

**Maryland E-Nnovation Initiative Fund Authority**  
**Wednesday, June 21, 2023**  
**9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

**Call-In Number:**  
**(US) +1 650-667-2979 PIN: 884 969 626#**

The Maryland E-Nnovation Initiative Fund Authority (“MEIFA” or the “Authority”) convened a meeting via conference call at 9:02 a.m. on June 21, 2023. A quorum was present.

**Members:**

Renee Winsky, Chair, President & Founder, Bay One Group, LLC  
Troy Stovall, CEO, Maryland Technology Development Corporation (TEDCO)  
Stephen Auvil, Chief Federal Engagement Officer, TEDCO  
Sarah Sheppard, Designee of the Secretary, Maryland Department of Commerce  
Michele Masucci, Vice Chancellor, Economic Development, Designee of the Chancellor, University System of Maryland  
Jack Miner, Chief Investment Officer, TEDCO

**Staff, Guests, and Representatives:**

Barbara Kountz, Deputy Counsel to Maryland Department of Commerce,  
Assistant Attorney General  
Thornette Simpson, Grants Manager, Maryland Department of Commerce  
Jaime Cacciola, Hood College  
David Gurzick, Hood College  
PJ Hogan, Cornerstone Government Affairs

**Call Meeting to Order:**

Chair Winsky called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

**Roll Call: Introduction of Authority Members and Others in Attendance:**

Ms. Winsky initiated a roll call for Members, staff, and guests in attendance. Those in attendance: Ms. Winsky, Ms. Sheppard, Mr. Auvil, Mr. Miner, Vice Chancellor Masucci, Mr. Stovall, Ms. Kountz, Ms. Simpson, Ms. Cacciola, Dr. Gurzick, and Mr. Hogan.

**Review and Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:**

After motion duly made and seconded, the Authority members unanimously approved the minutes for the open session of the meeting held on May 3, 2023.

## **Hood College – Delaplaine/Maryland Endowed Chair of Project Management - Discussion on Request to Modify Research Endowment Plan:**

Dr. Gurzick requested to modify the tenure-track position to a recurring or visiting, two-year appointment of the FY 2019 awarded Endowed Chair of Project Management and to change the name of the Delaplaine/Maryland Endowed Chair of Business and Project Management. Mr. Auvil raised concerns over attracting talent and Ms. Sheppard gave background on other institutions that have done something similar to this in the past. Ms. Sheppard also stated that this would need to be a policy decision for the Authority to decide as the intent of the MEIF is to retain or attract star talent. Mr. Stovall raised the point that this will be something that we may need to consider for the smaller institutions.

Dr. Gurzick stated that the program would benefit as it will bring in new individuals that are experts in their field, making this Chair an ideal vehicle to cultivate innovation. After limited discussion and upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Authority members unanimously approved the conversion to a two-year visiting appointment and the requested name change. Mr. Miner affirmed the idea of entrepreneurs in residence while also incorporating the Chair into the classroom. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Authority members unanimously approved the requested modifications.

### **MEIF Updates:**

Ms. Sheppard shared and discussed with the Authority the FY 2024 Budget.

Ms. Sheppard shared and discussed with the Authority suggested edits of COMAR 24.05.22. The Authority reviewed and discussed potential updates to the MEIF regulations. The Authority discussed putting together an FAQ for further clarity and past policy decisions. Ms. Sheppard will work on a consolidated report for the Authority to review. Ms. Sheppard will submit the proposed regulatory changes to the nonprofit institutions of higher education for public comment. Once Ms. Sheppard receives public comment, the Authority will vote on the proposed changes prior to submission to the Maryland General Assembly.

### **Approval of Closed Session**

At 10:30 a.m., Chair Winsky stated a vote was required to close the meeting to discuss applications which contain confidential information. At Chair Winsky's request, Ms. Kountz stated, the statutory reasons for closing the meeting were §3-305(b)(13) and (b)(7) of the Open Meetings Act, (a) to comply with a specific statutory requirement that prevents public disclosure about a particular proceeding or matter, and (b) to consult with legal counsel with respect to legal matters with respect to such applications and an amendment request. It was noted that the applications include financial information of private individuals (donors and confidential information from the nonprofit institutions of higher education, which is information protected from disclosure under §4-336 of the Maryland Public Information Act. It was further noted that Chair Winsky had signed the Presiding Officer's Written Statement for Closing a Meeting under the Open Meetings Act, which is attached to these minutes as an Exhibit.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously,

RESOLVED, that the Authority move into Closed Session in accordance with §3-305(b)(13) and (b)(7) of the Open Meetings Act (OMA), to discuss the revision of a research endowment plan, which includes financial information of private individuals, confidential information of the nonprofit institutions of higher education, and to consult with legal counsel with respect to legal matters with respect to such applications.

Chair Winsky then proceeded with the roll call. The following members of the Authority were present during the closed session: Chair Winsky, Ms. Sheppard, Mr. Auvil, Mr. Miner, Mr. Stovall, and Ms. Masucci. Ms. Kountz, and Ms. Simpson also remained for the closed session.

At 11:34 a.m., the Authority returned to open session.

### **Announcement of Authority Actions/Decisions During Closed Session**

- Bowie State University - Cyber-Entrepreneurship Innovation Research Endowment Plan, \$500,000, DECLINED
- John Hopkins University - James Carey Endowed Professorship in the Center for Digital Health and Artificial Intelligence (CDHAI), \$1,000,000, APPROVED
- John Hopkins University - Pickens Endowed Professorship in Ophthalmology, \$1,500,000, APPROVED
- Loyola University Maryland - Endowed Professorship in Innovation, \$1,000,000, APPROVED
- University of Maryland Baltimore – J. Marc and Philippe Simard Neurosurgery Research Lab Endowment, \$750,000, APPROVED
- University of Maryland Baltimore – Karen J. Ivers, D.D.D. Endowed Professor in Bioengineering, \$1,500,000, APPROVED
- University of Maryland Baltimore - Woodside Professorship-School of Social Work, \$500,000, APPROVED

**Date of Next MEIF Application Deadline:** November 1, 2023

**Date of Next MEIF Authority Meeting:** November 28, 2023

**Date of Next NPIHE Annual Report Deadline:** November 15, 2023

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made, duly seconded, and unanimously approved at 12:00 p.m.

APPROVED:



---

Renee M. Winsky, Chair

Date: November 28, 2023