

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

June 5, 2024

PRESENT

Ariel Balog (Ag-Industry Coordinator), Dr. Mary Bolt (Cecil College), JoAnn Dawson (Fairwinds), Danny DeMarinis (NEMD URP), Joe DiNunzio (Artesian Water), Amy DiPietro (MRA), Sandra Edwards (OED Mgr.), Vince Fiorelli (Chesapeake Utilities), Woody Jackson (Citizen), Ed Jones (Northrop Grumman), Kimberly Justus (SWN), Dr. Jeffrey Lawson (CCPS), Sandy Maruchi-Turner (Tourism Manager), Michael Ratchford (W.L. Gore & Assoc.), Carl Roberts (BDC), Bill Sorenson (OED Director)

ABSENT

Kristina Brown (Delmarva Power), Amy Marston (Christiana Care-Union), Morgan Miller (CCPL), Robert Palsgrove (Citizen), Mike Travers (Cecil Dancer)

GUESTS

Alicia Calhoun (Elkton Alliance), Christie Griest (Tourism), Jessica Hicks (MD Chamber of Commerce), Mary Kane (MD Chamber of Commerce), Abbi Ludwig (MD Chamber of Commerce), John Ness (WCHC), Maura Van Syckle (SBDC), Heather Tinelli (Queen Anne's ED), Jamie Williams (Kent ED)

Call to Order & Welcome – Mike Ratchford

- Meeting called to order at 8:00 am
- Meeting minutes approved for May 2024

Chairman's Report – Mike Ratchford

- EDC will not meet in July or August – see everyone in September

Director's Report – Bill Sorenson

- Exciting year – couple projects under NDA
- Cecil County Fair in July
- MACo – will not be having Cecil County Night @ Dry 85 this year
- Provided 300+ analytics reports to various customers in County

A presentation was given on the 2024 Competitive Redbook by Abbi Ludwig, Vice President, Marketing & Communications, and Mary Kane, President & CEO, both with the MD Chamber of Commerce

- A copy of this presentation along with a copy of the Redbook MD 2024 was emailed to attendees; copies attached if not received.
- For questions on this presentation or the Maryland 2024 Competitiveness REDBOOK, please contact Abbi at aludwig@mdchamber.org or Mary at mkane@mdchamber.org.

An infographic was presented by Sandra Edwards, Economic Development Manager, on "How does Cecil County compare to other Maryland counties?"

- A copy of this infographic was emailed to attendees; copy attached if not received.

Elkton Alliance – Alicia Calhoun

- Summer events schedule – focus on community development, community engagement
- Working with new design committee within organization - focus on beautifying Elkton

Cecil College Update – Dr. Mary Bolt

- Summer camp time and summer enrollment trending in positive direction

Cecil County Public Schools – Dr. Jeff Lawson

- 6 graduations last week; graduated 1,100 students

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:02 am

Next EDC Meeting is September 4, 2024. This meeting is scheduled to be IN-PERSON. Details and location to follow.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terri Springel
Administrative Assistant