



March 25, 2024
401 E. Pratt Street, 17th Floor Conference Room
Baltimore
1:00 – 2:30pm
Minutes

Subcabinet:

Deputy Secretary Signe Pringle, for Kevin Anderson, Secretary, Department of Commerce, Chair
Kevin Atticks, Secretary, Department of Agriculture
Chief of Staff Rosa Cruz for Secretary Jake Day, Department of Housing & Community
Development, DHCD
Y. Maria Martinez, Special Secretary, Governor’s Office of Small, Minority, & Women Business
Affairs (GOSBA)
Deputy Secretary David Goshorn, PhD., for Joshua Kurtz, Secretary, Department of Natural
Resources (DNR)
Michael Higgs, Director, State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) – Virtual
Paul Wiedefeld, Secretary, Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT)
Deputy Chief of Staff, Ashley Sharp for Secretary Portia Wu, Department of Labor
Rebecca Flora, Secretary, Maryland Department of Planning (MDP) – Virtual
Deputy Secretary Michael Lore for Secretary Susan Lee, Secretary of State (SoS)
Deputy Secretary Suzanne Dorsey for Secretary Serena McIlwain, Department of Environment
(MDE)
Sanjay Rai, Secretary, Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC)

Guests:

Jonathan Daniels, Executive Director, Maryland Port Administration
Jerel Registre, Chief of Staff, Commerce
Heather Gramm, Assistant Secretary, Commerce
Julie Woepke, Executive Director, MEDC, Commerce
Jennifer LaHatte, Managing Director, OPRGA, Commerce – Virtual
Alexandria Lui, SoS
Eduard Hayden, GOSBA

I. Meeting called to Order

Deputy Secretary Signe Pringle called the meeting to order at 1:01pm.

I. Summary of Closed Session of February 26, 2024 Meeting

Deputy Secretary Signe Pringle provided a summary of the closed meeting of February 26, 2024.

II. Review and Approval of February 26, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the February 26, 2024 meeting were approved.

III. Chair's Update

Deputy Secretary Pringle provided updates on Commerce activities impacting or collaborating with other State Agencies. Among the items she discussed were the Department's Strategic Planning process, upcoming business development events, i.e. Preakness, BIO, ICSC, and international travel, and an update on the FBI relocation to Prince George's County. Secretary Wiedefeld added information on the progress of the transportation planning for the FBI. She concluded by noting the Department would be receiving additional funds for the Cannabis Assistance fund for small grants, and that the Department is working with the Maryland Stadium Authority regarding a soccer stadium.

IV. Maryland Port Administration Update

Secretary Wiedefeld then introduced Jonathan Daniels, the new Executive Director of the Maryland Port Administration. Mr. Daniels joined the Port on February 5th from Port Everglades, Florida.

Mr. Daniels began his discussion with an overview of the Port operations and economic impact. He stated that the Port is #1 in automobiles, roll on and roll off, sugar and steel imports and exports. He stated there are 15,000 direct jobs inside the gate, 33 private docks, and plans are underway to develop a 20 year Strategic Plan which is more environmentally friendly by using alternative fuels and energy. He reported that the cruise terminal handled 404,000 passengers in 2023.

He opened up the discussion to attendees. Among the items discussed included the dredging schedule; country of origin of the cranes; agriculture, waste management and infrastructure; workforce as it relates to hospitality and the cruises, and the longshoremen; increasing cruise lines; parking for cruise lines; and cruise ship rotation schedules. He concluded by stating that he is focused on making sure that Maryland and the Port are thinking strategically as a state.

V. Good of the Order

Deputy Secretary Michael Lore brought to the Subcabinet's attention the request by the City and SAIL250 for dredging in advance of the SAIL250 celebration in 2026. Deputy Chief of Staff Ashley Sharp discussed the apprenticeships with the International Longshoremen Association (ILA) Union 13, and hospitality apprenticeships. Other topics discussed included the need to have a national water cybersecurity plan, and increased collaboration on the national level.

VI. Adjournment

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 2:03pm.

