



**DRAFT Meeting Minutes**

**SEPTEMBER 26, 2023 10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.**

**THE MEETING IS EXPECTED TO TAKE PLACE AT THE: KENNEDY KRIEGER INSTITUTE, ARNOLD J. CAPUTE, MD, MPH,  
CONFERENCE CENTER, 8TH FLOOR, 1741 ASHLAND AVENUE, BALTIMORE, MD 21205.**

**PLEASE CLICK THE LINK BELOW TO VIEW THE MEETING VIA ZOOM WEBINAR:**

[HTTPS://KENNEDYKRIEGER.ZOOM.US/J/94079584507](https://kennedykrieger.zoom.us/j/94079584507)

**MEMBERS PRESENT**    *IP (in-person) OR V(virtual) OR V/Ph(virtual by phone)*

IP Governor Wes Moore  
IP Carim Khouzami (Chair)  
IP Delali Dzirasa (Vice-Chair)  
IP Ferris Allen, III  
IP Kevin Anderson  
V Mick Arnold  
IP Alexander Austin  
V Marco V. Ávila  
IP Calvin Ball  
IP John D. Barber, Jr.  
IP Carol Beatty  
V Gary Bockrath  
IP Jennifer Bodensiek  
IP Brian Cavey  
IP Annesa Cheek

IP Donna Edwards  
V Judi Emmel  
V Katarina Ennerfelt  
IP MacKenzie Garvin  
IP Steve Groenke  
IP Stacey Herman  
V Matthew Holloway  
IP Roderick King  
V Larry Letow  
V Amie Long  
IP Rafael Lopez  
IP Jessica Mente  
V Deborea Montgomery  
IP Kirkland Murray  
V Stephen K. Neal  
IP Myra Norton

IP Sanjay Rai  
V/Ph Charles Ramos  
V Carmel Roques  
V Edward C. Rothstein, Col. Ret.  
IP Vincent "Vinny" Schiraldi  
IP Marty Schwartz  
IP Carolyn Scruggs  
IP Michelle B. Smith  
IP Brian Stamper  
IP Inez Stewart  
IP Teaera Strum  
V Michael Thomas  
V Charles T. Wetherington  
IP Anthony "Tony" Woods  
IP Portia Wu  
IP Charnetia V. Young

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Vanessa Atterbear  
V Joanne C. Benson  
Mohammad Choudhury  
Kevin D. Heffner  
Perketer Tucker

**GUESTS**

IP Chris Abell  
V Steve Berry  
V Steve Blanks

V Renard Brooks  
IP David Brown  
IP Brandon Butler

IP Nona Carroll  
V Robin Conley  
IP Sara Cooper

V Susan Considine	IP Mary Keller	IP Angelique Salizan
V Kevin Craft	IP Elizabeth Kromm	IP Steven Sekellicle
V Michelle Day	V Meg LaPorte	IP Ashley Sharpe
V Logan Dean	V Omar Lazo	IP Sarah Sheppard
V Jael Delva	IP Andrew Library	V Katie Smeltz
IP Jennifer Dewees	V Chris MacLarion	V Jennifer Staiger
V Michael DiGiacomo	IP Jamie Mangrum	V LeRoy Thomas
V Britney Hanson	IP Dylan McDonough	IP Casey Tiefenwerth
IP Koffi Harrison	IP Kim McKay	V Pamela Toole
V Anthony Featherstone	V Meka McNeal	V Fran Trout
V Ellen Flowers-Fields	V Denise Nooe	V Chanel Viator
IP Anthony Gaskins	V Jessica Neely	V WBAL-TV
IP Nancy Grasmick	IP Jason Perkins-Cohen	IP Regina Webb
V Leza Griffith	IP Sha-Keara Pinkney	IP Douglas Weimer
V Seth Herschkowitz	V Leslie Porter	V Joana Winningham
IP Ervin Jones	V Candice Roberts	V Michelle Wright
IP Kimberly Justice	IP Phil Rogofsky	V Casey Tiefenwerth
IP Paul Kappel	IP Erin Roth	V/Ph 1-410-**85 CR
IP Prasad Karunakaran	V Jim Rzepkowski	V/Ph 1-607-**68 SS
V Sharon Kauffman	V John Sales	

*\*Please note, these are the guests for the meeting, guest attendance by phone could not be identified.*

## **WELCOME & GWDB LEADERSHIP INTRODUCTIONS**

- Chair Khouzami opened the meeting with a warm welcome to all attendees. He emphasized the committee's vital role in addressing the pressing challenges of workforce development and economic growth in Maryland. The Chairman underscored the importance of innovative thinking and collaboration among committee members, stakeholders, and industry experts. He expressed his anticipation for productive discussions and actionable insights that would emerge from the meeting.
- Governor Wes Moore provided insightful remarks, highlighting the state's commitment to fostering a robust and skilled workforce. He stressed the importance of aligning educational and workforce development initiatives with industry needs and the role of public-private partnerships in driving economic growth. The Governor also touched upon the significance of addressing systemic barriers and ensuring equitable access to opportunities for all Maryland residents.

## **DISCUSSION: BUILDING INCLUSIVE TALENT PIPELINES TO SUPERCHARGE MARYLAND'S ECONOMY**

### Overview of Workforce Development and Economic Growth

- Rachael Stephens Parker, Executive Director of the GWDB, presented on
  - Key roles for the GWDB:

- Shaping the state’s vision and strategy for workforce development, including stakeholder and resource alignment
- Establishing and facilitating partnerships that support that vision and strategy - including public-private partnerships, partnership across State Departments, partnership across levels of government and with local workforce development boards and other stakeholders
- Holding the public workforce system accountable, including reviewing and setting metrics for success in achieving the vision and strategy outlined by the Board
- 2024-2028 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) State Plan
  - Leveraging the federally-required WIOA four-year plan to engage the Board and other key stakeholders across the state to develop a clear vision and strategies for the state
  - Resetting expectations for a high-performing Board
- There was comprehensive discussion on various facets of workforce development and economic growth. The conversation revolved around identifying effective strategies to foster sustainable economic progress and job creation in Maryland. The members exchanged views on the current state of the workforce, emerging trends, and the potential impact of new technologies and globalization.

#### Emphasis on Education and Training Programs

- A significant portion of the discussion focused on the critical role of education and training programs in workforce development. The committee explored ways to enhance these programs to ensure they are in alignment with the evolving demands of the job market. The conversation also emphasized the importance of apprenticeships and vocational training as powerful tools to bridge skill gaps, expand access to good jobs, and prepare individuals for the workforce.

#### Industry-Specific Challenges and Opportunities

- Discussion was had around the unique challenges and opportunities present in key sectors such as healthcare, technology, and manufacturing. The discussion centered on tailoring workforce strategies to meet the specific needs of these industries. Members shared insights on how to leverage emerging opportunities in these sectors for economic growth and job creation.
- Discussion also emphasized the need to think beyond traditional industry silos, especially in the IT sector. For instance, CVS Health's efforts in repositioning itself as a key player in IT and digital transformation, offering valuable lessons for other organizations.

#### Addressing Intersectionality and Systemic Issues

- The importance of addressing social barriers and intersectionality in workforce development was discussed. The discussion covered gender and racial disparities, challenges faced by individuals with disabilities, and the need for inclusive strategies.

- The conversation also included the modernization of apprenticeship programs, emphasizing the importance of non-traditional apprenticeships and aligning training with contemporary business practices.
- The role of various systems, including unemployment, mental health, and education, was discussed. The committee stressed the need for these systems to work collaboratively to address the multifaceted challenges in workforce development.
- Chair Khouzami concluded by summarizing the key points and discussions. He acknowledged the valuable contributions of all committee members, the guest speaker, and the Governor, highlighting the depth and diversity of perspectives shared. The Chairman reiterated the board's commitment to advancing workforce development and economic growth in Maryland through innovative, inclusive, and collaborative strategies. He expressed gratitude to the members for their dedication and looked forward to the continued efforts of the committee in shaping a robust and dynamic workforce.

### **MOTIONS FOR APPROVAL**

Chairman Khouzami asked for a motion to approve minutes from the June 7, 2023 meeting. Minutes were approved.

### **ROLL CALL**

Executive Director Parker provided a summary of Next Steps on the State Plan and upcoming events. She then turned to Darla Henson to facilitate the roll call. A quorum was confirmed present for the duration of the meeting.

### **ADJOURN**

Executive Director Parker turned the meeting back over to Chair Khouzami who asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The adjournment was approved and the meeting ended.

The recording of the meeting can be found [here](#).