



423 Main Street, Suite 200  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

[www.ArkansasScienceAndTechnology.org](http://www.ArkansasScienceAndTechnology.org)

Phone: 501.683.4400  
Fax: 501.683.4420

**MINUTES OF THE 104<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE  
ARKANSAS SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AUTHORITY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
DALE BUMPERS NATIONAL RICE RESEARCH CENTER  
STUTTGART, AR  
NOVEMBER 15, 2002**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. D.W. May, Chairman of the Board at 1:20 p.m., in the Dale Bumpers National Rice Research Center conference room in Stuttgart.

A quorum of Board members was present: Dr. Merlin Augustine, Mr. J. Wylie Harris, Ms. Sue McGowan, Ms. Cynthia Moten, Mr. Ron Roberts, Dr. Neil Rutger, Ms. Melinda Saunders, and Dr. Harry Ward.

Staff members present included: Ms. Melissa Adams, Dr. John Ahlen, Ms. Lydia Carson, Dr. Herbert Monoson, Mr. Chuck Myers, Mr. Brad Sims, and Ms. Rebecca Wright.

Visitors: Lorie Bernhardt, Office Automation Assistant, assistant to Dr. Rutger, and Delores Logan, Arkansas Department of Higher Education staff member, guest of Cynthia Moten.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. May presented for approval the minutes from the September 20, 2002 Board meeting.

Mr. Roberts made a motion for the approval of the minutes. Dr. Augustine seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. John Ahlen presented the President's report. He reported that a change was made to Mr. Harris' contact information. Dr. Ahlen stated that Board members should contact the staff if any information changes need to be made.

Dr. Ahlen reported that 3000 students are participating in the Innovative Teaching of Middle School Science project, which is being overseen by Dr. Monoson.

Mr. Roberts made a brief presentation titled, "Recommendations of the Task Force for the Creation of Knowledge-Based Jobs." Discussion followed.

Dr. Ward made a motion to support the direction of the recommendations made by the task force. Ms. McGowan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **INVESTMENT COMMITTEE**

Ms. McGowan presented the Investment Committee Report.

Ms. McGowan reported that the Investment Committee received additional information on OncoPet, which applied for funds through the Technology Development Program. The staff surveyed veterinarians about the software offered by OncoPet; the results were not favorable. The committee voted not to recommend this project to the full Board.

Space Photonics, Inc. submitted a \$500,000 request through the Seed Capital Investment Program. The committee stated that the amount requested was too high and they also expressed concerns that a product would not be available for eight years. The Committee voted not to recommend this project to the full Board. The Committee stated that they would reconsider the application if the company decided to resubmit, requesting a smaller amount.

Dr. Ahlen reported that Les Lane received the Small Business Administration's Tibbets Award in a ceremony hosted in Washington D.C. The award was given for accomplishments in the field of entrepreneurial development as it relates to the Small Business Innovation Research Program (SBIR).

Dr. Ahlen also added that the Northwest Arkansas Venture Forum was as successful as the one held in Little Rock. Green Technologies, a Technology Development program, received a Phase I SBIR award.

Ms. McGowan stated that the committee would be receiving detailed quarterly reports on project payments.

Dr. Rutger made a motion to offer congratulations to the staff for the awards received. Dr. Augustine seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **INDUSTRY COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mr. Roberts presented the Industry Committee report.

Draft Resolution 03-03, implementing 360vu, was presented to the Board. 360vu is a brand carried by certified MEP centers that will be held accountable to mutually agreed upon professional performance and delivery standards. The brand encompasses a business approach, set of services, and certification process. In order for the Arkansas Manufacturing Extension Network (Network) to fully participate in the NIST MEP program, the Network must become a 360vu certified MEP center.

Mr. Roberts made a motion to approve Draft Resolution 03-03. Ms. Melinda Saunders seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Ahlen also added that the Manufacturing Extension Network received the Arkansas Quality Commitment Award.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Dr. Ahlen stated that there was a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Arkansas State University NetMobile project. The Authority's logo was displayed and the Authority was given an offer to promote any educational activities as the NetMobile works its way through the Delta. The Authority is working on the science mini-grants for middle schools. Also, an Information Technology Report will soon be released in electronic form for the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation. Dr. Augustine asked if any studies had been conducted on the initiative impact in the Delta. Dr. Ahlen stated that Arkansas State University is required to do that as part of their award.

Mr. May presented the nominations for the slate of officers for the upcoming year. The nominations were as follows: Dr. Harry Ward – Chairman, Dr. John White – Vice Chairman, and Mr. Ron Roberts – Secretary.

Mr. May placed the names in nomination. Dr. Augustine made a motion to accept the nominations. Dr. Rutger seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. May extended his thanks and appreciation to the Board. He also thanked Dr. Rutger for hosting the Board meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Dr. Ahlen stated that the next Board meeting would be January 17, 2003 at the Authority's new offices.

Dr. Ward extended his thanks, on behalf of the Board, to Mr. May for his work as Chairman.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

Respectfully submitted,



Ron Roberts  
Ron Roberts  
Secretary  
Board of Directors

**APPROVED** by the Board of Directors  
on this 17<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2003



Ron Roberts  
Ron Roberts  
Secretary  
Board of Directors