLoreto
Shaun Eller	Sharla Elton	Brent Fatzinger	Lada Gibson-Shreve	Chris Goff
Robert Gress	Mike Hearn	Lori Howerton	Gary Kandel	Melinda Kapalko
Jennifer Kessel	Susan Koosh	Eugene Lingenhoel	Alex Logan	Dan Lowmiller
Robert McBride	Adam McKenzie	Dan Murphy	John Richard	Samantha Rodgers
Tiffany Rogers	Carrie Stroup	Nathan Stutz	Lisa Talbert	Stephanie Werren
Matt Whitted	Brett Yeagley	Matt Ziders	Megan McCartney	Mark Sterling

1. **Call to Order. Welcome and Approval of the Agenda and 9/22 Minutes**
   Chairman Robert McBride, Ennis Britton LLC, LPA, called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. Robert requested a motion to approve the 9/22 minutes. Dan Murphy made the motion to approve the minutes, and Joe Chaddock seconded. Upon being put to a vote, the motion carried.

2. **Beaver Excavating Welcome and Presentation – Samantha Rodgers, Talent & Development Manager; Megan McCartney, Talent Development Coordinator**.
   Samantha Rodgers welcomed committee members to Beaver and introduced Megan McCartney, a talent development coordinator on her team. Megan described skilled trade apprenticeships as paid, on-the-job training, with potential paths info field supervision and other roles. Megan stated that college students can pursue co-ops and internships leading to full-time roles in project engineering, project management, surveying, safety, and related areas. Megan highlighted that high school job-shadows and partnerships with schools and career programs help students explore the industry. Samantha stated Beaver was founded in 1953 by Don Sterling and in the 1980's his son Mark took over Today, Mark's children. Matt and Betsy Sterling, oversee operations. With headquarters in Canton, Beaver has 5 other offices, located in Columbus, Toledo, Pittsburg, PA, Morgantown, WV and Raleigh, North Carolina with a workforce of 600 employees. Samantha described the company's civil and vertical construction work, regional footprint, and skilled-trade workforce, and highlighted its safety team, equipment maintenance, and ongoing training and development. Samantha introduced Mark Sterling who reported substantial

growth and difficulty finding enough people to support current work; the company is investing in recruiting, mentoring, and training.

3. **Parent Engagement discussion – John Richard, President, Stark Education Partnership. *** This discussion was deferred to next month**.**

4. **Adjourn.**
   With no other business, Robert McBride adjourned the meeting at 1:00pm. A tour was offered to attendees.