

OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR JULIANA STRATTON
 Military Economic Development Committee
 2nd Quarterly Meeting Minutes
 Wednesday, June 26, 2024

Roll Call

A present majority of filled member positions shall constitute a quorum: i.e. 10 members present				
Position	Name	Present	Phone	Absent
Ex-Officio				
Chair, Ex-Officio (LG's Office)	Lt. Governor Juliana Stratton	X		
Vice Chair, Ex-Officio (Dept. of Commerce & Economic Opportunity)	Joseph McKeown	X		
Ex-Officio (Dept. of Transportation)	Kirk Brown	X		
Ex-Officio (Dept. of Natural Resources)	Natalie Phelps Finnie			X
Ex-Officio (Dept. of the Environmental Protection Agency)	Chris Hill	X		
Ex-Officio (Dept. of Revenue)	Kristin Logue	X		
Ex-Officio (Dept. of Military Affairs)	William Cobetto	X		
General Assembly				
President of the Senate	Sen. Adriane Johnson	X		
Speaker of the House	Rep. Stephanie A. Kifowit	X		
House Minority Leader	Rep. Dan Swanson	X		
Senate Minority Leader	Sen. Craig Wilcox (approved)		X	
Public				
Pub. Mem.	Vacant			
Pub. Mem.	Lamar C. Brown			X
Pub. Mem.	Scott Lohman		X	
Pub. Mem.	Christine Nappo	X		
Pub. Mem.	Elizabeth A. Roxworthy			X
Pub. Mem.	Vacant			
Pub. Mem.	Vacant			
Pub. Mem.	Vacant			
Pub. Mem.	Vacant			
Pub. Mem.	Vacant			
Military Veteran or Defense Industry Backgrounds				
MV/DI Mem.	Kimberly Huth	X		
MV/DI Mem.	Carolyn Zasada			X
MV/DI Mem.	Vacant			
MV/DI Mem.	Vacant			
Guest (non-member)				

State of Illinois Office Building
 555 West Monroe Street,
 Fourth Floor, Peoria Room
 Chicago, IL 60661

Illinois State Capitol
 401 South Second Street
 Room 214
 Springfield, IL 62701

OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR JULIANA STRATTON
Military Economic Development Committee
2nd Quarterly Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 26, 2024

Guest	Col John Poole		X	
Guest	Christine Spagar		X	
Guest	Donna Ritcher		X	
Guest	Wendy Pfeil		X	
Guest	Jim Hawkins		X	
Guest	Christopher Jones		X	
Guest	Kyle Anderson	X		
Guest	Lauren Bartshe	X		
Guest	Darren James	X		
Guest	Darryl Thomas	X		
Guest	Darrin Sortor	X		
Guest	Sacella Smith	X		

Lt. Governor Stratton's Staff Present:

- Charles Watkins, Chief of Staff
- Eva Shonuga, Staff Attorney
- Paris McConnell, External Affairs & Community Outreach
- Nikki Giancola-Shanks, Policy Director
- Jessica Allen, Chief Fiscal Officer
- Rob Baren, Senior Advisor to the Lieutenant Governor
- Edwidge Labbe, Dunn Fellow
- Alex Sprinkle, 2024 ISPP Scholar

Agenda

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
- II. Approval of the Agenda for 06/26/24 and Minutes from 03/07/24
- III. Chairperson's Remarks
- IV. New Business
 - a. Small Business Consulting Corporation and Southern Illinois University Presentation
 - i. Followed by a Q&A
 - b. Committee updates
- V. Member Updates
- VI. Public Comments
- VII. Adjournment

State of Illinois Office Building
555 West Monroe Street,
Fourth Floor, Peoria Room
Chicago, IL 60661

Illinois State Capitol
401 South Second Street
Room 214
Springfield, IL 62701

OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR JULIANA STRATTON
Military Economic Development Committee
2nd Quarterly Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 26, 2024

Summary

The Military Economic Development Council met for its second quarterly meeting of 2024 in both the Chicago and Springfield office. Lieutenant Governor Stratton directed Edwidge Labbe to conduct a roll call to establish a quorum. As quorum was established, the public agenda for the meeting on June 26, 2024, as well as the minutes from the previous Q1 council meeting on March 7, 2024, were both approved. Additionally, Lieutenant Governor Stratton welcomed The Lieutenant Governor's Office's new Policy Director Nikki Giancola-Shanks to the Council, as well as recognized Edwidge Labbe's contributions to the Council as her time in the James H. Dunn Fellowship ends.

The Lieutenant Governor then announced the passing of the 16th balanced budget. This budget shows the administrations' continuing values, including transformative investments in early childhood, K-12 and higher education, health and social service programs, workforce development, restorative justice and violence prevention efforts, and investments in our cultural and natural resources, as well as support for our military, veterans, and their families. Lieutenant Governor Stratton then highlighted the passing of HB 612- Veterans Property Tax Bill, which includes a homestead exemption for veterans with disabilities, regardless of the veteran's level of disability, and SB 3479- Veterans Claim Sharks Bill amends the Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act. It adds additional consumer protections to combat scams aimed at veterans, military members, and their families. The Lieutenant Governor acknowledged the retirement of Major General Richard Neely, and the appointment of Major General Rodney Boyd to Adjutant General of the National Guard.

The Council was then joined by Mark Camerer of the Small Business Consulting Corporation, and Lauren Bartshe of SIU-Edwardsville, who presented on the University Partnership Program that exists to provide SIU-E graduate and undergraduate students an opportunity to work at the Small Business Consulting Corporation (SBCC) as they pursue careers in data engineering, data science, and computer science. Their company goals align with several of the responsibilities of this Council, particularly helping defense related businesses expand or relocate to Illinois and providing mentorship and opportunities to support the long-term viability of the military and defense industry in Illinois.

The council then heard updates from the subcommittees and members of the council. Lieutenant Governor Stratton adjourned the meeting while reminding members of the quarterly three meeting taking place on Wednesday, September 17th, 2024, at 10 am. No votes were taken during this meeting.

State of Illinois Office Building
555 West Monroe Street,
Fourth Floor, Peoria Room
Chicago, IL 60661

Illinois State Capitol
401 South Second Street
Room 214
Springfield, IL 62701