

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF
DIRECTORS MEETING
MARYLAND INNOVATION INITIATIVE (MII)**

Thursday, March 14, 2013

1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Participating Board Members:

David Baggett
Judy Costello (representing Dominick Murray)
Eugene DeLoatch
Robert Hallenbeck, Chair
James Hughes
Greg Simmons

Participating TEDCO Staff

Stephen Auvil
Dan Gincel
Jennifer Hammaker
Ira Schwartz, TEDCO Counsel
John Wasilisin

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:35 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes of February 14, 2013 Board Meeting

The Board considered the minutes from the February 14, 2013 meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Legislative Hearings Update

TEDCO testified on the MII annual budget as part of its Legislative budget hearings on February 22, 2013 before the Senate and February 28, 2013 before the House. There were no budget cuts recommended for the MII program for FY 2014. However, Delegate Mizeur questioned why the universities were being reimbursed for a portion of their site miner costs.

IV. Manager's Report

Ms. Hammaker provided an update on MII activities since the February 14, 2013 Board meeting.

A. Award Agreements

A total of 12 grant agreements have been awarded. Out of the 12 awards, 5 PI's requested, but were not granted delayed start dates. Ms. Hammaker will communicate that all agreements must be fully executed and made effective within 90 days after acceptance and to be completed within 9 months. If such requests for a delayed start should recur, the Board will revisit the option to establish a policy at a future meeting.

B. Site Miner Meeting

Ms. Hammaker is scheduled to meet with site miners on March 15, 2013, and during this meeting she will discuss collaborative opportunities. In addition, Ms. Hammaker will communicate that the quality of the proposals are strongest when the site miners are involved in the application submission process and will emphasize the importance for site miners to review proposals prior to attending the review meetings. The concern here is that there has been a direct correlation between the quality of a proposal and site miner involvement with that proposal. It was indicated that if this downward trend continued, a modification to the proposal guidelines would be implemented to require site miners' sign-off on future proposals.

C. March 2013 Applications

A total of 15 applications were submitted. Out of the 15 applications, there were 4 resubmissions. All 15 applications will be reviewed for funding. Application breakdown by category: 11 Phase-I, 4 Phase-III.

V. **Statement for Closing the Meeting**

A motion was made and seconded that the Board go into closed session. The motion included the following:

STATUTORY AUTHORITY TO CLOSE SESSION

State Government Article Sec.10-508(a)(5):

A public body may meet in closed session ... to consider the investment of public funds.

TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED: The MII board will discuss which pending grant applications to consider, given the rankings received and other relevant factors. The discussion might also relate to the characteristics of specific applications.

REASON FOR CLOSING: The MII board believes that confidentiality is essential to protect sensitive information about plans and processes that applicants divulge, to avoid a chilling effect on future submissions, and to enable candid discussion of how best to invest limited resources.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. The Board went into a closed session at 2:28 p.m. to consider and vote on various grant applications.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.