

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

May 21, 2020
1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Participating Board Members:

Bob Hallenbeck, Chair
Julie Lenzer
Wendy Martin
Mary Morris
Renee Winsky, Vice Chair
Patrick Ho
Mary Beth Tung
Willie May

Participating TEDCO Staff

Stephen Auvil
Silvia Goncalves
Arti Santhanam
Tammi Thomas
Jody Sprinkle
Ira Schwartz, TEDCO Counsel

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:34 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes of March 12, 2020

The Board considered the minutes from the March 12, 2020 meeting.

III. Chairman's Report

Jody Sprinkle, TEDCO's Director of Government Relations, gave an overview of cuts being considered by the State of Maryland that may impact TEDCO Programs.

A discussion ensued on how cutbacks could impact the Program and the universities.

IV. Director's Report

A. Santhanam discussed the MII budget and remaining funds for the fiscal year.

A. Santhanam gave the Board an update on the recruitment progress for the Program Manager position.

The Board discussed how reopening labs at less than 100% capacity will affect the progress of the Phase 1 projects.

Statement 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 of the MD Code, Section 3-305(b)(5):

A public body may meet in closed session ... to consider the investment of public funds.

TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED: The MII board will discuss which pending grant applications to consider, given the rankings received and other relevant factors. The discussion might also relate to the characteristics of specific applications.

REASON FOR CLOSING: The MII board believes that confidentiality is essential to protect sensitive information about plans and processes that applicants divulge, to avoid a chilling effect on future submissions, and to enable candid discussion of how best to invest limited resources.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. The Board went into a closed session at 2:14 p.m. to consider and vote on various grant applications. Seven of the thirteen applications from the March 2020 submissions were recommended to the Board for consideration. In accordance with the provisions of the Maryland Public Ethics Law, Board members recused themselves from that portion of the discussion that pertained to applications from their own universities. The members then discussed and approved **eight** applications; the seven applications that were recommended plus a company that was below the recommendation line.

State Government Article §10-508(a)(1)(ii):

A public body may adjourn an open session to discuss “any . . . personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals”.

TOPIC TO BE DISCUSSED: The MII board will discuss matters underlying the recent departure of a specific program employee.

REASON FOR CLOSING: The MII Board believes that confidentiality is essential to protect sensitive information about the departed employee.

The meeting reopened at 3.15pm.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:24 p.m.