

Western Maryland Economic Future Investment Fund

Board of Directors Meeting

Monday September 26, 2022

Present:

Members: Jeff Barclay, Andrew Sargent, Senator George Edwards, Commissioner Jeff Cline, Will Wroblewski, Mayor Ray Morriss, Commissioner Dave Caporale, Commissioner Jim Hinebaugh, Paul Frey, Susan Grimes, Juli McCoy

Staff: Guy Winterberg, Leanne Mazer

Guests: Jayci Duncan, David Cotton and Special Secretary Wendi Peters

1. Call to order and welcome - The meeting was called to order by Andrew Sargent at 1:06 pm and was held via Google Meets.

2. Review and Approval of Minutes from September 12, 2022 Meeting –

Senator George Edwards made a motion to accept the minutes. Paul Frey seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

3. Opportunities to leverage ARC Funding: Special Secretary Peters & David Cotton – As a result of the passage of the Federal Infrastructure Bill, additional ARC funds are available that could be used to leverage projects using this fund. Although the funds are from the Infrastructure Bill they can be used identically as the ARC Area Development Funds. Currently Maryland has approximately \$3 million available through the Fund. All of the funding is meant to leverage partners and funding.

It is also noteworthy that the ARISE and Inspire programs are also receiving funding from the Infrastructure Bill.

4. Review and approval of the Program Documents
 - a. Notice of Intent to Apply – The document needs to be something that is fill-inable.

Paul Frey made a motion to accept the form with the following corrections: remove industry sector for project facility on number 4 and add “at least” to the 3rd bullet point for infrastructure funding and second bullet point for business development funding as it relates to the minimum match. Also state that “Higher Matches are preferred”. Mayor Morriss seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

- b. Senator George C. Edwards Fund Application – A discussion was had on what time period would be allowed for applicants to submit once they have been invited. It was decided that no time restrictions would be placed on this due to

applicants waiting on other funding sources. Funding will be contingent on money available.

- c. George Fund Grant Evaluation Guide – This will be reviewed at a later date
 - d. George Fund Grant Evaluation Form – This will be reviewed at a later date
5. Update on Grant Administration – A draft grant agreement and notice that the grant start date will be September 1, 2022 were sent to TCC on Friday, September 23, 2022. There have been no changes but this will be discussed at the TCC Executive Committee Meeting on October 13.
 6. Job description for an employee to assist with the grant administration – To be discussed at a later date
 - a. Duties -
 - b. Hours per week -
 7. Next Meeting Dates –
October 17 @ 1:00 pm at Puccini’s Italian Restaurant
October 31 – Hybrid, in-person and online
 8. New Business – Andrew Sargent spoke with Laila Atallah, Assistant Attorney General for the Maryland Department of Commerce about Directors and Officers Insurance. Her message to the Board is as follows:

As a general rule, just as State employees are protected in the performance of their State duties (unless they are acting with malice, gross negligence, or outside the scope of their State duties), individuals serving on State boards and commissions are covered by the State’s sovereign immunity.

The State is self-insured regarding tort claims made against State employees and volunteers acting on behalf of the State. The State’s self-insurance is administered through the State Treasurer’s Office.
 9. Adjourn - The meeting was adjourned at 2:21 pm.