

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

November 10, 2016  
1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Participating Board Members:**

Robert Hallenbeck, Chair  
Amitabh Varshney  
Philip Robilotto  
Karl Steiner  
Mary Beth Tung  
Nina Urban

**Participating TEDCO Staff**

Stephen Auvil  
Silvia Goncalves  
John Gustin  
Jennifer Hammaker  
John Wasilisin  
Ira Schwartz, TEDCO Counsel

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 1:40 p.m.

**II. Approval of Minutes of September 15, 2016.**

The Board considered the minutes from the September 15, 2016 meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

**III. Chairman's Report**

R. Hallenbeck spoke about Pat O'Shea's service to the Board and said the new person would have 'big shoes to fill'.

R. Hallenbeck announced that he will miss the January and March 2017 Board Meetings.

**IV. Manager's Report**

Dr. Amitabh Varshney, a new MII Board member, was introduced to the group.

Ms. Hammaker provided an update on MII activities since the last Board meeting.

Ms. Hammaker spoke about the press that several MII companies have recently received.

Ms. Hammaker spoke about the Expo and the companies that were participating on that day.

S. Auvil discussed the Tech Transfer Report update which was due on December 1, 2016.

Ms. Hammaker and J. Gustin discussed the purpose of the tTAP sessions which took place at UMBC.

It was announced that Board member Victor McCrary was appointed to the National Science Board by President Obama.

MF Fire was recommended and approved by the Board for a Primer award. The money will be used for marketing.

The Board recommended and voted unanimously for Karl Steiner to be the Vice-Chair of the MII Board, and Chair the January and March 2017 meetings while Bob Hallenbeck is traveling.

## **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 2:30 p.m. to consider and vote on various grant applications. Eleven of the seventeen applications from the September 2016 submissions were recommended to the Board for consideration. In accordance with the provisions of the Maryland Public Ethics Law, Board members recused themselves from that portion of the discussion that pertained to applications from their own universities. The members then discussed and approved eleven applications.

## **VI. Other Business**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:53 p.m.