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**MEETING OF THE 163<sup>RD</sup> MEETING OF THE  
ARKANSAS SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AUTHORITY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
LITTLE ROCK, AR  
SEPTEMBER 20, 2013**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Glen Jones, Chairman of the Board, in the Bessie Moore Board Room, located at 900 W. Capitol Ave in Little Rock.

A quorum of Board members was present and included: Mr. Gary Campbell, Dr. Cesar Compadre, Dr. Carl Frederickson, Mr. Joel Harrison (via phone), Dr. Beverly Lyn-Cook, Mr. Paul Mastro, Mr. Michael Nauman, Mr. Heartsill Ragon, Dr. Robert Sproles, Dr. Andy Sustich and Mr. Rod Sweetman.

Staff members present: Ms. Melissa Adams, Dr. Tim Atkinson, Ms. Cathleen Bailey, Ms. Cathy Ma, Mr. Andy Hendricks, Ms. Stephanie Johnson, Dr. Blake Perry, Mr. James Downs, Mr. Chris Snider, Mr. Andy Capel, Dr. Gail McClure (via phone), Ms. Marta Collier.

Visitors: Mr. Emerson Evans, Mr. Les Lane and Mr. Sam Walls III from Arkansas Capital Corporation.

Dr. Jones welcomed new Board member, Dr. Andy Sustich. Dr. Sustich replaced Dr. Collis Geren.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Dr. Jones presented for approval the minutes from the July 19, 2013 Board meeting. Dr. Frederickson moved approval of the minutes. Dr. Sproles seconded the motion; the Board gave its unanimous approval.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Sam Walls, III, Mr. Les Lane and Mr. Emerson Evans were recognized to make a presentation in connection with Draft Resolution 14-12. Draft Resolution would provide funding for the following proposal:

14-AAF-01 "Statewide Broadband Planning Initiatives," submitted by Connect Arkansas, in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000. This award is effective September 20, 2013 through June 30, 2014.

If funded, this proposal would help Connect Arkansas expand its Broadband program. This would include a Broadband awareness campaign, which helps to provide broadband access to families. The program is need based, requiring a letter from a family/school that they have no equipment. It is on first come, first serve basis. To date, this program has impacted 540 families.

After discussion, Mr. Campbell made a motion to approve Draft Resolution 14-12; Dr. Frederickson seconded the motion. The Board gave its unanimous approval.

### **Act 1095**

Dr. Atkinson reviewed Act 1095, which was approved during the last legislative session. The act task the Arkansas Research Alliance (ARA) with making funding recommendations to the ASTA Board when money is released for projects. Dr. Atkinson has discussed this with Jerry Adams, director of the ARA, who agrees that there needs to be some collaboration between ARA and ASTA as to how money, when it is released, is distributed.

Dr. Jones stated that the objective is that agencies are moving in the same direction.

### **PR Strategy**

Dr. Atkinson discussed some of the ideas the staff has been discussing concerning PR for the agency. He asked if the Board would give the staff creative freedom to design a new logo for the agency. Andy Capel was recognized to discuss one idea to get the word out, which would be through a logo contest. Getting the word out through social media (Twitter, Facebook) would help spread the word about ASTA.

The Board supported the staff moving forward on the design of a new agency logo, with the caveat that the Board would be part of the final process in picking the winning logo.

### **INDUSTRY COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mr. Mastro presented the Industry Committee Report.

Mr. Mastro reported that Dan Curtis was in Portland, Oregon attending the MEP Winter Update meeting.

AMS is scheduled for its biannual panel review on October 28<sup>th</sup>.

AMS is currently trying to fill two open lean positions and one open sales position. The Operations Manager position is currently vacant and a decision has not been made as to when that vacancy will be advertised.

MEP Centers are required to submit a Center Progress Report (CPR) that defines the center strategy for the next two to three years. A draft CPR for AMS has been completed and shared with the Industry Committee.

One major concern right now is the level of current AMS staffing. Another concern is AMS partners and sub recipients. The center has gone from seven sub recipients to one sub-recipient in the last two years. This is a concern for MEP, which believes strongly that the partnerships are a major element in the success of the program and AMS.

Mr. Mastro shared the latest sales numbers for AMS. He stated that there was a disconnect between the numbers in AMS generated reports versus AASIS generated reports (AASIS is the state's automated accounting system); the staff is working on this issue with Dr. Atkinson.

The E3 project with the Arkansas Energy Office has been approved.

AMS has several events planned for Manufacturing Day on October 4<sup>th</sup>. AMS along with its partners have events planned across the state.

## **RESEARCH AND COMMERCIALIZATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mr. Campbell presented the Research and Commercialization Report.

### **Quarterly TTAG Report**

Mr. Campbell presented the Quarterly TTAG Activity Report for review.

The report was moved and seconded by the committee. The Board gave its unanimous approval.

### **Seed Capital Quarterly Report**

Mr. Campbell presented the Seed Capital Quarterly Report for review.

The report was moved and seconded by the committee. The Board gave its unanimous approval.

### **Draft Resolution 14-06**

Draft Resolution 14-06 would provide Seed Capital Investment funds in the amount of \$25,000 in Certus Group, LLC. This is the second and final tranche of a \$50,000 investment. Mr. Campbell stated that milestones had been put in place for the company to reach before the second tranche would be released; the milestones had been met.

Draft Resolution 14-06 was moved and seconded by the committee. The Board gave its unanimous approval.

#### **Draft Resolution 14-07**

Draft Resolution 14-07 would provide Seed Capital Investment funds in the amount of \$200,000 to Movista LLC.

Movista LLC has developed software to track personnel remotely. They company has revenue coming in and they now want to expand. The money requested will be used to support their expansion. The expansion will include hiring additional personnel in-state.

Draft Resolution 14-07 was moved and seconded by the committee. The Board gave its unanimous approval.

#### **Draft Resolution 14-08**

Draft Resolution 14-08 would provide Seed Capital Investment funds in the amount of \$150,000 to Silicon Solar Solutions, LLC. This is a second investment in the company. They have obtained five additional patents since their last investment.

Mr. Nauman raised concerns about the fact that none of the jobs are in the state and the amount of technology involved. Board members asked how much money the company had raised; Dr. Stanley stated that the company has won an award from the Department of Energy.

Dr. Jones stated that the staff should take up the concerns expressed by Mr. Nauman.

Draft Resolution 14-08 was moved and seconded by the committee.

#### **SPONSORED PROJECTS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Dr. Carl Frederickson presented the Sponsored Projects Committee report.

#### **Draft Resolution 14-09**

Draft Resolution 14-09 would provide funding the following proposal:

14-EPS2-0008 "The Position of the Educational Outreach Coordinator and Professional Development Supervisor", submitted by University of Arkansas at Little Rock, in an amount not to exceed \$90,685.24. This award is effective September 20, 2013 through September 30, 2014.

If approved, the resolution would fund the ASSET Initiative's Educational Outreach Coordinator.

Draft Resolution 14-09 was moved and seconded by the committee. The Board gave its unanimous approval.

#### **Draft Resolution 14-10**

Draft Resolution 14-10 would provide funding of seven sub-agreements between the Arkansas Science & Technology Authority and the following universities:

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville (Project No. 14-EPS2-0001) in support of personnel salaries/benefits, equipment, direct and indirect cost for the P3 Project, GREEN Project and the VICTER Project, in the amount of \$1,665,727;

University of Arkansas at Little Rock (Project No. 14-EPS2-0002) in support of personnel salaries/benefits, equipment, direct and indirect cost for the P3 Project, GREEN Project and the VICTER Project, in the amount of \$1,198,647;

Arkansas State University (Project No. 14-EPS2-0003) in support of personnel salaries/benefits, equipment, direct and indirect cost for the P3 Project, and the VICTER Project, in the amount of \$707,470;

University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff (Project No. 14-EPS2-0004) in support of personnel salaries/benefits, equipment, direct and indirect cost for the P3 Project, GREEN project and the VICTER Project, in the amount of \$268,372;

University of Central Arkansas (Project No. 14-EPS2-0005) in support of personnel salaries/benefits, equipment, direct and indirect cost for the P3 Project, in the amount of \$104,784;

University of Arkansas at Fort Smith (Project No. 14-EPS2-0006) in support of personnel salaries/benefits, equipment, direct and indirect cost for the GREEN Project, in the amount of \$30,000; and

Philander Smith College (Project No. 14-EPS2-0007) in support of personnel salaries/benefits, equipment, direct and indirect cost for the GREEN Project, in the amount of \$25,000.

Draft Resolution 14-10 was moved and seconded by the committee. Dr. Frederickson and Dr. Sustich abstained. The resolution was approved.

#### **Draft Resolution 14-11**

Draft Resolution 14-11 would provide funding for the following proposals:

14-EPS2-0009, "UAFS GREEN Outreach STEM Teacher Professional Development Workshop & Summer Academy," submitted by University of Arkansas at Fort Smith, in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00 for the period of September 20, 2013 through September 19, 2014.

14-EPS2-0010, "Arkansas STEM Coalition STEM Teacher Professional Development Workshop Competition," submitted by Dr. Suzanne Mitchell,

Director of the Arkansas STEM Coalition, in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00 for the period of September 20, 2013 through September 19, 2014.

Draft Resolution 14-11 was moved and seconded by the committee. Mr. Nauman abstained. The resolution was approved.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Science & Technology Plan**

Dr. McClure presented the draft science and technology plan. She stated that the plan had been developed working with the state's research institutions. The development of the plan would also fulfill requirements established by some federal agencies. Dr. McClure stated that the draft was almost complete, with the exception of some additional information from campuses. However, the staff was requesting approval from the Board because it needed to be completed and submitted before the Board's next scheduled meeting. She stated the draft had been reviewed by the Science Advisory Committee. Dr. Compadre also indicated that the draft was in good shape.

There being no further discussion, Dr. Compadre moved approval of the science and technology plan, making sure that it is proofread again before being finalized. Dr. Frederickson seconded the motion; the Board gave its unanimous approval.

### **Draft Resolution 14-13**

Draft Resolution 14-13 certifies one In House Research by a Targeted Business Tax Credit for the following project:

“Tax Credit for In House Research by a Targeted Business,” [ACA 15-4-2708(c)] submitted for tax year 2012 by BioStrategies, LC in the amount of \$188,043.65 in expenses eligible for \$62,054.40 in tax credits (AEDC Project No. 11363).

Dr. Frederickson made a motion for the approval of Draft Resolution 14-13. Dr. Sproles seconded the motion. Dr. Sustich abstained. The resolution was approved.

### **FY2013 Annual Report**

The FY2013 Annual Report was presented. Mr. Ragon made a motion to approve the release of the FY2013 Annual Report. Mr. Sweetman seconded the motion; the Board gave its unanimous approval.

### **Nominating Committee Report**

The nominating committee presented for approval the slate of officers for the upcoming year. Dr. Cesar Compadre, Chairman; Mr. Michael Nauman, Vice Chairman; Mr. Gary Campbell.

Dr. Frederickson moved approval of the nominations. Mr. Nauman seconded the motion; the Board gave its unanimous approval.

### Next Meeting Date

Board members were reminded that the next meeting was scheduled for November 15, 2013.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Campbell moved that the Board go into executive session. Dr. Frederickson seconded the motion; the Board gave its unanimous approval.

Upon returning from Executive Session, Dr. Jones reported that no action was taken.

### ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,



Gary Campbell  
Secretary  
Board of Directors

**Approved** by the Board of Directors  
on this 8<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2013.



Gary Campbell  
Secretary  
Board of Directors