Meeting Minutes
Maryland Cybersecurity Council
June 24, 2025
Samuel Riggs Alumni Center
University of Maryland
7810 Alumni Drive
College Park, Maryland

Council Members Present or Represented (25/47)
Howard Barr (OAG chair designate), Dr. David Anyiwo, Tasha Cornish, Dr. Anton Dahbura, Cyril Draffin, Terri Jo Hayes, BG Craig Hunter (for MG Janeen Birckhead), Ryan Hsu, Dr. Anupam Joshi, Duc Lai (for Kristin Bryce Jones), Mathew Lee, Keith Moulsdale, Bel Leong-hong, Kimberly Mentzell (Commerce), Robin Morse (NSA), Laura Nelson, Travis Nelson (GOHS), Bridget O'Toole (for Senator Katie Fry Hester), Rodney Petersen (NIST), Jill Porter, Jonathan Powell, Markus Rauschecker, James Saunders (DoIT), Secretary Russell Strickland (MDEM), and Ryner Washburn (MCAC).

Invited Subject Matter Expert
Seeyew Mo, Special Advisor, CyberMaryland Program at TEDCO, and former Assistant National Cyber Director for Cyber Workforce, Education, and Economic Advancement.

Staff Attending
Tony Campbell (Director, Legislative Affairs, Maryland Military Department) and Dr. Greg von Lehmen (University of Maryland Global Campus, Staff to the Council).

Meeting Summary

Mr. Barr opened the meeting, welcoming members and guests. He announced that the speaker would arrive mid-morning and therefore flipped the published agenda. This meant that Council updates and the subcommittee report-outs would come first followed by the speaker and the remaining agenda items.

For the Council's updates, he noted that James Saunders had been appointed as State CISO and recognized him at the meeting. He also recognized Jill Porter who was joining a Council meeting for the first time as the representative of the Maryland Tech Council. Finally, he mentioned that both Rodney Petersen and Sue Rogan would be retiring and thanked them for their service to the Council and the State.

Turning to Council business, Mr. Barr confirmed a quorum with Dr. Von Lehmen. The minutes for the February 7, 2025 meeting, were approved without objection. Mr. Barr then asked for the subcommittee reports.

Subcommittee on Law and Policy. Mr. Rauschecker stated that he would provide the subcommittee's report for Blair Levin, the subcommittee chair, who was unable to attend. He noted that the subcommittee met on March 17 with the purpose of setting a research agenda that could inform recommendations in this year. The members agreed to focus on cybersecurity issues related to AI, domain name registration, boards of directors' liability for breaches of PII, safe harbor to incentivize cybersecurity investments, and DOGE access to PII of Maryland residents. For starters, Mr. Rauschecker volunteered CHHS to assign legal interns to research several of these issues to move the subcommittee's discussion forward.

Subcommittee on Cyber Incident Response. Marcia Deppen provided a report for the subcommittee regarding the cybersecurity preparedness at the local level that is apace in the State. She discussed related exercises conducted in the Greater Baltimore Area and also provided an update on the federal State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program. In regard to the Program, she mentioned that Maryland has benefited from two years of funding and that a third year was uncertain.

Subcommittee on Critical Infrastructure. Mr. Cyril Draffin made the report for the chair, John Abeles, who could not attend the meeting. He reiterated that SB 871/HB 1062 was a high point for the subcommittee, the Council, and the State and deferred to Bridget O'Toole, chief of staff in Senator Hester's Office, to say more about the final bill later. Looking ahead, he stated that the subcommittee is planning a meeting in July or early August. The agenda is shaping up to include a) a brief by the PSC on the implementation of the cybersecurity regulations pursuant to HB 969 (2022), b) a presentation by faculty at the University of Florida about their research into the cybersecurity vulnerabilities of the telecoms. and c) a discussion of administration actions--EOs and budget actions--touching cybersecurity and implications for the states, Maryland in particular. Mr. Draffin added that the security of the telecoms is obviously a significant issue and that budget actions such as the defunding of the MS-ISAC will have impacts on Maryland that the Council must monitor and address if necessary with recommendations.

Subcommittee on Economic Development. Bel Leong-hong reported that the subcommittee is organizing a meeting in July to discuss private/public partnerships for cyber economic development. The meeting will include Seeyew Mo and Jake Hsu, chair of the Maryland 2030 Apprenticeship Commission.

Subcommittee on Public Outreach. Sue Rogan stated that the subcommittee met on March 13 and proposed its agenda for the year. Of these, she emphasized two near-term initiatives including a workshop on AI for healthcare workers and a second cyber hygiene survey of Maryland adults to inform public policy. She noted that there has been preliminary discussion with the Institute of Politics at UMBC to help inform the survey instrument and the survey methodology.

As an update to the Council on major legislative initiatives that it informed in the last session, Mr. Barr asked Bridget O'Toole, Senator Hester's Chief of Staff, to provide comments. Ms. O'Toole referred to SB 871/HB 1062 and the importance of NSA Fellow's research report and the engagement of the Council staff were to the legislation. She noted that Senator Hester's Office is planning a first-of-its-kind event with the US Department of Defense to team up with

the Governor's Office, the National Guard, the Maryland Department of the Environment, and others to stage a multi-day workshop on cybersecurity for the State's community water service providers. The event will be August 26th – 28th. Ms. O'Toole also discussed SB 691/HB 333 (Cybersecurity - Healthcare Ecosystem) that Council members and staff had informed. She noted that the bill had been heavily amended to create a workgroup but was vetoed by the Governor along with several other bills establishing workgroups. She stated that the original bill would be a priority for the next session and asked that the Subcommittee on Critical Infrastructure consider a series of convenings of stakeholders around the issues addressed by the bill.

Mr. Barr thanked Ms. O'Toole for her report and then introduced the speaker, Seeyew Mo, who had arrived from Annapolis. Mr. Mo focused on the cybersecurity talent strategy that had been jointly published by the Governor's Workforce Development Board and TEDCO, pursuant to SB 801 (2023) that established the CyberMaryland Program for the State. He prefaced his remarks on the strategy by noting that AI was changing the shape of the cyber workforce by its capacity to perform many entry-level jobs. The workforce is becoming less of a pyramid and more of a diamond shape with a proportionately higher demand for mid-level professionals than for entry level staff or senor managers. This will put a premium on training and education programs that can provide experiences, like cyber clinics, which will equip trainees with skills needed for mid-level.

With the introductory remarks, Mr. Mo then did a walk-through of the four goals of the State cyber workforce strategy to:

- Equip every Marylander with foundational cyber skills
- Transform postsecondary cybersecurity education to meet industry needs
- Expand nontraditional pathways into cybersecurity careers
- Strengthening cyber capacity in government

Mr. Mo's remarks generated a number of questions.

Mr. Lee. Security clearances are a problem for small business participation in DoD contracts. Unless a company is a prime, it cannot sponsor employees for a clearance. Any thoughts about how small business can get employees cleared?

Mr. Mo. Clearance is a difficult issue, and there are several ideas. One is starting the process far earlier, for example, in high school internships that students may be doing with companies, including smaller ones. As a promising idea, there is the question about what mechanisms could accelerate such an approach.

Dr. Joshi. Two questions. Has the CyberMaryland Program undertaken a review of the curricula at post-secondary institutions for alignment with industry need? Is there any plan to try to bring the schools together to discuss what they are doing with their curricula to pace with the need?

Mr. Mo. The CyberMaryland Program has not reviewed school curricula yet. With respect to the second question, there is discussion about forming some sort of network ala what North Carolina has done with its community colleges. It is conceivable that such an initiative would involve a

partnership with MHEC, which has hired a workforce development staff person to liaise with the CyberMaryland Program.

Mr. Peterson. A comment: NIST of course has developed a cybersecurity workforce framework and will be releasing one for AI. These could be helpful to the CyberMaryland Program.

Mr. Mo. NIST is a partner in the workforce development effort and has done very useful work. The CyberMaryland Program will not develop its own frameworks but will be informed by the work that NIST and others have done.

Dr. von Lehmen. The cybersecurity workforce development strategy and the supporting Maryland talent gap analysis have been linked to the TEDCO website. Can these still be accessed there? Or should members look to the Maryland Department of Labor website for these resources?

Mr. Mo. Anyone who wants to download these resources can still do so from the TEDCO website. But at some point, they will be moved to the Department of Labor site after the CyberMaryland Program transitions to the Department on July 1.

With no further questions, Mr. Barr expressed his appreciation for Mr. Mo's time and the information he shared with the Council.

At Mr. Barr's request, Dr. Von Lehmen provided an update on SB 294 and the implications for the Council and on the biennial activities report due to the General Assembly on July 1.

In regard to SB 294, Dr. von Lehmen mentioned that all members had a copy of the new law in their meeting packet. His comments covered the new provisions for chair and vice chair, the reconstitution of the Council's membership, and the expansion of the Council's scope related to AI. He pointed out that the affiliations of many current members of the Council do not align with the categories in the new statute but noted that any additional members can be appointed by the new chair. He asked members who are not covered by the statute but who would be interested in continuing with the Council to let him know by email. He stated that the new law becomes effective on October 1 of this year.

With respect to the biennial activities report, he recapped that a draft had been posted for review since June 4 as announced in an email to the members. It also had been shared with Mr. Barr for review by OAG. He thanked members for their edits and substantive comments and asked if there were any comments or questions.

Mr. Rauschecker stated that it is easy to forget how much the Council does and that the report accurately captured its activities. He proposed that the Council should accept the report. Mr. Barr accepted the motion. Ms. Leon-hong seconded it. The motion passed with no objections or abstentions.

Mr. Barr asked if there was any other business that the Council wanted to consider. Dr. von Lehmen announced that the next meeting of the Council would be scheduled in October. Mr. Peterson invited the Council to meet at the National Cyber Center of Excellence in Gaithersburg. Asking again and hearing no further business, the chair adjourned the meeting.