



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

DATE: September 26, 2025
TIME: 9:00 a.m. EST
PLACE: MLSC 1075 Main Street, Suite 100, Waltham, MA

Members Present: Secretary Eric Paley
Bran Shim, Designee for Secretary Gorzkowicz
Pam Randhawa
Christopher Coburn
Valerie Fleishman
Brian Johnson
Thea James, MD

Members Connected: Dana Mendenhall

Members Absent: Julie Chen, PhD, Designee for UMass President Marty Meehan

Call to Order

Allyson McLaughlin Huntington, General Counsel and Board Secretary

Allyson Huntington, Board Secretary and General Counsel 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. Attendance was noted, as recorded above.

Introduction and Welcome

Kirk Taylor MD, President and CEO

Dr. Taylor welcomed the Board and introduced Secretary Paley, who then gave a few remarks.

Approval of Minutes

Allyson McLaughlin Huntington, General Counsel and Board Secretary

The Board reviewed the minutes of the June 25, 2025. Upon motions duly made, seconded and carried, the Board approved the minutes.

Co-Chairs’ Updates

Secretary Eric Paley, Executive Office of Economic Development

Secretary Paley provided brief remarks regarding the DRIVE Initiative.

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

Mr. Shim provided brief remarks regarding the MLSC inclusion in the close-out supplemental budget. The Governor included \$20M for the MLSC in the close-out supplemental budget. Mr. Shim anticipates a November-December timeline for finalizing. The Board had an opportunity to pose questions regarding the supplemental budget and the DRIVE initiative, including messaging around each.

CEO Report

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

Dr. Taylor provided a summary of recent events and convenings, with an overview of upcoming initiatives and events for the MLSC throughout the MA life sciences ecosystem. The members of the Board had the opportunity to engage in robust discussion of the activities of the MLSC and how it correlates to the needs of the life sciences ecosystem.

VOTE: 2024 MLSC Tax Incentive Program – Mini Round – awardees

Peter Breiling, Chief Financial Officer

Mr. Breiling presented the 2024 Tax Incentive Programs for Rounds 1 and 2. Mr. Breiling provided a recap of what the Board of Directors approved at the April 30, 2025, meeting and action taken at the June 25, 2025 meeting when the Board authorized MLSC to run a second round of the program to fully utilize the \$40 million. Mr. Breiling discussed the 2024 Awards per Net New Jobs, allocation per net new job, and the awards for round two. A brief comparison of the prior year awards, new companies to the program and demographics were discussed. Mr. Breiling fielded questions from the Board Members.

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: Challenges Allocation

Carla Reimold, Ph.D., EVP Scientific Innovation and Strategic Investments

Cinar Efe Sumer, MSc, Senior Investment Associate, Scientific Innovation and Strategic Investments

Mr. Sumer presented the MLSC challenge programs and pitch competitions, highlighting the importance of MLSC funding as a catalyst for follow-on funding. Mr. Sumer introduced Dr. Philip Strandwitz from Holobiome, a 2017 Challenge awardee, to further highlight the success of the MLSC challenge program. Mr. Sumer concluded by reaffirming the outstanding history for supporting these early-stage companies and invited questions from the committee.

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 authorize the allocation to the program as presented.

VOTE: Education and Workforce Development Grant Program – Allocation

Ryan Mudawar, EVP Educational Partnerships and Workforce Investments

Mr. Mudawar presented the Education and Workforce Development Grant Program that includes MLSC's existing three grant programs (Workforce Development Capital Grant Program, STEM Equipment and Professional Development Grant Program, and Out-of-School Time Grant Program) and adds Gamechanger to support large-scale workforce development projects. Mr. Mudawar briefly went through each of the existing programs, including awards granted since inception and eligibility requirements. Mr. Mudawar introduced the Gamechanger Grants Program that seeks to accelerate the creation, expansion or the enhancement of life sciences education and workforce development initiatives through investments in the industry with aligned projects. Mr. Mudawar discussed eligibility requirements, application and review process and invited questions from board members.

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 authorize the allocation to the program as presented.

Executive Session

Upon motion duly made, seconded and carried by roll call vote, the Board resolved to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing matters involving the Compensation Committee. The Board further resolved to adjourn without reentering open session.

Adjourn**Materials Used During Meeting:**

Agenda

Minutes of the June 25, 2025, Board of Directors Meeting

2024 MLSC Tax Incentive Program

Challenges Allocation

Education and Workforce Development Grant Program

MLSC CEO Report