

**New Mexico Bioscience Authority (BSA) Board of Directors
Regular Meeting
February 23, 2023, 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM
317 Commercial St. NE, Suite 311, Albuquerque, NM**

Present: Dale Dekker (Chair), Greg Byrnes, Christos Christodoulou, Jennifer Gifford, Tom Kieft, Paul Laur, Scott McLaughlin, David Perkins, Tanner Schaub, Prisca Tiasse

Absent: Sheryl Arvizu, Sarah Boisvert, Alicia Keyes

Staff Present: Stephanie Tofighi, Sterling Nichols, Ryan Cangiolosi

#	Agenda Items	Board Actions
1.	Call to order and Confirmation of Quorum	The Chair called the meeting to order at 11:34 AM. A quorum was confirmed.
2.	Approval of Minutes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> January 19th BOD Meeting 	<p>The Chair called for a motion to approve the January 19th, 2023, BOD meeting minutes.</p> <p>A motion was made by Scott McLaughlin with a second from Tanner Schaub.</p> <p>A roll call vote of all board members was called with five in the affirmative, none in opposition, three in abstention and five absent. The vote was as follows:</p> <p>Arvizu-Absent, Boisvert-Absent, Byrnes-Abstain, Christodoulou-Absent, Dekker-Abstain, Gifford-Absent, Keyes-Absent, Kieft-Affirm, Laur-Affirm, McLaughlin-Affirm, Perkins-Abstain, Schaub-Affirm, Tiasse-Affirm</p>
3.	Announcements and Chair's Report	The Chair introduced the most recent member to join the Board; Dr. David Perkins, who was appointed by University of New Mexico President Garnett Stokes to replace former BSA president Richard Larson. The Chair reflected on Dr. Perkins nomination letter which identified him as a great addition to the board. The Chair then allowed Dr. Perkins to introduce himself to the BOD.

		<p>Dr. Perkins thanked the Chair for the opportunity to speak and welcomed the opportunity to serve on the Board. Dr Perkins began his introduction stating he has become a resident of New Mexico recently since relocating from Chicago, Illinois. Dr. Perkins is currently involved with UNM's (University of New Mexico) Rainforest Innovations and has a center at UNM for personalized healthcare where the aim is to predict disease instead of diagnosing it. He is also one of the directors for the MD/PhD Training Program. Perkins' educational and professional credentials include an undergraduate degree at the University of California at Berkley and Medical School at The Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx, New York. Perkins also spent twenty years in Boston, Massachusetts serving as a fellow at Boston University, earning a PhD at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and serving seventeen years as a faculty member at Harvard University and then at the University of California at San Diego. Perkins concluded his introduction stating that he is an example of New Mexico's capacity for growth as well as recruitment.</p> <p>The Chair thanked Dr. Perkins for his remarks and stated that he and the BOD look forward to meeting with him in person at the April board meeting in Socorro, New Mexico.</p> <p>For an update on recent events, the Chair informed the BOD he attended the New Mexico Biotechnical Association's (NMBio) Lunch and Learn event held on Thursday, February 16th, 2023 at the UNM Lobo Rainforest Building. The Chair commended BSA Director Greg Byrnes and the NMBio team for conducting such an informative and fantastic event. The Chair asked Director Byrnes if he could comment further on the event. Byrnes reported that it was a record event with close to seventy attendees compared to six attendees when Byrnes first hosted the franchise event. What Byrnes enjoyed the most about the recent event was the ability to attract a number of representatives from local economic development (ED) organizations in addition to the people from the bioscience community</p>
--	--	--

		<p>which will be helpful to us going forward in terms of gaining the support from the ED community for the biosciences. The Chair concurred with Byrnes assessment acknowledging that the event presented a nice mixture of constituents and that the BSA has enjoyed the amicable working relationship with NMBio. The Chair recognized Byrnes for his work at the local level in the Albuquerque and Santa Fe as well as nationally, where Byrnes has been able to get the BSA engaged by supporting his efforts at some national conferences. The Chair reiterated his support for NMBio and looks forward to continuing to work with Director Byrnes and NMBio in the future.</p> <p>The Chair concluded his announcements and report.</p>
4.	Executive Director’s Report	<p>Executive Director (ED) Stephanie Tofighi welcomed Dr. David Perkins and looked forward to meeting with him.</p> <p>For the Executive Report, ED Tofighi provided an update on the following:</p> <p><u>SBA Growth Accelerator Catalyst Prize</u></p> <p>Tofighi noted she has spent a considerable amount of time preparing a proposal to this funding opportunity that will be discussed in more detail during the Mission Accomplishment Committee report.</p> <p><u>2023 Legislative Session:</u></p> <p>Tofighi informed that she has been working on current legislation. Tofighi shared that she testified before the Senate Education committee in which a vote was not required however, she reported that the committee was all in favor of what was proposed and now the bill (SB366) sits with the Senate Finance Committee.</p> <p><u>Appearances at Santa Fe Talk Radio</u></p> <p>Tofighi recognized Director Paul Laur for his efforts in scheduling interviews with two radio stations in Santa Fe, New Mexico to discuss the Bioscience Authority’s</p>

		<p>current legislation. Tofighi and Strategy and Policy Director Ryan Cangiolosi made appearances at both interviews with BSA Chair Dekker attending the first interview alongside Tofighi and Cangiolosi. The interviews are linked to the BSA website titled; <i>The Richard Eeds Show</i>. The interviews really help with the BSA’s visibility Tofighi said. Director Laur commented on the appearances by stating that the interviews were received with enthusiasm and thanked ED Tofighi, SPD Cangiolosi and Chair Dekker for participating. Laur said the BSA is welcome to return to the Richards Eeds Show to talk at length about the legislation as the first series of interviews allowed only twenty minutes to mull on the topic. Overall, Eeds seems very supportive Laur stated. He noted that when the bills get closer to a floor vote it may be possible for the BSA to attend another show.</p> <p><u>New Mexico Biotechnical Association’s (NMBio) ‘Lunch and Learn event’ Thursday, February 16th, 2023</u></p> <p>Tofighi said it was great to attend the NMBio event where she was able to distribute literature on the BSA’s current legislation. Attending the event allowed for in depth discussion on the legislation and to ensure supporters are in alignment with the BSA’s efforts.</p> <p><u>National Museum of Nuclear Science & History STEAM Day Event, Saturday, February 18th 2023</u></p> <p>Tofighi attended the event and informed some of the attendees as well as a representative from the local Public Broadcasting Station (PBS) affiliate KNME-TV, about the BSA’s current legislation.</p> <p>ED Tofighi concluded the Executive Director Report.</p>
5.	Presentation on Tamaya Ventures	<p>Director Gifford joined the meeting at 11:50 AM.</p> <p>Acting President Christos Christodoulou joined the meeting at 12: 05 PM.</p>

		<p>Chair Dekker welcomed Dr. Rich Luarkie, President and CEO of Tamaya Ventures which is a federally chartered corporation owned and operated by the Pueblo of Santa Ana. Chair Dekker identified Dr. Luarkie as being a difference maker in New Mexico and invited him to educate the Board on the work being done at Tamaya and the Santa Ana Pueblo and how the Bioscience Authority could help by working with the Native American tribes.</p> <p>Dr. Luarkie indicated that Tamaya Ventures seeks to cultivate alterNATIVE Asset Development through economic diversification, partnerships, investments, and business opportunities. They manage real estate, property development, and acquisitions on behalf of the tribe. He went on to explain that COVID was a brutal experience for the Pueblos not only because of the health costs but also the economic cost brought on by the closing of the casinos for almost a year. As a result, the need to diversify their economy was made clear. Dr. Luarkie has taken the opportunity to promote the vision of developing a STEAM driven economy that intentionally recruits, builds, acquires, and partners with companies that are working in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Manufacturing (STEAM). The Tesla facility currently being built on the Santa Ana Pueblo is testament to this vision. That partnership will provide opportunities for members of the Pueblo to participate in robotics training that they will in turn be able to bring back to Santa Ana. In addition, the Tesla partnership has potential to result in the Pueblos supporting government contracting with the DOD in collaboration with Space X which provides satellite services for a number of countries including the United States.</p> <p>Dr. Laurkie went on to share some slides with the Board members showcasing the opportunities available and the plans moving forward for the Santa Ana Pueblo. The first slide was a map that Dr. Laurkie used to point out the current landscape of the master business lease of the Pueblo which is a relationship developed with the Department of the Interior in 2008 that allows the</p>
--	--	---

		<p>Pueblo to lease land for housing, commercialization, or manufacturing more easily without requiring additional authorization from the federal government. The Pueblo has delegated responsibility of this lease to Tamaya Ventures which provides an expedited process (60 days) for land acquisition and development when compared to cities like Phoenix, San Diego and Albuquerque (9-12 months).</p> <p>Dr. Laurkie went on to explain how the master lease is being divided into four sections: District, Resort, Frontier, and Chana. The District is the area along U.S. 550 that includes retail development and is the commercial zone. The Resort is the Hyatt Regency Tamaya Resort but could be expanded to include glamping opportunities and a river walk. In addition, this section could develop into a more robust sporting facility that connects the currently available soccer complex and two golf courses with walking, hiking, and biking trails. Chana which means river in the Pueblo's Keres language is the land adjacent to the bosque that Tamaya Ventures is working with UNM to develop. Finally, the Frontier section consists of land positioned in strategic locations throughout the Pueblo that are available for STEAM development. Dr. Laurkie pointed out three plots of land (34 acres, 62 acres, and 17 acres respectively) that are currently being discussed with the Indian Health Service as a possible site for their newly planned westside urgent care facility. Discussion on this topic has included the potential of developing not only health care but also biotech research and bioscience development facilities that could use the tribal data to better understand the health needs of the Pueblo people. Dr. Laurkie went on to explain the plans of the Pueblo to build single family homes that could be rented by non-Pueblo members who were working in the area.</p> <p>Dr. Laurkie concluded by expressing a desire to develop a relationship with the NM Bioscience Authority to help the Frontier section of the master lease develop. Potential development could include building the first federally funded research and development facility on</p>
--	--	--

		<p>tribal lands possibly in collaboration with Mayo Clinic. He concluded by asking for help from the Authority to help develop a strategy that could lead to the development of this type of facility.</p> <p>Chair Dekker thanked Dr. Laurkie for his presentation and forward thinking. He went on to explain the value the Authority has as a statewide organization with the ability to connect the dots. He called attention to the newest board member, Dr. David Perkins who works with medical data. He then went on to applaud Tamaya Venture’s work to diversify the Santa Ana Pueblo economy and pointed out its symmetry with the state’s goals of economic diversification beyond oil and gas that includes bioscience. Before opening the conversation up for questions, Chair Dekker asked ED Tofighi to share Dr. Laurkie’s contact information with the board members and for them to reach out to him directly with relevant ideas and connection information.</p> <p>Director Laur expressed his excitement for Dr. Luarkie’s presentation. He then asked if Tamaya Ventures had the capacity to co-invest with the NM Bioscience Authority in New Mexico based bioscience companies and whether they did the due diligence on companies or if it was primarily real estate that they invested in. Dr. Laurkie responded by describing how Tamaya Ventures was able to procure funding through the State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI) and that this was the first time a tribe had ever had the opportunity to receive this type of funding. Because of the extra reporting burden and small funding amounts, this was not an exciting opportunity for many of the tribes, but Dr. Laurkie encouraged a number of tribes to pool their funds to create the first Pueblo fund which has ~\$7M. He is hopeful that with the right partners this fund can mature into something quite significant. He concluded by saying that this fund would be the best option for investing with the Authority in these types of opportunities. Director Laur followed up by asking if Tamaya Ventures was actively looking at RFPs and if they were leasing their land what was the timeframe for the lease. Dr. Luarkie responded that they are looking</p>
--	--	---

		<p>for venues to come to Santa Ana and that the lease can be up to 99 years or anything smaller i.e., 25 years, 5 years, etc. As an example, the Tesla program is a 10-year lease.</p> <p>Director Tiasse thanked Dr. Laurkie for his presentation and went on to ask about the prospective research and development (R&D) facility. She asked if they were counting on people coming into the facility or if they already had entrepreneurs or students interested in getting involved in bioscience. Dr. Laurkie replied that the former would be the first option at this time since right now, they do not have that capacity currently in house. Director Tiasse went on to ask about the plans to mediate regulations and waste management at the facility and whether it would be standard or if it would have alternative restrictions being on tribal lands. Dr. Laurkie compared the current processes used in the casinos and resorts to explain that the practices would be standard to other R&D facilities. He noted that with bioscience facilities there is the possibility that the waste and water usage would be different and the Pueblo would need to develop practices to meet these different needs to ensure the safety of everyone.</p> <p>Director McLaughlin commented that working with the Pueblos is not always easy and he asked Dr. Laurkie for any input he may have regarding how to best navigate that process. Dr. Luarkie responded by saying that all tribes are different and that even though tribes have typically not done a good job of educating outsiders on the best way to work with them, he is hopeful that the master lease project shared today with the Board is a step forward regarding how to best work with the Santa Ana Pueblo. He shared the example of how a recent land purchase by Tamaya Ventures from Rio Rancho is being developed to help both sides of the partnership receive tax benefits to better attract businesses to the property. Tamaya Venture allows a consistent dimension to doing business with the Santa Ana Pueblo that other Pueblos throughout the state may not be able to afford.</p>
--	--	--

		<p>Chair Dekker thanked Dr. Laurkie for his time and acknowledged the significance to the state if the Indian Health Service urgent care facility is built on Santa Ana Pueblo for both the Native American populations and the bioscience community. He encouraged the Board members to connect with Dr. Laurkie to share their expertise with him regarding developing the R&D facility and health data use. Before leaving, Dr. Laurkie invited the Board to participate in the grand opening event of the Tesla facility in late May. He noted that they are planning to include a mini-conference as part of the proceedings regarding the future of the tech economy in New Mexico. He encouraged the Authority to participate in the development and presentation of that mini-conference. Chair Dekker asked Dr. Laurkie to keep the Board informed and to include ED Tofighi in the conversation. Dr. Laurkie thanked the Board again for their time and signed off.</p>
6.	Presidents Report	<p>Acting President Christo Christodoulou announced that UNM President Garnett Stokes has selected Dr. David Perkins MD, PhD to fill the vacant UNM BOD position and supports him becoming the BSA President. Christodoulou asked if the BOD needed to vote to make it official to which Strategy and Policy Director Ryan Cangiolioli replied that the board's election for position of President was not on the February 23rd board meeting agenda. Cangiolioli said the BOD will need to wait until the March 23rd BOD meeting to hold the election for it to be placed on the agenda as an action item. The Chair confirmed that he would place the election on the March meeting agenda.</p>
7.	Finance Committee Report	<p>The Chair informed the board of Finance Committee Chair Alex Greenberg's resignation from his Economic Development Department position. Greenberg has accepted a position as managing director of CerraCap Ventures, a venture capital firm that is establishing a satellite office in Albuquerque. The Chair appreciated Greenberg's efforts on behalf of the Bioscience Authority who was a great addition to the BOD. With Greenberg's resignation the Chair looks forward to the next appointee from the EDD to serve on the board.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly Financial Statement Review (January) 	<p><u>January Financial Statement</u></p> <p>Strategy and Policy Director Ryan Cangiolosi reported that the Finance Committee met on February 9th to review the January financial statement. Through screen share, Cangiolosi shared January’s statement with the BOD.</p> <p>Cangiolosi pointed to the ‘Revenue’ portion of the statement stating that the BSA receives a State Appropriation of \$297,400 which exists in House Bill 2 for the upcoming year. Cangiolosi said it’s not increasing but hopes to receive the appropriation from the legislature to apply towards the BSA’s daily operations. Most of the appropriations are tied to salaries for Executive Director Stephanie Tofighi, Program Specialist (PS) Sterling Nichols and twenty percent for the Strategy and Policy director; Ryan Cangiolosi. In addition, there are the fixed costs Cangiolosi said, including the rental fee at the Verge Building where ED Tofighi and PS Nichols are housed and equipment fees for items like the printer that are leased on an annual basis.</p> <p>Cangiolosi also called attention to the co-investment expense of \$75K which indicates the co-investment with the New Mexico Angels Vintage Fund in the New Mexico based bioscience company, BennuBio. As a reminder, the NM Angels put in \$150K with the BSA putting in \$75K in this initial pilot investment of the BSA’s co-investment program. Cangiolosi stressed that we are currently using this successful example as the BSA attempts to receive a piece of legislation that would appropriate \$50 Million for the co-investment program.</p> <p>In conclusion of the financial report, Cangiolosi added that one of the items that still needed to be adjusted in response to a request made by the Finance Committee at their most recent meeting on February 9th is that the ‘Carryforward of the BSA’s City Funds’ note at the bottom of the statement is no longer \$87,448 available. Instead, this funding was used to pay the \$75,000 co-investment in BennuBio with the remaining \$12,448 currently listed in the budget as being ‘Other Operating Costs’ that will be reflected in next month’s budget as</p>
--	--	---

		<p>being used to hire Michelle Henrie of Pebble Labs to advocate on behalf of the BSA as our lobbyist this legislative session. Cangiolosi shared that Henrie has already proven to be an amazing advocate for the BSA and has been doing great work so far collaborating with ED Tofighi, himself, and Chair Dekker. Cangiolosi concluded the Finance Committee Report.</p> <p>At the conclusion of the Finance Committee Report the Chair called for a motion to approve.</p> <p>A motion was made by Paul Laur with a second from Christos Christodoulou.</p> <p>A roll call vote of all board members was called with ten in the affirmative, none in opposition, none in abstention and three absent. The vote was as follows:</p> <p>Arvizu-Absent, Boisvert-Absent, Byrnes-Affirm, Christodoulou-Affirm, Dekker-Affirm, Gifford-Affirm, Keyes-Absent, Kieft-Affirm, Laur-Affirm, McLaughlin-Affirm, Perkins-Affirm, Schaub-Affirm, Tiasse-Affirm</p>
8.	<p>Executive Committee Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislative update 	<p>The Chair mentioned that most of the recent discussions at the Executive committee were focused on the two bills currently sitting at the New Mexico State Legislature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Senate Bill 366 ➤ Senate Bill 382 <p>The Chair deferred to Strategy and Policy Director Ryan Cangiolosi who provided the latest developments regarding the legislation via screen share.</p> <p><u>Senate Bill 366 SB366 - Bioscience Business Accelerator Program</u></p> <p>Sponsor: Sen. Crystal Diamond Status: Sitting with Senate Finance Committee</p> <p>Cangiolosi reported that SB366 went to the first committee and was voted on but it was recommended</p>

	<p>for a do pass. The committee is not recommending the bill because they would like the Finance Committee to review it. SB366 is currently in the Senate Finance Committee Senator which is chaired by Senator George Munoz. Munoz has the legislation and it can be heard in his committee or he can have it placed directly in the budget as Munoz can add items to House Bill 2 on behalf of the Senate. Cangiolosi said SB366 can go through the process of being heard by committees or Munoz could make the decision to place in the budget and once the budget passes, it goes back for concurrence with the House and proceeds to the Governor.</p> <p>Cangiolosi asked for the BOD to draft a letter to Senator Munoz asking him to please hear SB366 and to please place it in the HB2 budget. ED Tofighi confirmed that she would share the contact information for Sen. Munoz with the BOD after the meeting. Cangiolosi concluded his update on SB366 stating that he has been in contact with its sponsor Sen. Diamond and is waiting for one of those actions to happen. The Chair presented a question about the language contained in the bill stating:</p> <p><i>... "Making an appropriation to the Board of Regents of the University of New Mexico" ...</i></p> <p>The Chair asked if the statement coincides with the BSA being administratively attached to UNM to which Cangiolosi confirmed. He said it will go to the Board of Regents the same way that the BSA's funding for the regular budget comes through a Research and Public Service Project (RPSP) through the university. For further clarification, President Christos Christodoulou added that if he received a contract from NASA, the contract is not written to him but to the Board of Regents.</p> <p>Cangiolosi said that ED Tofighi has put together an amazing accelerator program that will work with all three of the state's research universities which expands out to the branch campuses. This would really be a state</p>
--	---

		<p>wide initiative to accelerate innovations found at our research universities, help get funding through our SBIR/STTR platform, and assist innovators get their inventions to market. This program would be a fantastic addition to what we are already doing at the BSA he said. Cangiolosi said he hopes that Sen. Munoz could place this in the budget for the BSA to receive \$650K.</p> <p><u>Senate Bill 382 SB382 - Bioscience Development Fund</u></p> <p>Sponsor: Senators: George Munoz & Martin Hickey Status: Sitting with Senate Tax, Business, and Transportation Committee</p> <p>Senate Bill 382 is the BSA’s \$50M Co-Investment Fund bill. Cangiolosi said with this legislation we have outlined some of the rules and how we would use it. It would be used for a Co-Investment, 2-to-1 match, with investment firms that have previously invested in New Mexico Bioscience companies. SB382 is sitting in the Senate Tax committee with Sen. Benny Shendo. Cangiolosi and lobbyist Michelle Henrie have spoken to Shendo’s staffers who are hearing bills as they receive them. Cangiolosi asked Sen. Shendo if he could put the bill ahead of some of the other bills as SB382 is an important economic development bill.</p> <p>Cangiolosi asked for the BOD to draft a letter to Senator Shendo asking him to please add SB382 to his agenda. ED Tofighi confirmed that she would share the contact information for Sen. Shendo with the BOD.</p> <p>Director Prisca Tiasse asked for clarification on branch universities having access to the accelerator program. Specifically she asked if UNM Los Alamos entrepreneurs could receive help with their SBIR proposal and alleviate some of the burdens they’ve experienced in the past. SPD Cangiolosi confirmed that it would alleviate such burdens. ED Tofighi followed Cangiolosi stating that she comes from a research development background at UNM and will help with the necessary communications with main campus UNM. Director Tom Kieft asked SPD Cangiolosi if he could send a draft letter that can be</p>
--	--	---

		<p>modified to ensure everything in the communications to the Senators is correct. Cangiolosi confirmed he would send a draft letter as a guide for the BOD to follow when contacting the Senators. The Chair asked Cangiolosi if he would send reminders to the BOD to attend the hearings when the bills are being heard by the committees. Cangiolosi again confirmed and said ED Tofighi performed a great job sending out the reminders for the first hearing with several board members in attendance. Even though during that committee they were not doing recommendations for any appropriations bills he said, they heard from the BSA and it was great to have several board members in attendance. Again, he stressed that ED Tofighi did a great job explaining with our sponsor what the bill and the BSA is trying to accomplish. Cangiolosi concluded that the more board members we have present at these functions, the more Legislators will see that the Bioscience Authority is aligned for all of these initiatives.</p>
9.	Mission Accomplishment Report	<p>MAC Chair Tom Kieft reported on the following for the MAC Report:</p> <p><u>Strategic Planning</u> Chair Kieft said the committee discussed if they should reinstate the strategic planning process and it was Director Christos Christodoulou’s suggestion that any major changes should be avoided but it might be worthwhile to obtain a facilitator to talk about making adjustments.</p> <p><u>2023 Growth Accelerator Fund Program competition</u> The Chair opened the floor for ED Tofighi to talk about the Small Business Administration’s proposal that Tofighi prepared for submission in collaboration with Director Prisca Tiasse. The proposal involved stimulating the commercialization of bioscience innovation in rural Northern New Mexico. ED Tofighi explained she learned of the funding opportunity from John Chavez of the New Mexico Start Up Factory. Chavez invited the BSA to participate in his Stage 2 application to the program which is for the Growth Accelerator partnership. Tofighi said she was able to discover the Catalyst phase which is</p>

		<p>Stage 1; a \$50K award that has to do with engaging different groups of people in specific themes with the intent of building an ecosystem. Based on previous conversations with Director Prisca Tiasse and the work she performs in Los Alamos, Tofighi thought that there was a group of people living in northern New Mexico but excluded from the Los Alamos National Lab (LANL) that could be considered an underserved community given their distance from larger cities where a number of business development opportunities occur at places like the Arrowhead Center in Las Cruces and the UNM Rainforest in Albuquerque. Tofighi said this pilot program will help develop the ecosystem to engage with these individuals, discover what resources they are lacking, and develop a roadmap to access what they need. One component of the program will be early membership to the New Mexico Angels in which Angels President, Drew Tulchin, agreed to partner with the BSA and create an umbrella of membership into the Angels for companies that would work with the BSA through this program. This will give them access to the training opportunities the Angels offer as well as an opportunity to conduct early pitches for their products to both investors and consumers. The pilot program will also facilitate opportunities for businesses to have access to intern research technicians matriculating through the UNM Los Alamos and Northern New Mexico College programs. The goal of engaging colleges and universities it is to facilitate a work experience for students while they are working on their reflective degrees or certificates. Tofighi said she has been working on the proposal for the last few weeks and has received input from several members of the BOD. Tofighi went on to explain that yesterday, February 22nd she completed the required 90-second promotional video explaining why the Bioscience Authority is the best organization to lead this effort. Tofighi asked the BOD for permission to show the video to which they agreed.</p> <p>Tofighi shared the video with the BOD which is listed on YouTube.com, https://youtu.be/G4aDbLFXMAE</p>
--	--	--

**2023 SBA Growth Accelerator Fund
Competition: NMBSA Rural New Mexico
Biotech Ecosystem Catalyst video text**

..“The NMBSA is proud to submit this proposal to create the rural New Mexico biotech innovation ecosystem. Partners include the New Mexico Bioscience Authority a state agency tasked with growing a robust statewide bioscience industry, The Community Lab a woman-owned citizen science lab and biotech company in Northern New Mexico that promotes sustainable innovation and the New Mexico Angels, an angel investing firm that provides opportunities to invest in early stage companies. New Mexico's economy is predominantly dependent on oil and gas and travel and tourism. Both are subject to the booms and busts of consumer behavior and price fluctuation. The New Mexico Bioscience Authority was created by state legislation in 2017 to diversify this economy. The NMBSA has three programs; 1) the Community Readiness program which certifies zones ready to accept bioscience companies, 2) The Co-Investment program partners with private firms to invest in bioscience companies and, 3) The Business Accelerator program. This funding will help us adapt programming to meet the unique needs of rural businesses to create a biotech innovation ecosystem. Partnerships will be cultivated with national labs and colleges and universities to provide knowledge, expertise, technical support and legal consultation. Our staff are experts in policy analytics and research development, industry and government relations and communication. We're excited to use this prize to build this innovation ecosystem”...

Following the video, Director Prisca Tiasse reinforced the fact that there are a number of PhD level bioscience related professionals living in rural Northern New Mexico who are not working in LANL due to personal choice or interest but instead are serving as adjunct professors at the UNM branch campuses or other colleges and universities like Northern New Mexico College or are pursuing independent research

		<p>endeavors. Tiasse pointed out that as a result there is untapped talent that exists including an assortment of people who have already come to her seeking help with their proposals for SBIR and STTR funding. Having gone through the process, Tiasse said she can help but that she does not have the capacity or resources to help everyone. She stressed the importance for the BSA to remember the needs of these innovative people who are clearly primed to be successful entrepreneurs given their ideas and initiative. She reflected that when ED Tofighi brought the SBA funding opportunity to her attention, she thought it would be a timely and beneficial program to pursue since there is a definite need for this type of biotech ecosystem that has not yet been developed in rural areas. She added that this type of need to engage PhD educated professionals is not just needed in Northern New Mexico. She pointed out that this pattern is likely present in other communities with universities where spouses reside who don't work at the universities or who don't have a business in town. She stressed that there are limited businesses in rural areas providing limited opportunities for these professionals to work which creates a need for resources this ecosystem could support. ED Tofighi stated that the goal is to use this small grant to develop a roadmap to state resources that can be shared with other rural communities for the purpose of enlarging the ecosystem. Expansion of the ecosystem would be part of a Stage 2 proposal to the sponsor, the Growth Accelerator Program.</p> <p>The BOD and the Chair thanked ED Tofighi for her work on the video and the Growth Accelerator program. The Chair asked if there is anything that the BOD can do as board members to promote this proposal or write letters of encouragement, to please let them know. He professed that the broader BSA's reach, the more we can tap into existing New Mexico talent, ideas and resources-be it urban or rural-the stronger the BSA will be to arrive at a specified designation. Director Paul Laur also commended Tofighi for her prowess as an informative radio talk show interviewee.</p>
--	--	--

10.	Old/New NMBSA Related Business	<p>-Executive Director Stephanie Tofighi: Tofighi said the Finance Committee is in need of a new member following the resignation of former Finance Committee Chair Alex Greenberg.</p> <p>-Brandon Toensing: Toensing who is an Associate of Legal Counsel at the UNM Office of Legal Counsel introduced himself to the BOD as an observer who will be attending future meetings on behalf of Deputy University Counsel, Ari Vazquez.</p> <p>-Chair Dale Dekker: The Chair plans on having an In-Person board meeting in Socorro, New Mexico for the month of April, 2023. In preparation for the meeting, the Chair asked ED Tofighi to poll the BOD on their availability. Director Tom Kieft informed the Chair he is looking forward to the meeting and will assist with the accommodations at New Mexico Technical University in Socorro.</p> <p>-Director Paul Laur: Laur reminded the BOD that at the last NMBio meeting, everyone agreed they are trying to achieve the same goals as the BSA which is stimulating economic development in the bioscience sector. Laur said developing a better working relationship with NMBio would be something to think about and to possibly discuss at the next board meeting.</p> <p>-Director Prisca Tiasse: Tiasse announced she is working with LANL (Los Alamos National Labs) and UNM-LA on a technician training program, as it has become an issue with start-ups and an even larger issue with LANL. LANL is looking for biology and chemistry technicians. Tiasse said she is working on developing a training program and if the BOD had any ideas or input to please contact her. Director Greg Byrnes asked Tiasse to send him information on the program as Byrnes is working with CNM in developing their technicians program. The Chair suggested Director Sarah Boisvert might be able to assist with the program given her experience working with the Santa Fe Community College. The Chair also mentioned he had contacts at CNM and asked for Tiasse to copy him when contacting Director Byrnes. Director</p>
-----	--------------------------------	---

		Tanner Schaub said he would update Tiasse on any information regarding adopting a technician program at NMSU.
11.	Adjourn	<p>The Chair called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.</p> <p>A motion was made by Christos Christodoulou with a second from Greg Byrnes.</p> <p>A roll call vote of all board members was called with ten in the affirmative, none in opposition, none in abstention and three absent. The vote was as follows:</p> <p>Arvizu-Absent, Boisvert-Absent, Byrnes-Affirm, Christodoulou-Affirm, Dekker-Affirm, Gifford-Affirm, Keyes-Absent, Kieft-Affirm, Laur-Affirm, McLaughlin-Affirm, Perkins-Affirm, Schaub-Affirm, Tiasse-Affirm</p> <p>The Chair adjourned the meeting at 12:57 PM.</p>

Respectfully submitted by Sterling Nichols and Stephanie Tofighi