

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF
DIRECTORS MEETING
MARYLAND INNOVATION INITIATIVE (MII)**

May 21, 2026

1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Cured 18th & 21, 10980 Grantchester Way, Columbia, MD 21044

Participating Board Members:

Renee Winsky, MII Board Chair
Christina DeMur
Francesca Ioffreda
Wendy Martin
Mary Morris
Wayne Swann
Carol Washington

Absent Board Member:

Ken Porter

Participating TEDCO Staff

Silvia Goncalves, MII
Valery Gutierrez, MII
Abishek Kulshreshtha, Executive Director MII
Jalaycia Lewis, MII
Griffin St. Louis, MII

Office of Attorney General (“OAG”)

Jigita Patel, TEDCO Counsel, OAG

Guest(s)

Dean Chang

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:35 p.m.

II. TEDCO Updates & MII Chair’s Report

R. Winsky shared that Ira Schwartz has retired from his position with the Office of the Attorney General. All attendees participated in a round of introductions to welcome Jigita Patel, who has taken over as Interim General Counsel. R. Winsky informed the Board that there have been several changes in leadership and positions within TEDCO: Alex Choi is no longer with the Government Relations department, Tammi Thomas has been promoted to President, Geyssel Gonzalez is now the Chief Financial and Technology Officer since Terry Rauh’s departure months ago, a Vice President of Marketing position was created and filled, and there are several other open positions in Marketing and in Government Relations.

III. MII Management Report

A. Kulshreshtha having no new updates, deferred to R. Winsky to move on to the next agenda item.

IV. Closed Session: 5/21/2026

Statements for Closing the Meeting

A motion was made and seconded that the Board go into closed session. The motion included the following:

STATUTORY AUTHORITY TO CLOSE SESSION

General Provisions Article §3-305(b)(1):

A public body may meet in closed session ... to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.

TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED: The MII board will discuss performance evaluations for individual MII staff, including recommended adjustments to compensation and assignment.

REASON FOR CLOSING: The MII board believes that confidentiality is essential to protect sensitive information about individual staff performance evaluation and compensation. A closed session is deemed necessary to protect privacy of MII staff.

General Provisions Article §3-103(a)(1)(i):

This subtitle does not apply to ... a public body when it is carrying out ... an administrative function.

TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED: The discussion will concern a review of operational and related considerations impacting the administration of the MII.

REASONS FOR CLOSING: The Commission believes that the aforementioned administrative matters do not fall within the scope of coverage of the Open Meetings Act.

The motion was made by W. Martin, seconded by M. Morris, and passed unanimously with a roll call vote of all present Board Members. Ken Porter was absent. The Board went into a closed session at 1:41 p.m.

Persons Present in Closed Session: All participating Board members listed above and A. Kulshreshtha (for some time).

Topics Discussed in Closed Session: (1) MII Staff performance evaluations and (2) Operational and related considerations impacting the administration of MII with the increase in the MII budget for the fiscal year 2027.

Actions Taken in Closed Session: The Board of Directors unanimously approved salary, bonus and COLA adjustments for MII staff.

At 4:27 p.m. W. Martin moved and M. Morris seconded a motion to reopen the Closed Session which passed unanimously following a roll call vote of all present board members.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30pm.