

SUPPORT INFRASTRUCTURE INCLUDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF STRATEGIC PARTNERING OPPORTUNITIES AND BUSINESS INCUBATION;

(5) FOSTER CROSS-INDUSTRY COMMUNICATION AND ASSIST OTHER ORGANIZATIONS IN TRANSFERRING TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND COMMERCIALIZING THE RESULTS AND PRODUCTS OF SCIENTIFIC AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CONDUCTED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES; AND

(6) WORK WITH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LENDING AND GRANT-MAKING INSTITUTIONS TO:

(I) MAKE LOW- AND NO-INTEREST LOANS AND LOAN GUARANTEES AVAILABLE FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT, PRIMARY PROCESSING, AND SECONDARY MANUFACTURING;

(II) PROVIDE CREDIT AND CAPITAL TO FIRST-TIME FARMERS FOR LAND, EQUIPMENT, AND WORKING CAPITAL ACQUISITION; AND

(III) MAKE INCENTIVES AVAILABLE FOR ACTIVITIES RELATED TO SMALL FARM OR SMALL LANDOWNER VIABILITY AND BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES.

13-504.

(A) (1) THERE IS A BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATION.

(2) THE BOARD MANAGES THE CORPORATION AND EXERCISES ALL OF ITS CORPORATE POWERS.

(B) THE BOARD CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

(1) AS EX OFFICIO MEMBERS:

(I) THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE OR A DESIGNEE OF THE SECRETARY WHO MUST BE A SENIOR-LEVEL DEPARTMENTAL OFFICIAL;

(II) THE SECRETARY OF NATURAL RESOURCES OR A DESIGNEE OF THE SECRETARY WHO MUST BE A SENIOR-LEVEL DEPARTMENTAL OFFICIAL;

(III) THE SECRETARY OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OR A DESIGNEE OF THE SECRETARY WHO MUST BE A SENIOR-LEVEL DEPARTMENTAL OFFICIAL;

(IV) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MARYLAND FOOD CENTER AUTHORITY;

(V) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE RURAL MARYLAND COUNCIL; AND

(VI) THE DIRECTOR OF THE MARYLAND COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE; AND