



ARKANSAS SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AUTHORITY

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

**MINUTES OF THE 61ST MEETING OF THE
ARKANSAS SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS FOR MEDICAL SCIENCES
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS
MARCH 18, 1994**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:39 p.m. by Mr. Jerry Webster, Chairman of the Board, in the conference room of the Biomedical Research Center at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Little Rock.

A quorum of Board members was present and included: Mr. William C. Bridgforth, Dr. Roberta Bustin, Mr. Danny Ford, Dr. James Hendren, Dr. Donald O. Pederson, Dr. Phillip Rayford, and Mr. John Troutt.

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

Visitors included: Kelly Hunt from the Governor's Office.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Webster presented the minutes from the January 21, 1994 Board meeting for approval. Dr. Hendren made a motion for the approval of the minutes. Mr. Ford seconded the motion; the Board gave its unanimous approval.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Ahlen brought to the Board's attention the written President's Report in their board books. Staff members then provided updates on current projects at the Authority.

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

Mr. Benham stated that in the future, investment memorandums will be included in the Board prepackets, which will give Board members information on investments they will be asked to approve at Board meetings.

DRAFT RESOLUTION 94-17

On behalf of the Investment Committee, Mr. Bridgforth introduced Draft Resolution 94-17. The resolution would authorize grant funds for projects under the Technology Transfer Assistance Grant (TTAG) program.

Total maximum funding would be \$5,000 per project, with the first \$2,500 of project costs awarded by the Authority and the remainder cost-shared equally (50:50) between the Authority and the enterprise being assisted. This resolution would approve funding up to the amount of \$75,000 for projects approved during the fourth quarter of the state fiscal year 1994.

Dr. Ahlen stated that this resolution would allow the President to disburse funds for the projects under the TTAG program. The Board will approve a quarterly spending amount, and would be informed of the projects funded.

After further discussion, Mr. Troutt made a motion to amend the resolution as follows:

Page 2, paragraph 3 - change "in an amount equal to" to read, "in an amount not to exceed." A staff member pointed out that this is how other funding resolutions are worded.

Dr. Rayford seconded the motion to amend the resolution; the Board gave its unanimous approval.

Mr. Bridgforth made a motion for the approval of Draft Resolution 94-17 with the approved amendment. Dr. Hendren seconded the motion; the Board gave its unanimous approval.

DRAFT RESOLUTION 94-20

Draft Resolution 94-20 concerns a Technology Development Program project submitted by inventor Steve Walker. The resolution would provide funding in the amount of \$10,225 for "continental parkair," an air conditioning conversion kit that incorporates a new dual evaporator design for air conditioning units in vans and recreational vehicles.

Julie Welch stated that this invention would allow vans and recreational vehicles to have two air conditioning systems,

which would allow better temperature distribution and less drag, which improves fuel efficiency.

Ms. Welch also stated that Mr. Walker has been working with two professors from UALR. NIST has also given this project a positive technical review.

Dr. Hendren asked that one item in the resolution be amended:

Page two, number four under paragraph four amend "for a royalty payment" to read "for a non-zero royalty payment."

Dr. Hendren stated that it should read so that the Authority expects some sort of return on its investment.

After further discussion, Dr. Hendren made a motion to amend the resolution as stated above. Dr. Pederson seconded the motion; the Board gave its unanimous approval.

Mr. Bridgforth made a motion for the approval of Draft Resolution 94-20 with the approved amendment. Mr. Troutt seconded the motion; the Board gave its unanimous approval.

DRAFT RESOLUTION 94-21

Draft Resolution 94-21 would provide for the seed capital investment of \$150,000 into American Fiber Industries, LLC.

Brock Patterson stated that American Fiber produces bottle caps, which are mainly used on bottles for spring water. Mr. Patterson stated that this project first came to ASTA as a project under the Applied Research Grants Program; which was approved and funded in 1993.

The new caps will be made from polypropylene instead of polyethylene. The polypropylene is more efficient and economical to make. The bottle cap is still in the design process, but they are close to finishing.

Mr. Patterson stated that eventually they will not only produce the bottle caps, but the water bottles. They currently provide caps for NAYA Spring Water, the fourth largest distributor of bottled water in the world.

American Fiber currently has 20 employees, and that is expected to double within a year. They are also preparing to move into a new facility, located at the Little Rock River Port.

After further discussion, Mr. Bridgforth made a motion for the approval of Draft Resolution 94-21. Mr. Ford seconded the motion; the Board gave its unanimous approval.

OLD BUSINESS

Dr. Ahlen noted that this was Dr. Bates' second consecutive absence and reminded the Board that three consecutive absences need to be reported to the Governor's Office by the Secretary of the Board. Dr. Ahlen stated that Dr. Bates will be out of state at the time of the next Board meeting. Dr. Ahlen suggested that the Authority arrange to have him participate in the meeting via conference call. There was no objection.

NEW BUSINESS

On behalf of the Board and staff, Mr. Webster thanked Dr. Rayford for hosting the Board meeting at UAMS.

Mr. Webster stated that the next Board meeting would be May 20, and if it could be arranged, will be held at the Arkansas School for Mathematics and Sciences in Hot Springs.

DRAFT RESOLUTION 94-22

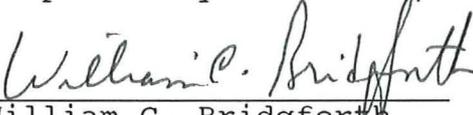
Mr. Troutt read draft resolution 94-22, which commended Dr. John Ahlen for his ten years of service to the Arkansas Science & Technology Authority and the state.

Mr. Troutt made a motion for the approval of Draft Resolution 94-22. Dr. Pederson seconded the motion; the Board gave its unanimous approval.

ADJOURNMENT

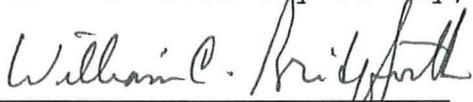
With no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



 William C. Bridgforth
 Secretary
 Board of Directors

APPROVED by the Board of Directors
 on this 20th day of May, 1994



 William C. Bridgforth
 Secretary
 Board of Directors