



Monday, September 12, 2022

This was a virtual meeting

Meeting ID [meet.google.com/jeb-duaq-wze](https://meet.google.com/jeb-duaq-wze)

Phone Numbers (US)+1 414-882-6578 PIN: 382 219 940#

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

## Meeting Minutes

### Attendees:

Mike Gill  
William Beckman  
Suzy Ganz  
Bobby Patton  
Katarina Ennerfelt  
Greg Maxwell  
Jim Strong  
Kelly Koermer

Maryland Department of Commerce  
Iron Workers #5  
Lion Brothers  
Patton Electronics  
Arcon Welding  
Northrop Grumman Corporation  
United Steelworkers District 8  
Carroll Community College

### Notable Guest(s)

Jim Rzeprowski  
Mike Kelleher

Maryland Department of Labor  
MD MEP

### Commerce Staff:

Heather Gramm  
Todd Sabin  
Julie Woepke  
Patrick Wynn

### I. Call to Order

At 3:00 p.m. Heather Gramm, in the absence of a Chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed members and guests.

### II. Secretary of Commerce Remarks

Secretary Gill gave opening remarks and welcomed members and guests.

### III. Review and Approval of June 27, 2022 Minutes

Upon motion made by Suzy Ganz and seconded by Will Beckman, the minutes of the June 27, 2022 MMAB meeting were approved.

#### **IV. Maryland Manufacturing Updates – Todd Sabin**

Todd Sabin provided an update on the state of manufacturing in Maryland. The U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) released state jobs and unemployment data today. According to the preliminary survey data, Maryland added 12,000 jobs and the unemployment rate decreased to 3.9% in July. This is the lowest unemployment rate since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Manufacturing added 1,000 jobs.

He also noted recent announcements in manufacturing attraction and business expansion including Nordic Unmanned (attraction) and Hughes Network Systems (expansion), and the recent announcement of Xometry donating to CCBC to fund 57 scholarships for CCBC students.

#### **V. Transforming Maryland Manufacturing Workgroup (Suzy Ganz/Todd Sabin)**

Suzy Ganz summarized the September meeting which focused on providing recommendations on capital, workforce, and regulations. Todd Sabin gave an overview of possible recommendations from the workgroup which may include: financial support for manufacturers, improving the perception of manufacturing, statewide training programs to address skill gaps, other regulatory and statutory changes, and develop private public partnerships to fund curriculum development.

Todd Sabin continued with an update on the Maryland Manufacturing 4.0 Grant Program. The program was launched in late August and several applications have been received. The window for applications closes on October 7<sup>th</sup>. A review team is being assembled for the review process.

#### **VI. Maryland Department of Labor and The American Rescue Plan Good Jobs Challenge (James Rzepkowski)**

James Rzepkowski, Assistant Secretary, Maryland Department of Labor, presented on the Department of Labor's award of over \$22 million from EDA's Good Jobs Challenge for their Maryland Works for Wind application to invest in workforce development to support the emerging offshore wind industry. The application included 22 subrecipients, more than 50 letters of support, will impact 18 of Maryland's 24 jurisdictions, and will strategically leverage more than \$30 million. EDA received over 509 applications with 32 awardees being selected with the anticipation of \$500 million being awarded to result in 50,000 job placements. The grant period for Labor is September 1, 2022 through December 31, 2025. More than 4,300 individuals are expected to benefit from training opportunities.

#### **VII. Discussion on the role of the MMAB for the New Administration (Heather Gramm)**

Heather Gramm began a discussion asking members for recommendations on transitioning the MMAB over to the new administration. Secretary Gill suggested looking at manufacturing progress in other states like Tennessee and South Carolina. Suzy Ganz mentioned how the

Maryland Economic Development Corporation referenced the MMAB was highlighted in their annual report, and we may want to create an Executive Summary on manufacturing for the new administration, including contribution by revenue. Julie Woepke noted that the MEDC recommended the creation of the MMAB in 2016 and suggested we could look back to 2016 to see where we came from in regard to economic impact. Bobby Patton suggested leveraging first generations for manufacturing workforce. James Rzepkowski stated Labor had a New Americans Coordinator. Suzy suggested we reference the RMI Champions event and letting the new administration know who the champions are. Secretary Gill asked what our potential is and what agreed upon set of measurements we can measure against other states. Katarina Ennerfelt asked if there was a way to make it favorable to buy from other Maryland businesses.

#### **VIII. Adjournment of MMAB Business Meeting**

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m. by Heather.