



ARKANSAS SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AUTHORITY

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**MINUTES OF THE 90TH MEETING OF THE
ARKANSAS SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS
JANUARY 21, 2000**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:34 p.m. by Mr. Ron Roberts, secretary of the Board, in the Fourth Floor Conference Room of the 100 Main Building in Little Rock.

A quorum of Board members was present and included: Dr. Gene Aist, Dr. Joel Anderson, Mr. Jonathan Davis, Mr. Bill Dempsey, Dr. Mary Good, Mr. J. Wylie Harris, Mr. Joe Hudson and Dr. Harry Ward.

Staff members present included: Ms. Melissa Adams, Dr. John Ahlen, Mr. Bob Alvey, Mr. Kevin Carr, Mr. Roger Edwards, Ms. Namratha Hedge, Mr. Les Lane, Mr. Chuck Myers and Ms. Joyce Sadler.

Mr. Roberts welcomed two new members to the Board: Mr. Jonathan Davis from Monticello and Mr. J. Wylie Harris from Salem.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Roberts presented the minutes from the November 19, 1999 Board meeting. Dr. Aist made a motion for the approval of the minutes. Dr. Ward seconded the motion; the Board gave its unanimous approval.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Ahlen referred Board members to the written report in the Board book.

The Governor's Office released \$3.3 million for projects submitted to the Arkansas Research Matching Fund. Board members asked the staff to check the dates on the grants to

ensure that it is not too late for the applicants to receive their federal awards.

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Joe Hudson presented the Investment Committee report.

Draft Resolution 00-25 provides for the formal acceptance of Technology Transfer Assistance Grant (TTAG) projects funded since November 19, 1999. There was one project funded.

Assisted Enterprise	Application Description	TASP	TTAG Funds
ITI Communications Fayetteville, AR 00-TTAG-0018	SBIR Assistance App. Rec'd 12/27/99	ITI Communications	\$ 3,700

Mr. Hudson made a motion for the approval of Draft Resolution 00-25. Dr. Aist seconded the motion; the Board gave its unanimous approval.

Les Lane reported that new rankings were released for SBIR awards and Arkansas' ranking has improved.

Les Lane reported that Space Photonics has received its SBIR Phase II award. The award totals \$1.3 million. AMDC also received its SBIR Phase II award, which totals \$600,000.

Dr. Ahlen reported that the staff was working to change the wording in the resolutions so that TTAG projects can be presented in report form. He stated that the staff would welcome any input from the Board.

RESEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT

Dr. Joel Anderson presented the Research Committee Report.

Draft Resolution 00-26 would provide for the funding of one applied research project.

PROPOSAL NO. 00-A-06, "Vacuum System for Depositing Thin Film Materials on Laser Sensing Surfaces," by Dr. Robert Engelken of Arkansas State University, in the amount not to exceed \$67,415.00. This project is cosponsored by InvoTek, Inc. in the amount of \$67,416.00.

Dr. Anderson made a motion for the approval of Draft Resolution 00-26. Dr. Aist seconded the motion; the Board gave its unanimous approval.

Mr. Roberts asked if there were stipulations in the award letter that stated all equipment would stay with the

university. Staff confirmed that there was a stipulation included in the award letter.

Draft Resolution 00-27

Draft Resolution 00-27 would provide for the funding of one Arkansas Research Matching Fund proposal.

Proposal number 00-ARMP-09, "Analysis of Intermodal Choice Combinations for Military Supplies and Material," by Dr. Manuel D. Rossetti, The Logistics Institute, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, in the amount not to exceed \$50,000. This project is funded federally by an intergovernmental contract award by the Defense Logistics Agency for \$50,000.

Dr. Anderson made a motion for the approval of Draft Resolution 00-27. Dr. Good seconded the motion; the Board gave its unanimous approval.

INDUSTRY COMMITTEE REPORT

Dr. Good presented the Industry Committee Report.

Dr. Good stated that the Y2K funds received from NIST were not well utilized. A total of \$174,000 was available for Y2K problems. So far, only two TTAG projects have been funded. The staff has sent a letter to NIST requesting that the funds be converted to e-commerce funds. No answer has been received from NIST.

Postcards are being sent to legislators upon completion of a network project in their district.

The recent interim program review by NIST was not as good as the Network would have liked, but changes are already being implemented to correct the weaknesses.

Officials from NIST will be in Little Rock on February 1 to meet with the staff. Dr. Good suggested that it would be good to have the new Vice President Manufacturing Extension on board by that time.

Amended Network Guidelines

Dr. Good presented the amended network guidelines for approval.

The guidelines amended to show that staff will report service agreement projects as performed and informal engagements of eight hours or longer duration. This will standardize the staff's reporting requirements.

Dr. Good made a motion for the amendment of the guidelines. Mr. Dempsey seconded the motion; the Board gave its unanimous approval.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Roberts reminded Board members that the next meeting was scheduled for March 17, 2000.

Dr. Ahlen reviewed the Board attendance policy. Legislation states that if a Board member misses three consecutive meetings, the Authority must inform the Governor's Office. The Governor can then choose to remove the Board member or excuse the absences.

Dr. Ahlen reviewed the expense reimbursement for Board members. Legislation states that the Board must, at its first regularly scheduled meeting of each calendar year, vote to authorize expense reimbursement for Board members. The expense reimbursement shall not exceed the rate established for state employees. The current mileage rate is \$.28 per mile, plus meals and hotels when appropriate.

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

Mr. Roberts reminded members that their Statement of Financial Interest forms must be filed with the Secretary of State's office by January 31, 2000.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 2:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Roberts
 Ron Roberts
 Secretary
 Board of Directors

Approved by the Board of Directors
 on this 17th day of March, 2000

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 Secretary
 Board of Directors