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**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE MASSACHUSETTS LIFE SCIENCES CENTER  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**June 22, 2022**

**Hybrid: In-person at MLSC Offices and Virtual via Microsoft Teams**

1. Call to Order: Co- Chairperson Mark Fuller

Mark Fuller, presiding as chairperson of the Board of Directors (the “Board”) of the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center (the “MLSC” or “Center”) called the meeting to order. The meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed with its business. Members Mr. Fuller, Ms. Hornby, Dr. Chen, Mr. Abelson, Dr. Kearney were present in person, Member Ms. Randawha was connected virtually

Mr. Fuller then turned the meeting to a Guest Speaker: Laura Stracco, Science Teacher, John W. Rogers Middle School, Rockland Public schools. Ms. Stracco informed the Board that MLSC funding and support has meant a lot to Rockland public schools, and the equipment lead to increased engagement of students and was invaluable. Mr. Stracco reported an improvement in MCAS scores and class involvement as a result of the hands-on science made possible with the FY22 Grant. Lab aids kits lead to fostering a deep interest in science and for some students even a love of science; teachers will have the opportunity to engage in up to 10 hours of paid professional development offered through STARS virtual conference through the PD grant funding.

2. Approval of April Meeting Minutes: Co- Chairperson Mark Fuller

The Board reviewed the minutes of the April 27, 2022 Board meeting. Upon motions duly made, seconded and carried, the Board approved the minutes.

3. Chair Updates: Co-Chairperson Mark Fuller and Co-Chairperson Catharine Hornby

Mr. Fuller reported that the Governor and his administration continue to work with Legislature in getting the economic development bill and other initiatives across finish line. Mr. Fuller reported that the initiative to have MLSC funding be a line-item was not included, but will continue to pursue that; however, the extension of current authorization is part of the Bond Bill.

Ms. Hornby reported they expect to file for \$10M in CNS so the Center will not lose out on funding, and expects Legislature will see this as more in alignment with past protocol and will go along with it. There was not real resistance to the funding for MLSC, just a mild resistance to the new path for funding.

4. CEO Report: Kenneth Turner, President and CEO

Mr. Turner began his welcome message with an overview of the initiatives that will be presented to the Board during the meeting. Mr. Turner then introduced new members to the Team at MLSC. Mr. Turner gave a brief report on the BIO conference, stating that Tax Incentive Program awardees were announced at the conference.

5. FY2023 MLSC Operating Budget, Peter Breiling, Vice President of Finance

Mr. Turner then introduced the operating budget agenda item with a general overview of “budget philosophy” and fiscal responsibility. Mr. Breiling started his presentation with a review of the financial assumptions for the FY23 operating budget, which includes \$305K nonrecurring expenses to drive the growth of MLSC: there being two major conferences occurring in FY23, and the initiative to develop a Workforce Development Strategy to help close the gap between hiring needs and available resources. Mr. Breiling stated the additional assumption of a full staff at 24 team members in FY23, and an annual merit

increase January 2023. Mr. Breiling gave an overview of MLSC operating budget trajectory since FY2018 –along with the average “run rate”.

Mr. Fuller interjected with an observation that the typical funding amount was at \$4.8M. Mr. Abelson asked if an economic analysis of impact of our programs on workforce/wage numbers is needed, and whether there can be an allocation in budget.

Mr. Breiling stated that the budget “ask” for FY23 is \$5.1M, which represents a \$690K or 15% increase over FY22, stating that payroll and benefits represent significant portion of that increase, then sponsorships cost increases and a placeholder for the Workforce Development strategy analysis. Mr. Breiling presented a comparison between FY22 and FY23

There were no further questions or discussion items regarding the operating budget from the Board. Ms. Hornby explained why she would be abstaining.

Upon a motion duly made, seconded and carried by roll call vote, the Board resolved to authorize and approve the total dollar amount of the Center’s operating budget for fiscal year 2023 (Operating Budget) and the expenditure of monies not to exceed such Operating Budget.

6. FY2023 STEM Equipment and Professional Development Awards, Ryan Mudawar, Vice President, Education and Workforce Programs

Mr. Mudawar presented on the Fiscal Year 2023 STEM equipment and professional development awards, beginning with an overview of the mission and goals of the program, funding to date and brief review of some historical successes and impact of investments. Mr. Mudawar informed the Board that FY22 reverted to a competitive program, with schools applying through their district rather than as individual schools. Mr. Mudawar presented specific program overview, application process, eligibility, review panel and for the program. Mr. Mudawar then presented a few applicant spotlights to give a snapshot of the program’s impact. The members of the Board did not have any questions for Mr. Mudawar or discussion points.

Upon a motion duly made, seconded and carried by roll call vote, the Board resolved to authorize up to a total of two million fifty-nine thousand eight hundred ninety-eight dollars (\$2,059,898) of MLSC funds comprised of one million seven hundred forty-two thousand eight hundred thirty-eight dollars (\$1,742,838) from Capital Funds and three hundred seventeen thousand sixty dollars (\$317,060) from Investment Funds, as presented.

[3:30pm: Dr. Kearney and Ms. Randhawa no longer present at meeting]

7. FY23-24 Workforce Development Capital Grant Program Awards , Ryan Mudawar, Vice President of Education and Workforce Programs

Mr. Mudawar presented to board on the new capital program, which was designed similar to previous competitive capital programs, beginning with an overview of program requirements and eligibility criteria, as well as the program timeline from application period to evaluation, review and selection, and a quick synopsis of review panel. Mr. Mudawar then presented the proposed awardees and their industry support, and included applicant spotlights to highlight the impact of the program.

Members of the Board had the opportunity to pose questions and discussion items regarding the Workforce Development Capital Grant Program Proposal. The Board inquired whether there are statistics on whether students in the funded programs stay in MA and contribute to the workforce. A discussion regarding community colleges and state universities followed, with a recognition that community colleges and state universities generally involve students who stay in the area of the school. Mr. Mudawar informed the Board that MLSC works closely with the community colleges, universities and industry stakeholders regarding workforce development.

Upon a motion duly made, seconded and carried by roll call vote, the Board resolved to authorize up to a

total of twelve million six-hundred thousand dollars (\$12,600,000) from Capital Funds to the proposed awardees as presented.

8. Lever Challenge Program, Jeffrey Thomas, MD, PhD, Executive Director of Lever

Mr. Turner introduced the next agenda item and presenter Jeffrey Thomas of Lever, with some brief remarks on western MA momentum and partnership with Lever and the Berkshire Innovation Center. Mr. Thomas introduced himself, and then began his presentation to the Board on the Lever Challenge proposal by providing an overview of the importance of innovation, the benefit of sponsorship and an overview of Lever. Mr. Thomas presented on the western MA health technology challenges outcomes and impact from 2019-2021, and included information on program support from sponsors, including UMass Amherst and the BIC. Mr. Thomas provided a summary of the proposal, which involves extending the Innovation Challenge for three more years, where MLSC funding would go to life sciences awardees; Jeff included a description of the robust support Lever provides finalists, including mentoring and networking.

The Board had the opportunity to pose questions and discuss matters related to the proposal, beginning with a discussion of how the program is like a “force multiplier” of the MLSC mission/model, and the regionalization focus of the challenge, as it is located in Berkshire County. Mr. Thomas was asked about the in-kind support provided by Lever, and how it will be confirmed that awardees receiving MLSC funding need to be life sciences focus. It was stated that MLSC has a position on the Challenge review panel. There were no further questions or discussion from the Board.

Upon a motion duly made, seconded and carried by roll call vote, the Board resolved to authorize the expenditure of a grant up to three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) from the Investment Fund to support the Lever Challenge Programs over a three-year period.

Materials used during Meeting:

- Agenda
- CEO Update Presentation
- Draft Minutes from April 27, 2022 Board of Directors Meeting
- Presentation: FY2023 Operating Budget
- Presentation: FY2023 STEM Equipment and Professional Development Awards
- Presentation: FY23-24 Workforce Development Capital Grant Program Awards
- Presentation: 2022 Lever Challenge