

Chair's Report for NM Bioscience Authority

October 30, 2020

Today is an important day. I would encourage all Board of Directors members to prudently consider the votes you make today. They will influence the success or failure of the NM Bioscience Authority and its programs, which promise to have important impact on the economic wellbeing of the state of New Mexico.

Bylaws are overall guidance. They do not, and are not expected to, operationalize all details and activities. Additional documents will need to be created by the Board of Directors. So today, please act with the understanding that there will be additional documents created in the future to operationalize activities of the Board of Directors.

Several questions have come up prior to this meeting and I would like to clarify those, since they have not been and will not be part of the discussion. It is legal for the Board of Directors to modify the bylaws. The bylaws were created by the Board of Directors, and they are modified by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors cannot modify the statute.

The legality of the task force was questioned. The Board of Directors is empowered to form any sort of ad hoc committee, including a task force, to address issues. The Board of Directors took such action, and that group is reporting back today. It is indeed not only legal, but appropriate.

As Chair, let me read you something about Robert's Rules of Order, and the obligation of a Board of Directors Chair. One of the most important rules has to do with decorum during debate. This rule stresses three things. A member must: 1. confine the remarks to the question or issue at hand, 2. not discuss confidential information or information to be discussed in closed

session, and 3. be courteous in their language and deportment, avoid personalities, and emphasize that it is not the individual but the measure that is subject to debate. It is the duty of the Chair to enforce these guidelines.

Colleagues have spent enormous time on their analysis, presentation and recommendations. Please give your colleagues a chance to complete their presentation, and then discuss as much as needed.

There is a lengthy agenda and extended time to accommodate the need to have full discussion. If we do not finish by 1:30pm, we will schedule a special meeting to finish the agenda.