

**ARKANSAS SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AUTHORITY**

100 Main Street, Suite 450, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201 (501) 324-9006

**MINUTES OF THE 58TH MEETING OF THE  
ARKANSAS SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AUTHORITY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS  
SEPTEMBER 17, 1993**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 1:26 p.m. by Mr. Jerry Webster, Vice Chairman of the Board, in Room 272 of the State Capitol, Little Rock.

A quorum of Board members were present and included: Dr. Joe Bates, Mr. William C. Bridgforth, Dr. Roberta Bustin, Dr. Diane Gilleland, Mr. James Kelley, Dr. Donald Pederson, Dr. Phillip Rayford, and Mr. John Troutt.

Staff members present included: John Ahlen, Jim Benham, Joe Gentry, Chuck Myers, Melissa Adams, Susan Collins, Al Grijalva, Joyce Sadler, Julie Welch, Brock Patterson and Courtney Johnson-Woods.

Visitors included: Carol Griffee, Editorial Services, Inc. and Kelly Hunt, Governor's Office.

Mr. Webster announced two new Board members. Dr. Roberta Bustin from Arkansas College Batesville, who was in attendance at the meeting, and Mr. Danny Ford from Rector. Mr. Webster welcomed Dr. Bustin to the Board.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Webster presented the minutes from the May 21 and July 16 Board meetings for approval. Mr. Troutt made a motion for the approval of the minutes. Mr. Bridgforth seconded the motion; the Board gave its unanimous approval.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Ahlen introduced two new staff members. Brock Patterson is the new finance program manager, replacing Jacqui Klodt. Courtney Johnson-Woods has filled the communications manager position, replacing Janell Sanders.

Dr. Ahlen stated that the Technology Reinvestment Proposal had been completed and submitted. ASTA has not yet heard whether the proposal will be funded. Dr. Ahlen stated it would probably be middle or late October before ASTA received word on funding.

The state has entered into a joint agreement with NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama to provide technology transfer services to small and medium-sized enterprises in Arkansas. ASTA will be the state's point of contact with NASA.

Dr. Ahlen stated that he recently attended The State-Federal Technology Partnership Colloquium, conducted by the Carnegie Commission, in Virginia. Arkansas was one of nine states whose science and technology programs were summarized in the Colloquium's briefing book.

**GOVERNOR'S VISIT**

In recognition of ASTA's 10th anniversary, Governor Jim Guy Tucker was present at the Board meeting. Governor Tucker thanked the Board members for their service and expressed appreciation for ASTA's work over the past ten years. Governor Tucker stated that he hopes ASTA and its programs continue growing.

The Governor also stated that funds would be released to match the next round of EPSCoR.

**RESEARCH COMMITTEE**

Dr. Rayford stated that the Research Committee met on May 4, 1993 and recommended for the Board's approval the following resolutions:

Draft Resolution 94-2 provides for the funding of two applied research proposals:

PROPOSAL NO. 94-A-03, "The Development of a Three-Phase Harmonic Generator for Testing of Solid-State Demand Meters," by Dr. Kraig J. Olejniczak of the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, in an amount not to exceed \$43,000. The project is cosponsored by Entergy Services, Inc. in the amount of \$71,500.

PROPOSAL NO. 94-A-04, "An Evaluation of Desiccant Drying of Rice," by Dr. Terry J. Siebenmorgen of the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, in an amount not to exceed \$20,000. This project is cosponsored by Riceland Foods, in the amount of \$20,000.

Dr. Rayford made a motion for the approval of Draft Resolution 94-2. Dr. Pederson seconded the motion and stated that UAF was the institution of his affiliation. The Board gave its unanimous approval.

Draft Resolution 94-3 provides for the funding of three basic research proposals:

PROPOSAL NO. 94-B-18, "Existence and Fine Properties of Solutions to Problems Arising in the Study of Electrical Heating of a Conductor," by Dr. Xiangsheng Xu of the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, in an amount not to exceed \$11,551.

PROPOSAL NO. 94-B-21, "The Lipid Adsorption Properties of Silicate Adsorbents using Infra-red Spectroscopy," by Dr. Andrew Proctor of the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, in an amount not to exceed \$21,152.

PROPOSAL NO. 94-B-25, "Geometry and Dynamics of the Dual Billiard Transformation," by Dr. Serge Tabachnikov of the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, in an amount not to exceed \$12,152.

Dr. Rayford made a motion to approve Draft Resolution 94-3. Dr. Pederson seconded the motion and stated that UAF was the institution of his affiliation. The Board gave its unanimous approval.

Draft Resolution 94-4 provides for the funding of two basic research proposals:

PROPOSAL NO. 94-B-26, "The Ionotropic Effects of the N-Terminal Peptides of Proatrial Natriuretic Factor (a.a. 1-30, 31-67) on Cultured Adult Rat Ventricular Myocytes," by Dr. Shi Liu of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, in an amount not to exceed \$30,005.

PROPOSAL NO. 94-B-30, "Determination of Cell-Surface Protease Activity," by Dr. Thomas J. Kelly, Jr. of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, in an amount not to exceed \$31,404.

Dr. Rayford made a motion to approve Draft Resolution 94-4. Mr. Troutt seconded the motion. Dr. Rayford stated that UAMS was the institution of his affiliation. The Board gave its unanimous approval.

Draft Resolution 94-5 provides for the funding of one basic research proposal:

PROPOSAL NO. 94-B-28, "Growth Effects of Growth Hormone Releasing Peptide," by Dr. Catherine Pihoker of the Arkansas Children's Hospital Research Institute in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.

Dr. Rayford made a motion to approve Draft Resolution 94-5. Mr. Bridgforth seconded the motion. The Board gave its unanimous approval.

#### **INVESTMENT COMMITTEE**

Mr. Kelley called the Board's attention to the FY93 General Fund Expenditure Report and the Investment Fund Report for the quarter ending June 30, 1993. Mr. Kelley made a motion for the acceptance of the fund reports. Mr. Bridgforth seconded the motion. The Board gave its unanimous approval.

#### **CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT**

Jim Benham stated that at a previous Board meeting, it was mentioned that the staff might want to look into extending terms of ASTA's Certificates of Deposit. Brock Patterson stated that the staff was in the process of restructuring the CD pool. Funds would now be put into 12 month CDs instead of the three and six month CDs which is the current practice. Mr. Patterson stated that the bookkeeping would be easier and would increase interest earned on the CDs.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Dr. Ahlen stated that staff members recently met with representatives from Southwestern Bell concerning the \$231 million "information superhighway" project and information on the Southwestern Bell proposal had been sent to members of the Board.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Mr. Troutt presented the Nominating Committee Report. The Committee nominated the following officers for the upcoming year: Jerry Webster, Chairman; Donald Pederson, Vice Chairman; Bill Bridgforth, Secretary. Mr. Troutt made a motion for the approval of the nominations. Mr. Kelley seconded the motion; the Board gave its unanimous approval.

Mr. Webster thanked the Board for his election as Chairman of the Board. Mr. Webster stated that he would like the members to continue serving on the committees they are currently on. He appointed new members Dr. Bustin to the Research Committee and Mr. Ford to the Investment Committee.

#### **NEXT MEETING DATE**

Mr. Webster reminded the Board of the next meeting date of November 19. He suggested that the the Board have the next meeting at a different location, perhaps at the Arkansas School for Mathematics and Sciences or one of the university campuses.

#### **ARKANSAS SCHOOL FOR MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE**

In other business, Dr. Ahlen stated that the Arkansas School for Mathematics and Sciences has offered office space to ASTA. Dr. Ahlen stated that one use for the office space would be to allow researchers who receive funding from ASTA's research program to spend time at the school and share their research with the students.

Mr. Troutt stated that this was an excellent idea, and the staff should set up any necessary guidelines to be followed by the researchers using the office space. Mr. Troutt stated that it might be a good idea to include a stipend for the scientist, which would be an incentive for them.

Mr. Troutt made a motion to authorize the staff to discuss this with the researchers and set up any necessary guidelines. Dr. Bates seconded the motion; the Board gave its unanimous approval.

Mr. Bridgforth inquired about the advertisement that was run in Arkansas Times concerning ASTA Seed Capital and Technology Development programs. He asked if the staff had any future plans to advertise. Dr. Ahlen stated that the staff was in the process of revamping the communications plan and the decision to do any advertising would be made at a later date.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

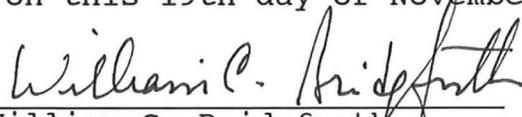
Respectfully submitted,

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William C. Bridgforth  
Secretary  
Board of Directors

**APPROVED** by the Board of Directors  
on this 19th day of November, 1993

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William C. Bridgforth  
Secretary  
Board of Directors