



**Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation**  
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes  
November 4, 2019  
MCEDC  
1801 Rockville Pike, Suite 320  
Rockville, MD 20852

The following Committee members were present:

Robby Brewer, Lerch, Early & Brewer - Chair  
Ola Sage, CyberRx – Vice Chair  
Angela Graham, Quality Biological – Secretary  
Carmen Larsen, Aquas, Inc. – Treasurer (*joined the meeting at 8:40 am*)

The following attendees were present, consistent with the requirements of the Open Meetings Act and in accordance with the Corporation's Bylaws:

Bill Tompkins, Chief Operating Officer  
Stacey Hardy, VP of Operations

*The meeting was called to order at 8:30 am. A quorum of the Committee members was present. Stacey Hardy was designated to take minutes.*

### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from the October 7 meeting were approved as presented.

### **Parental Leave Policy**

Bill Tompkins presented a draft Parental Leave policy for the Executive Committee's consideration. The Committee inquired about the timing and need for the new policy. Overall, the Committee did not agree with the staff proposal at this time. However, the Committee requested that the staff provide data about what small and medium sized businesses in the region are doing with regards to paid leave and assistance with child care expenses.

### **Update on Higher Education Initiative**

Sarah Miller updated the Committee on efforts to explore a stronger academic research university presence in the county. Ms. Miller reported that MCEDC has partnered with the Montgomery County Planning Department to develop the scope for a consultant to review case studies of universities with open satellite campuses. The report will address the reasons universities chose to open satellite campuses and the types of funding mechanisms used.

Ms. Miller reported that MCEDC has engaged Margrave Strategies to determine whether the University System of Maryland would benefit from having certain research institutes or programs more closely connected to the county's biohealth cluster. MCEDC is also conducting internal research and outreach to universities around the country that could benefit from a presence in the county.

### **Update on Talent Pipeline**

Mr. Tompkins reported that Avalanche has completed its analysis of the county's talent supply. The results of the study will be disseminated in December. The Committee suggested that Avalanche conduct a webinar for the Board to review the findings of the study.

Mr. Tompkins noted that MCEDC is also working with WorkSource Montgomery on several workforce related activities.

### **Interim CEO Update**

Mr. Tompkins updated the Committee on the status of the county contract, personnel hires, and key upcoming events. Mr. Tompkins reported that Apple has invited representatives from MCEDC, MCPS, and Montgomery College to its headquarters to discuss the Montgomery Can Code initiative and to explore opportunities to expand and replicate the program.

### **November Board Meeting Agenda**

The Committee reviewed the proposed topics for the November Board meeting and provided suggestions.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 am.

*Minutes submitted by Stacey Hardy*