

**Delaware Coalition for Open Government
Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 9, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER: President John Kowlako III called the virtual board meeting to order at 6:33 p.m., via Zoom.

PRESENT – Officers and Board Members: John Kowalko III, president; Al Jackson, vice-president; Anita Rush, treasurer; Nick Wasilesk, secretary; Keith Steck; Bill Shields; John Flaherty; Coralie Pryde, Joe Edelen; **Advisory Board Members:** John Kowlako Jr.; Katherine Ward. **Members and Guests:** Bill Sharpe; Connie Merlot; Amy Roe; Bob Erenburg; Sarah Bucic; Lynn.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Board Meeting Minutes were approved for the months of September 2024, October 2024, November 2024, March 2025, and August 2025.

Treasurer’s Report:

- Checking Account: \$5,118.27
- Savings Account: \$7,802.90
- Total Balance as of August 31, 2025: \$12,921.17

The following **New Business** items were advanced on the agenda, following the Treasurer’s report:

- A motion by Kowalko III to elect Joe Edelen to the DelCOG Board passed unanimously.
- A motion by Kowalko III to elect Bill Shields to the DelCOG Board passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Inspector General Committee: Wasileski reported that after 7 years of DelCOG effort, on August 14, 2025, Governor Matt Meyer signed SB 4 into law creating the Delaware Office of the State Inspector General. A motion by Kowalko III was passed unanimously for Steck to represent DelCOG on the Inspector General Selection Panel, as the designee of the President of the Board.

Delaware Corporate Law Committee: Wasileski reported on an August 13, 2025, *Bloomberg Law* article, titled “Delaware Corporate Law Changes Endanger Investors, Scholars Say,” which concerned SB 21, which reduces shareholder rights relating to claims by majority stockholders.

Technology Committee: Kowalko III reported that DelCOG’s website has been updated.

Nominating Committee: Wasileski reported that the Nominating Committee for DelCOG officers in 2026-2027 are as follows: Keith Steck, president; Bill Shields, vice-president; Anita

Rush, treasurer; and John Kowlako III, secretary. Ward reported that a letter seeking nominations with an October 6 reply deadline would be emailed to the DelCOG membership.

Bylaws Committee: The Committee will meet in the near future to conclude revisions to DelCOG's bylaws and then to be presented to the board for further action.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

SB 13, Hospital Assessment Commission: Kowalko III will send a letter to the Commission about medical oversight.

HB 311 School Safety Zone: Kowalko III will send a letter to the bill's sponsor concerning handguns on state property, where property boundaries are not clear because of a lack of signage and markings.

Sunset Committee Lead Programs Review: Roe reported on the lack of information concerning the \$3.4 million allocated for school water filters to address lead contamination.

New Castle County Data Center Proposal: Steck reported on Senator Stephanie Hansen's "Energy Stakeholders Group" which discussed concerns about the proposed hyperscale data center to be built in New Castle County. Merlot suggested that DelCOG should focus on good government and transparency issues, while the Delaware Sierra Club would address environmental issues. A motion by Kowalko III was passed unanimously creating a DelCOG Data Center Committee. Steck, Shields, Ward, Jackson, Roe, Pryde, and Wasileski volunteered to be on the committee.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion by Kowalko III to reimburse Kowalko III for the annual Zoom fee for 2025-2026 in the amount of \$159.90 passed unanimously.

A motion by Kowalko III to approve DelCOG's 2024 financial audit (reviewed by Kowalko III and Wasileski) passed unanimously.

OPEN FORUM

DelCOG initiatives for 2026 will be discussed at the October board meeting.

The next board meeting is scheduled for October 14, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Submitted by Nick Wasileski, Secretary