

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

DATE: 2.28.2024 TIME: 2:00 p.m. EST

PLACE: MLSC 1075 Main Street, Suite 100, Waltham, MA

Members Present: Gary Kearney, M.D.

Pam Randhawa

Members Connected: Secretary Yvonne Hao

Khushbu Webber, Designee for Secretary Gorzkowicz

Julie Chen, Ph.D, Designee for UMass President Marty Meehan

Uciane Scarlett Stuart Abelson

Members Absent: (none)

# Call to Order - Allyson McLaughlin Huntington, General Counsel

Allyson Huntington, 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 after attendance was noted.

# **Approval of Minutes -** Allyson McLaughlin Huntington, General Counsel

The Board reviewed the minutes of the December 20, 2023. Upon motions duly made, seconded and carried, the Board approved the minutes.

#### Co-Chairs' Updates -

Secretary Yvonne Hao, Executive Office of Economic Development Khushbu Webber as designee for Matthew Gorzkowicz, Executive Office of Administration and Finance

Secretary Hao began her update, reporting that the Governor gave a speech at the Chambers of Commerce in which she highlighted the Life Sciences Initiative. Secretary Hao indicated the Economic Development Bill is close to being filed.

Ms. Webber provided an update from the EOAF, stating that A&F is excited about the Economic Development Bill and echoed much of what Secretary Hao provided in her update.

#### ARPA-H Update –

Secretary Yvonne Hao, Executive Office of Economic Development Joseph P. Sullivan – Senior Advisor, Vice President of Marketing

Mr. Sullivan presented highlights on ARPA-H, and ARPANET-H activity since the launch event. Mr. Sullivan highlighted the Investor Catalyst Hub, project calls, programs that are being run and making headlines, and an overview as well as of MLSC's activities and next step opportunities. Secretary Hao provided additional details from recent convenings and activity, and

forward-looking goals for the MLSC involvement. Members of the Board engaged in a discussion of the current status of ARPA-H in general and the Investor Catalyst Hub specifically.

# **CEO Report -** Jeanne LeClair, acting CEO, MLSC

Ms. LeClair opened her report thanking the Board for their support, and provided a short presentation highlighting the active programs at the MLSC. Ms. LeClair provided a summary of recent convenings, including a training provider workshop, the MassNextGen awardees announcement, and the diversity in clinical trials event. Ms. LeClair then provided a synopsis of active programs.

#### VOTE: Pathmaker Awards - Jeanne LeClair, Vice President of Economic Development & Partnerships

Ms. LeClair provided an update on the status of the Pathmaker program, with a brief summary of the goals of the program, and the application, review and selection process. Ms. LeClair continued with a detailed summary of the three training programs before the Board for approval, the industry partners, and the anticipated outcomes of the training programs. A presentation of the refreshed website and marketing material for the Pathmaker program was presented to the Board. Ms. LeClair welcomed questions from the members of the Board, and discussion followed.

Ms. LeClair concluded with the request that the Board approve the Investment Fund allocation to the awardees, up to a total of \$144,000 of MLSC Investment Funds to BioBuilder, \$600,000 of MLSC Investment Funds to WPI, and \$750,000 of MLSC Investment Funds to Bioversity.

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.

The Pathmaker Team and the Marketing and Communications Team then provided a presentation on the Pathmaker website and refreshed branding, with various engagement levels.

#### **VOTE: Research Infrastructure Grants** – Dr. Carla Reimold, Ph.D, Vice President, Industry Strategy and Investments

Dr. Reimold provided a prologue to the Research Infrastructure presentation, with an overview of the Research Equipment Database. The board engaged in a robust discussion of the database.

Dr. Reimold then presented the FY24 Research Infrastructure program with a detailed overview of the evolution of the capital funding programs at the MLSC from inception to the current Research Infrastructure program and Themed Capital programs. Dr. Reimold then gave an overview of the program and the review panel, including objectives of the program, eligibility for applications, and funding requests. Dr. Reimold presented a summary of the twenty-three applications received and then continued with details on the selected applications including funding requests and matching funds identified by applicants. Dr. Reimold gave details on each project that was selected by the review panel, including details on information each applicant must provide regarding how the equipment will be made publicly available and shared including letters of interest of industry partners and researchers seeking to use the core facility. Dr. Reimold then presented details of the proposed awardees, including the technology underlying the project and industry sponsor matching funds.

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. Reimold requested funding for the Research Infrastructure Program awardees in the total amount of \$8,987,501.

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.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

# **Materials Used During Meeting:**

Agenda
Minutes of the December 20, 2023 Board of Directors Meeting
ARPA-H Presentation
CEO Report Presentation
Research Infrastructure Presentation
Pathmaker Presentation