



**ARKANSAS SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AUTHORITY**

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

**MINUTES OF THE 80<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE  
ARKANSAS SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AUTHORITY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
LITTLE ROCK, AR  
JANUARY 16, 1998**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 1:32 p.m. by Dr. Charles Hathaway, Vice Chairman of the Board, in the fourth floor conference room of the 100 Main Building in Little Rock.

Board members present included: Dr. Merlin Augustine, Mr. William Dempsey, Dr. James Hendren, Mr. Sam Hummelstein, Ms. Catherine Janosky, Mr. Stephen Nipper, Mr. Anthony Rampley, and Ms. Donna Young.

Staff members present included: Ms. Melissa Adams, Dr. John Ahlen, Ms. Sheryl Bollen, Mr. Michael Greer, Mr. Les Lane, Ms. Kelly Lyon, Dr. Herb Monoson, Mr. Chuck Myers and Ms. Joyce Sadler.

Visitors included: Ms. Kim Reynolds from the MEP - National Institute of Standards and Technology.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

The first item of business was the approval of those items from the Board meeting in November, 1997. Dr. Hathaway stated that the items could not be approved at the last meeting because of a lack of a quorum. The items were as follows:

- Minutes from the September 19, 1997 Board meeting. Mr. Nipper made a motion for the approval of the minutes. Mr. Hummelstein seconded the motion; the Board gave its unanimous approval.
- General Fund Expenditure Report and Investment Fund Report for quarter ending September 30, 1997. Mr. Nipper made a motion for the approval of the financial reports. Mr. Dempsey seconded the motion; the Board gave its unanimous approval.

- Draft Resolution 98-06. This resolution provides for the formal acceptance of Technology Transfer Assistance Grant (TTAG) projects funding since September 19, 1997. Mr. Hummelstein made a motion for the approval of Draft Resolution 98-06. Ms. Janosky seconded the motion; the Board gave its unanimous approval.
- Draft Resolution 98-07 would provide monies for funding recommended projects under the Technology Transfer Assistance Grant (TTAG) Program during the third quarter of state fiscal year 1998. The investment also asked that the amount be increased from \$35,000 to \$46,877 to reflect a carryover of those funds not expended in the second quarter. Dr. Ahlen noted that a memo was sent to the Board asking for their concurrence with the staff administratively proceeding with the TTAG projects per the draft resolution. The resolution would then be retroactively approved at this meeting. There being no further discussion, Dr. Augustine made a motion for the approval of Draft Resolution 98-07. Ms. Young seconded the motion; the Board gave its unanimous approval.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Dr. Hathaway presented for approval the minutes from the November 21, 1997 Board meeting.

Ms. Young made a motion for the approval of the minutes. Mr. Hummelstein seconded the motion; the Board gave its unanimous approval.

#### **RESEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT**

Draft Resolution 98-09 would provide funding for the Arkansas Space Grant Consortium. The funding, \$150,000, is a match for the federal funds received from NASA. Dr. Hendren explained that this project helps teachers to upgrade their skills and enables them to present NASA related activities to their students.

Ms. Janosky expressed reservations about approving the match for this project. She stated she did not see the impact this project would have on the state. Dr. Hendren stated that this is an enrichment program for teachers/students that schools can't afford to provide.

Dr. Hathaway stated that students like seeing things that aren't in a textbook. It is a small investment to change someone's attitude. If you change one student's attitude, it's worth it.

Mr. Hummelstein asked if the staff could provide a summary of how the money was being spent. The staff agreed to provide the information to the Board.

After further discussion, Dr. Hendren made a motion for the approval of Draft Resolution 98-09. Ms. Young seconded the motion; there were eight (8) yes votes and one (1) no vote. The motion passed.

Draft Resolution 98-10 provides for the funding of one applied research proposal:

PROPOSAL NO. 98-A-02, "Reducing Ammonia Loss and Phosphorus Runoff from Swine Manure with Aluminum Sulfate," by Dr. Tommy Daniel of the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, in the amount not to exceed \$40,000.00. This project is cosponsored by General Chemical in the amount of \$50,000.00.

Dr. Hendren made a motion for the approval of Draft Resolution 98-10. Mr. Hummelstein seconded the motion. Dr. Augustine stated that UAF was the institution of his affiliation. The Board gave its unanimous approval.

Draft Resolution 98-11 provides for the funding of one basic research proposal:

PROPOSAL NO. 98-B-31, "Noncommutative Quasideterminants and Their Applications," by Dr. Vladimir Retakh of the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, in the amount not to exceed \$13,202.00.

Dr. Hendren made a motion for the approval of Draft Resolution 98-11. Ms. Young seconded the motion. Dr. Augustine stated that UAF was the institution of his affiliation. The Board gave its unanimous approval.

Draft Resolution 98-12 provides for the funding of two basic research proposals:

PROPOSAL NO. 98-B-34, "The Role of Altered MyoD1 Methylation in Rhabdomyosarcoma," by Dr. Bin Chen of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, in the amount not to exceed \$32,489.00.

PROPOSAL NO. 98-B-36, "Structure and Function of the SarA Virulence Gene Regulator of *S. aureus*," by Dr. Barry K. Hurlburt of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, in the amount not to exceed \$38,750.00.

Dr. Hendren made a motion for the approval of Draft Resolution 98-12. Dr. Augustine seconded the motion; the Board gave its unanimous approval.

#### **EPSCoR COMMITTEE**

Dr. Hendren stated that there needs to be one substitution to the newly formed EPSCoR Committee. Dr. Charles Chittendon from Arkansas State University declined his invitation to serve. ASU recommended that Dr. Marc Dragonjac replace Dr. Chittendon. Dr. Dragonjac accepted the invitation.

Dr. Hendren moved that the recommendation be accepted. Dr. Augustine seconded the motion. The Board gave its unanimous approval.

#### **INVESTMENT COMMITTEE REPORT**

Donna Young presented the FY98 General Fund Expenditure Report and the FY98 Investment Fund Report for the quarter ending December 31, 1998.

Ms. Young made a motion for the approval of the financial reports. Mr. Nipper seconded the motion; the Board gave its unanimous approval.

Draft Resolution 98-13 provides for the formal acceptance of Technology Transfer Assistance Grant (TTAG) projects funded since November 21, 1997. There were a total of five projects funded during this period.

Ms. Young made a motion for the approval of Draft Resolution 98-13. Dr. Hendren seconded the motion. Dr. Hathaway stated that some of the funded projects were from UALR, the institution of his affiliation. The Board gave its unanimous approval.

The Board requested that a summary of all TTAG projects funded by the Authority be provided to them at the next meeting.

#### **INDUSTRY COMMITTEE REPORT**

Ms. Janosky reported that the Industry Committee would be meeting with the Network's field engineers soon to discuss the future direction of the Network.

#### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Ahlen introduced Michael Greer, the Authority's new Finance Program Manager.

Dr. Ahlen referred the Board to his memorandum on his recent activities involving the United States Innovation Partnership.

Dr. Ahlen reviewed the attendance policy with the Board. He stated that legislation passed in the 1997 general assembly states that if a Board member misses three consecutive meetings, it is reported to the Governor's Office and that member is taken off the Board.

Dr. Ahlen reviewed the expense reimbursement for Board members. The legislation states that the Board must, at its first regularly scheduled meeting of each calendar, vote to authorize expense reimbursement for each board member. The expense reimbursement shall not exceed the rate established for state employees. The current mileage rate is \$.28 per mile.

Mr. Nipper made a motion that the expense reimbursement be authorized. Dr. Hendren seconded the motion; the Board gave its unanimous approval.

#### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL INTEREST

Dr. Hathaway reminded members that their Statement of Financial Interest forms must be filed with the Secretary of State's office by January 31, 1998.

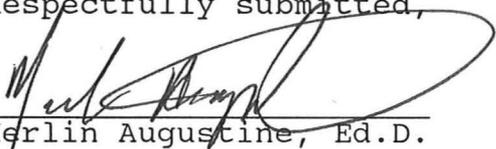
#### NEXT MEETING DATE

Dr. Hathaway reminded the members that the next meeting would be March 20, 1998.

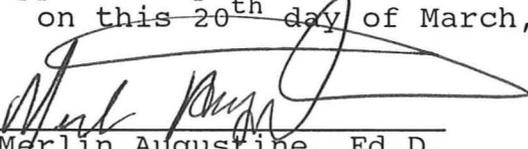
#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Merlin Augustine, Ed.D.  
Secretary  
Board of Directors

Approved by the Board of Directors  
on this 20<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1998

  
Merlin Augustine, Ed.D.  
Secretary  
Board of Directors