



May 13, 2024
401 E. Pratt Street, 17th Floor Conference Room
Baltimore
1:00 – 2:30pm
Minutes

Subcabinet:

Kevin Anderson, Secretary, Department of Commerce, Chair
Kevin Atticks, Secretary, Department of Agriculture (MDA)
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) – Virtual
Joshua Kurtz, Secretary, Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
David Zaidain, Chief Real Estate & Transit for Secretary, Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) - Virtual
Secretary Portia Wu, Department of Labor – Virtual
Rebecca Flora, Secretary, Maryland Department of Planning (MDP) – Virtual
Secretary Susan Lee, Secretary of State (SoS)
Secretary Serena McIlwain, Department of Environment (MDE)

Guests:

Andrew Tsui, The Jime Federation
Alexndria Lui, Office of SoS
Cathy Bauer, Office of SoS
Joseph Gebhardt, Office of SoS
Steve McHenry, Maryland Agriculture and Resource Based Industry Development Corporation (MARBIDCO) – Virtual
Mark Powell MDA – Virtual
Matthew Scales, MDA – Virtual
Jerel Registre, Chief of Staff, Commerce
Julie Woepke, Executive Director, MEDC, Commerce
Andrew Suibuy

I. Meeting called to Order

Secretary Kevin Anderson called the meeting to order at 1:05pm.

II. Review and Approval of March 25, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the March 25, 2024 meeting were approved.

III. Chair's Update

Secretary Kevin Anderson began his update by stating that he and other Secretaries had the opportunity last week to meet with the Deputy Chief of Staff Manny Welsh and the Governor at the Performance Improvement Cabinet. He stated the focus was on State Plan #3 on economic development data, identifying investments and actions needed to advance the State's economy. He explained he received clear feedback which will be translated into the work that the Subcabinet performs. Secretary Wu who participated in the meeting added that jobs will be the next focus and the importance of Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) in the conversation. Secretary Martinez also requested that in future, meetings related to Commerce and economic development that GOSBA be included.

Secretary Anderson then referenced the press release from the Governor on the ribbon cutting ceremony for Conair in Washington County and the importance of attracting jobs to this county which has seen a significant number of jobs losses in recent years.

IV. Business Development Updates

Mr. Jason Knott, Managing Director, Office of Business Attraction, Department of Commerce, reviewed recent Administration wins, existing pipeline of projects of business attraction and expansion opportunities, breakdown by region of the number and industry of the opportunities. Presentation on file.

Mr. Knott then answered questions from the Subcabinet.

V. Premium Seafood Discussion

Secretary Josh Kurtz then introduced Mr. Andrew Tsui, Founder and President, The Ike Jime Federation to provide an opportunity for the State to capitalize on its major asset – the Chesapeake Bay. Mr. Tsui provided background on how he became involved in the Federation and movement and provided examples of the unique technique to kill fish to produce a premium product. He stated the demand and profitability of the technique would position the state and commercial fisherman for increased revenues. He then described the technique, social media influence, wild caught vs farm raised fish, opportunities with restaurants and general public and noted policies both State and Federal that would need to be changed. Presentation on file.

Mr. Tsui answered questions from the Subcabinet. It was the consensus of the Subcabinet to support the concept. Secretary Kurtz stated he would work on the policy changes and other items listed and bring to the Subcabinet at a later date.

VI. Good of the Order

No addition information was shared among the Subcabinet members.

VII. Adjournment

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.