

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

DATE: June 17, 2020
TIME: 2:00 p.m. EST
PLACE: Via WebEx: Meeting number: 793 330 242
<https://massachusettslifesciencescompany-fqs.my.webex.com/massachusettslifesciencescompany-fqs.my/j.php?MTID=m4e9f6d820153573f5e5a251c13d1064d>

DIRECTORS Connected: Stuart Abelson
Julie Chen (designee for Marty Meehan)
Mark Fuller (designee for Secretary Michael Kennealy)
Jacqueline Grant
Catharine Hornby (designee for Secretary Michael Heffernan)
Pam Randhawa

1. Call to Order

Mark Fuller called the meeting of the Board of Directors (the “Board”) of the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center (the “MLSC” or “Center”) to order at 2:10 p.m. The meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed with its business.

2. Approval of Minutes

The Board then reviewed the minutes of the February 26, 2020 and the April 15, 2020 Board meetings. Upon motions duly made, seconded and carried, the Board adopted the resolutions to approve the minutes.

3. Chairs’ Updates

Mr. Fuller welcomed Damon Cox, Assistant Secretary of Technology, Innovation and Entrepreneurship, as the new Interim President and CEO of the MLSC. Mr. Fuller also thanked Timothy McGourthy who served as Interim President and CEO prior to departing to become the Chief Financial Officer of the City of Worcester. Catharine Hornby reported that the Commonwealth’s capital investment plan had been released with \$40 million reserved for the MLSC in FY21.

4. CEO Update

Mr. Cox thanked Board members and staff. He noted that securing a permanent CEO for the Center was a top priority for Secretary Kennealy. Mr. Cox also reported that the MLSC was

getting close to finalizing the investment for additional testing capacity with the Broad Institute. Dr. Julie Chen inquired whether a recoverable grant was feasible and Ms. Hornby indicated that bond counsel perceived such an approach to constitute a potential violation of the credit clause because it could be construed as a loan.

3. FY2021 Operating Budget

Ms. Cheryl Sadeli, Vice President of Finance, presented an overview of the Center's FY2021 operating budget for the Board's consideration. She noted that savings had been realized for FY20 due to the departure of the Center's CEO in January, a delay in capital projects, and the fact that BIO was virtual this year due to the pandemic. Ms. Sadeli added that she has included additional costs in the FY21 budget for cleaning, plexiglass for cubicles, and PPE when staff return to the office. She also reported on increased legal fees due to the ongoing litigation over the angel tax incentive credit, future costs for marketing collateral, and expenses associated with completion of the geo-tag project. Ms. Sadeli closed by reviewing the Investment Fund forecast.

Upon a motion duly made, seconded and carried, the Board unanimously adopted the resolution to approve the MLSC's FY21 budget.

4. Seed Fund: Nutrimed Investment

Dr. Jennifer Griffin, Vice President of Industry Strategy and Investments, presented the third potential investment in Nutrimed, a company that specializes in medical nutrition therapy with a potential market of 100 million patients. Nutrimed's targeted indications include IBS, chronic kidney disease, congestive heart failure and oncology. Stuart Abelson noted that this is a great opportunity because it is a new and emerging area that is not well managed now. Pam Randhawa reported on an oncology company, Care Forward, that is active in this space and Dr. Julie Chen inquired about the protection of intellectual property for each of the indications. Dr. Griffin observed that each partnership for a separate indication will undoubtedly require a customization of additional IP. Catharine Hornby inquired whether there was a preference as to the investment timeline. Dr. Griffin responded that our primary goal is to drive economic development and attract follow-on funding by evaluating companies based on the validity of their technology and whether there is a market opportunity. She noted that the return on investment is a secondary goal for this program.

Upon a motion duly made, seconded and carried, the Board unanimously adopted the resolution to approve a \$250,000 investment in Nutrimed.

5. Seed Fund: Recapitalization for Year 2

Dr. Griffin provided a review of year one of the Seed Fund which included 68 applicants, more than 35 feedback calls, 23 companies invited to pitch, 6 companies advancing to due diligence and 2 investments made. She emphasized the value of the extensive feedback to companies that were not yet ready for a seed fund investment as valuable coaching and introductions to strategics and industry partners. Dr. Griffin then made the case to expand the regions from which applicants could apply to include Beverly, Mansfield and North Adams due to the presence in each of those regions of incubator infrastructure and a burgeoning life sciences ecosystem.

Upon a motion duly made, seconded and carried, the Board unanimously adopted the resolution to approve \$1,000,000 to recapitalize year 2 of the Seed Fund.

6. Targeted Capital Programs

Dr. Carla Reimold, Director of Industry Strategy and Investments, began her presentation of the Targeted Capital Programs by reminding Board members that Bits to Bytes is in its second round to support data science with Novel Therapeutics Delivery and Women’s Health being offered for the first time. She indicated that the 2020 Competitive Capital Program was intended for investments in core infrastructure. For all awards, instruments and equipment must be shared and made accessible to the life sciences ecosystem and industry partners are responsible for funding at least one new post-doc to work on the project.

Dr. Reimold reported that 6 applicants had applied to the Bits to Bytes solicitation, 7 applicants to the Novel Therapeutics solicitation, and 6 applicants to the Women’s Health solicitation. Dr. Chen inquired about the limited number of applicants and Dr. Reimold explained that the specificity of the target areas and the fact that companies may not have budgeted for these areas may have contributed to fewer applications. Dr. Reimold emphasized, however, the strength of the proposals as validated by the peer reviewers. Dr. Reimold then presented each of the awardees from the three solicitation.

Upon a motion duly made, seconded and carried, the Board unanimously adopted the resolution to approve \$ 4,640,749 for the awardees of the second round of the Bits to Bytes Program.

Upon a motion duly made, seconded and carried, the Board unanimously adopted the resolution to approve \$ 4,271,776 for the awardees of the Bits to Novel Therapeutics Delivery

Program.

Upon a motion duly made, seconded and carried, the Board unanimously adopted the resolution to approve \$ 4,123,531 for the awardees of the Women's Health Program.

7. Chelsea District School Grant

Ryan Mudawar, Senior Director of Education and Workforce Partnerships, presented an opportunity to support the Chelsea public school district with funding for STEM equipment and professional development training for the high school and four middle schools through new partnerships with Science from Scientists and BioTeach.

Upon a motion duly made, seconded and carried, the Board unanimously adopted the resolution to approve up to \$100,537 in capital funding and \$93,700 from the Investment Fund to support the Chelsea Public School District.

Adjourn

Mark Fuller, Board Co-Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:00p.m.

List of Materials and Exhibits Used During Meeting:

- Board Agenda
- Minutes from February 26, 2020 and April 15, 2020 Board Meetings
- Motion: to Approve February 26, 2020 and April 15, 2020 Minutes
- Presentation of FY21 Operating Budget
- Motion: Approval of FY21 Operating Budget
- Presentation of Nutrimey as a Seed Fund Investment
- Motion: Approval of Nutrimey Seed Fund Investment
- Presentation of Recapitalization of Year 2 of the Seed Fund
- Motion: Approval of Recapitalization of Year 2 of the Seed Fund
- Presentation of Targeted Capital Programs: Bits to Bytes, Novel Therapeutic Delivery and Women's Health
- Motions: Approval of Bits to Bytes, Novel Therapeutic Delivery and Women's Health Awardees
- Presentation of Chelsea District Grant
- Motion: Approval of Chelsea District Grant