



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

DATE: 3.25.25  
TIME: 2:00 p.m. EST  
PLACE: MLSC 1075 Main Street, Suite 100, Waltham, MA

Members Present: Secretary Yvonne Hao  
Bran Shim, Designee for Secretary Gorzkowicz  
Chris Coburn  
Valerie Fleischman  
Brian Johnson

Members Connected: Dana Mendenhall  
Pam Randhawa

**Call to Order**

*Allyson McLaughlin Huntington, General Counsel*

Allyson Huntington, Board Secretary, called the meeting to order. The meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed with its business. Attendance was noted, as recorded above.

**Approval of Minutes**

*Allyson McLaughlin Huntington, General Counsel*

The Board reviewed the minutes of the February 26, 2025. Minutes were adopted as presented.

**Introductions – New Board Members**

The new members of the MLSC Board of Directors were welcomed and had the opportunity to introduce themselves.

**Co-Chairs' Updates**

*Secretary Yvonne Hao, Executive Office of Economic Development*

*Bran Shim as designee for Matthew Gorzkowicz, Executive Office of Administration and Finance*

Secretary Hao welcomed the new board members, updated the board on status of budget hearings, status of capital plan, and general economic development activity in the Commonwealth. Mr. Shim echoed the updates provided by Secretary Hao and provided additional updates on funding impacting the MLSC.

**MLSC 3.0 Strategy**

*Kirk Taylor, M.D., President and CEO, MLSC*

Dr. Taylor introduced the MLSC 3.0 Strategy. Robust discussion ensued regarding the expectations for the board members at this meeting considering the recent appointments for each new member. Dr. Taylor then gave an overview of the MLSC vision and mission, going over areas of interest in innovation and continuing with key themes of leading future generations. The members of the Board posed questions regarding the material and engaged in discussion of the 3.0 Strategy.

Jeanne LeClair, Chief Business Officer for MLSC, provided additional information regarding the Biomanufacturing Initiative. Carla Reimold, PhD, Executive Vice President of Scientific Innovation and Strategic Investments, provided additional information regarding the Biobank Initiative.

**VOTE: Pathmaker Awards**

*Jeanne LeClair, Chief Business Officer*

Ms. LeClair provided an update on the Pathmaker program, and gave a summary of the training program before the Board for approval, the industry partner, and the anticipated outcomes. Ms. LeClair welcomed questions from the members of the Board, and discussion followed. Ms. LeClair concluded with the request that the Board approve the award of up to a total of \$480,000 of MLSC Investment Funds to Just A Start.

There being no further discussion, the Board moved to a vote. Upon a motion duly made, seconded and carried by roll call vote, the Board resolved to approve the allocation to the awardee as presented.

**VOTE: FY25 Health Equity Accelerator – Awardees**

*Asmi Chakraborty, PhD, Director, Scientific Innovation and Strategic Investments*

Dr. Chakraborty presented the opportunity to fund five applications in the new MLSC program titled Health Equity Accelerator and provided a brief overview of the goals and opportunities. Dr. Chakraborty then presented the 5 awardees (Tufts University, Tatum Robotics, Brigham and Women’s Hospital, University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School, and Boston Medical Center) and the proposed grant award of approximately \$50,000 each, to help fund clinical trials, capital equipment, consultants, salaries as well as other expenses. The Board presented questions and engaged in discussion.

There being no further discussion, the Board moved to a vote. Upon a motion duly made, seconded and carried by roll call vote, the Board resolved to approve the allocation to the awardees as presented.

**VOTE: FY25 First Look Awards - Awardees**

*Tiffany Walther, PhD, Project Manager Scientific Innovation and Strategic Investments*

Dr. Walther gave an overview of the First Look Awards program, which supports exploratory research that begins developing translatable solutions for women’s health and gender biology. Dr. Walther gave an overview of the projects proposed for funding. Dr. Walther provided the board an opportunity to ask questions regarding the program in general and the proposed awardees.

There being no further discussion, the Board moved to a vote. Upon a motion duly made, seconded and carried by roll call vote, the Board resolved to approve the allocation to the awardees as presented.

**VOTE: FY25 Women’s Health Innovation – Awardees**

*Tiffany Walther, PhD, Project Manager Scientific Innovation and Strategic Investments*

Dr. Walther presented the Women’s Health Innovation grant program, providing an overview of the award structure, which includes a grant composed of up to \$100K of investment dollars and \$200K in capital dollars for projects that last approximately two years. Dr. Walther presented the ten proposed awardees and invited questions from the Board for discussion.

There being no further discussion, the Board moved to a vote. Upon a motion duly made, seconded and carried by roll call vote, the Board resolved to approve the allocation to the awardees as presented.

**VOTE: Research Infrastructure Grants**

*Audrey Medeiros, PhD, Project Manager Educational Partnerships and Workforce Investments*

Dr. Medeiros gave an overview of the program and funding requests. Dr. Medeiros presented a summary of the thirty-one applications received and gave details on the projects proposed for funding.

A discussion followed, with Board Members requesting additional information on the review process and review panel and Dr. Reimold providing information to the satisfaction of the Board members. Dr. Medeiros requested funding for the Research Infrastructure Program awardees in the total amount of \$16,349,204.

There being no further discussion, the Board moved to a vote. Upon a motion duly made, seconded and carried by roll call vote, the Board resolved to approve the allocation to the awardees as presented.

**Other Business:****Adjourn****Materials Used During Meeting:**

Agenda

Minutes of the February 26, 2025 Board of Directors Meeting

MLSC 3.0 Strategy

VOTE: Economic Development: FY25 Pathmaker – Awards

VOTE: FY25 Health Equity Accelerator – Awardees

VOTE: FY25 First Look Awards - Awardees

VOTE: FY25 Women's Health Innovation – Awardees

VOTE: FY25 Research Infrastructure