

MARYLAND SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT FINANCING AUTHORITY

OPEN MEETING MINUTES

January 27, 2022

The regular meeting of the Maryland Small Business Development Financing Authority convened at 1:00 p.m. via teleconference only at 470-869-2200/meeting ID 428-245-6027 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The following were in attendance at this meeting:

Authority Members	MMG Staff
Les Hall	Randy Croxton
Laura Pasternak	Mark Harrison
Chuck Martin	Anthony Williams
Clem Kaikis	Mike Howard
Gina Ramsey	Robin Harris
Mara Sierocinski	

**Attorney General's Office
Barbara Kountz, Deputy Counsel**

AGENDA

MINUTES

January 13, 2022

EXTENSIONS

Integrity Fedtech, LLC

NEW REQUEST

Mental Health and Mentoring Services of Maryland, LLC

The closed session of January 13, 2022, meeting was summarized. The Authority Board meeting was attended by Les Hall, Chuck Martin, Gina Ramsey, Laura Pasternak, Clem Kaikis, and Mara Sierocinski. The meeting was closed to comply with requirements of the Maryland Public Information Act so that there would not be disclosure of confidential, commercial, and financial information associated with the applicants. The meeting was closed to discuss the report of TextBehind, Inc. and the new requests for Heaven Bound Cremation Services, LLC and Kelley's Trucking, LLC. The report was accepted as presented and both new requests were approved.

1. Heaven Bound Creation Services, LLC - \$50,000 EPIP term loan
2. Kelley's Trucking Co. - \$400,000 contract financing line of credit

MINUTES

January 13, 2022

Action Taken: Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Authority unanimously approved the minutes as presented.

EXTENSION

Presenter: Anthony Williams

Applicant: Integrity Fedtech, LLC

Loan Amount: \$100,000 Contract Financing Revolving Line of Credit

Original Approval Date: October 28, 2021

Comments: A 30-day approval extension to February 24, 2022, was requested to allow more time for the loan to close.

Discussion: There was limited discussion regarding the outstanding matters delaying the closing.

Action Taken: Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Authority unanimously approved the request as presented.

REPORT

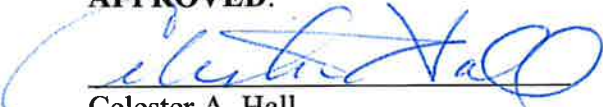
Presenter: Randy Croxton

Comments: Mr. Croxton informed the meeting that MMG is planning to hold a special meeting outside the regularly scheduled meetings to share special news regarding the MSBDFA programs. The board members expressed their preference to have the news shared and discussed during a regularly scheduled meeting that perhaps could start earlier than 1 p.m.

Action Taken: Mr. Croxton was asked to assess with deliberate speed the volume of the meeting agenda items scheduled to be presented during the February 24, 2022, meeting to determine how long it would take to share and discuss the news along with the financing requests. The meeting could also be scheduled for earlier than 1 p.m.

The Open Meeting then closed at 1:15 p.m. upon motion made and seconded, and approved by all voting members, the meeting was closed pursuant to General Provisions Article, Section 3-305(b) (13), "to comply with a specific... statutory... requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter", that is, the Maryland Public Information Act prohibits disclosure of trade secrets, confidential commercial and confidential financial information. Chairman Les Hall 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.

APPROVED:



Celester A. Hall
Chairman

DATE:

2-15-22

MARYLAND SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT FINANCING AUTHORITY

**PRESIDING OFFICER'S WRITTEN STATEMENT FOR CLOSING A MEETING
UNDER THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT
(General Provisions Article § 3-305)**

1. Recorded vote to close the meeting:

Date: January 27, 2022

Time: 1:20 pm - 2:05 pm

Location: Held by conference call only due to COVID 19 pandemic at
470.869.2200/428 245 6027

Motion to close meeting made by: Gina Ramsey; Seconded by Laura Pasternak

Vote to Close Session:

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Celester Hall, Chair, Designee Secretary of Commerce	[x]	[]	[]	[]
Clemis Kaikis, designee of Comptroller	[x]	[]	[]	[]
Charles Martin	[x]	[]	[]	[]
Kehinde Oreagba	[]	[]	[]	[x]
Laura Pasternak	[x]	[]	[]	[]
Sharon Pinder	[]	[]	[]	[x]
Gina Ramsey	[x]	[]	[]	[]
Mara Sierocinski	[x]	[]	[]	[]

2. Citation of statutory authority to close session (check all that apply): This meeting is being closed under General Provisions Article § 3-305(b), only:

____ (1) To discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals;

___ (2) To protect the privacy or reputation of individuals concerning a matter not related to public business;

___ (3) To consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto;

___ (4) To consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State;

___ (5) To consider the investment of public funds;

___ (6) To consider the marketing of public securities;

X (7) To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter;

___ (8) To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation;

___ (9) To conduct collective bargaining negotiations or consider matters that relate to the negotiations;

___ (10) To discuss public security, if the public body determines that public discussion would constitute a risk to the public or to public security, including: (i) the deployment of fire and police services and staff; and (ii) the development and implementation of emergency plans;

___ (11) To prepare, administer, or grade a scholastic, licensing, or qualifying examination;

___ (12) To conduct or discuss an investigative proceeding on actual or possible criminal conduct;

X (13) To comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter;

___ (14) Before a contract is awarded or bids are opened, to discuss a matter directly related to a negotiating strategy or the contents of a bid or proposal, *if* public discussion or disclosure would adversely impact the ability of the public body to participate in the competitive bidding or proposal process.

3. Disclosure of the topics to be discussed, for each citation checked above:

§3-305(b)(13) topics: Discussion and evaluation of the applications received from potential borrowers for financial assistance under programs of the Maryland Small Business Development Financing Authority, which applications include the disclosure of financial information of private individuals and confidential commercial and financial information.

§3-305(b)(7) topics: Legal advice from counsel to the Authority with respect to the applications.

4. For each topic listed in #2, disclosure of the reason for discussing it in closed session rather than in open session:

§3-305(b)(13): Financial information of private individuals is protected from disclosure under the Maryland Public Information Act (§4-336) and confidential commercial and financial information is protected from disclosure under the Maryland Public Information Act (§4-335).

§3-305(b)(7): Protection of the attorney-client privilege.

This statement is made by Celester Hall, Chair of the Maryland Small Business Development Financing Authority, Presiding Officer.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Celester Hall', is written over a horizontal line.

Celester Hall
Chair