

**Delaware Coalition for Open Government
Virtual Board Meeting by Zoom
Tuesday, May 6, 2025**

Meeting Minutes

DelCOG's monthly Zoom board meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm on May 6, 2025.

A quorum was present including the following officers and board members: Al Jackson, vice president; Anita Rush, treasurer, John Flaherty, Keith Steck, and Nick Wasileski, secretary.

The following guest attendees present were: Amy Roe and Connie Merlet.

The April 1, 2025 DelCOG board meeting minutes and the monthly treasurer's report were approved.

Committee Reports

The Inspector General Committee reported on the progress of SB 4, which was released from the Senate Executive Committee on March 26, 2025. Keith Steck discussed his op-ed concerning the state government's holdup and reluctance about passing an OIG bill, both past and present. John Flaherty would write to all senators for a date certain for voting on the OIG bill, SB 4.

The LLC Committee reported that the US Treasury will now require only foreign beneficial owners of LLCs (and other business entities) to report, which is a change to the original intent of the Corporate Transparency Act. In addition, the federal government will not prosecute delinquent beneficial owners who fail to report to the US Treasury.

Unfinished Business

General Assembly Renovation - John Flaherty reported that the planned General Assembly building addition has been postponed, while constructing a new parking garage will move forward.

DOL Embezzlement - Nick Wasileski discussed that the requests by DelCOG and the Civic League for New Castle County to investigate possible statute violations by high-ranking state officials, concerning the 2023 embezzlement of \$181,000 at the Division of Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund, has been ignored by the majority leadership in the General Assembly and by the Public Integrity Commission (PIC). Moreover, Nick sent an email to the Joint Sunset Committee's chair Kyra Hoffner and co-chair Cyndie Romer, concerning the Public Integrity Commission's idea that its office could serve as an inspector general. In Nick's email, it was pointed out that since all Senate majority and minority leadership members are sponsors or co-sponsors of SB 4, it is rather contradictory that the Senate would be supportive of the PIC having an inspector general under its control. Also, it was pointed out that since Governor Meyer

supports an independent and nonpartisan inspector general office, it is rather contradictory that the Secretary of State would support an IG under the PIC.

Sunset Committee Lead Programs Review - Amy Roe reported that Lead there are no updates on the Sunset Committee. However, Sen Sokola expressed his disinterest that the General Assembly would need accurate agendas.

HB 9 and HB 6 were discussed concerning the State Auditor addressing “double-dipping” by state employers and the need for the State Auditor to have subpoena power, respectively.

Delaware Tax Reporting - Nick reported that DelCOG’s federal taxes were filed via www.form990.org.

New Business - No new business items were discussed.

Open Forum

Keith Steck discussed HB 96, which is an act relating to reports from the Department of Justice, concerning undocumented Delaware residents.

Amy Roe reported that the City of Newark has reduced public comment from 5 to 2 minutes at City Council meetings.

John Flaherty discussed the failure by the AG’s office to report a free trip, as required by the Delaware Code, as well as the free food delivered to the General Assembly.

DelCOG’s board meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.