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**New Mexico Bioscience Authority (BSA) Board of Directors
Regular Meeting
September 19, 2024, 11:30 AM – 12:45 PM**

Draft Meeting Minutes

Present: Paul Laur (Chair), Christos Christodoulou, Tom Kieft, Alex Koglin, Lisa Kuuttila, Francisco Pallares, David Perkins, Nora Sackett, Tanner Schaub

Absent: Greg Byrnes, Dana Catron, Dale Dekker, Prisca Tiasse

Staff Present: Stephanie Tofighi, Sterling Nichols

#	Agenda Items	Board Actions
1.	Call to order and Confirmation of Quorum	The Chair called the meeting to order at 11:30 AM. A quorum was confirmed.
2.	Approval of Minutes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ August 22, 2024, BOD Meeting 	<p>The Chair called for a motion to approve the August 22, 2024, meeting minutes.</p> <p>A motion was made by Francisco Pallares to approve the August 22nd minutes with a second from Alex Koglin.</p> <p>A roll call vote of all board members was called with four in the affirmative, none in opposition, five in abstention and four absent. The vote was as follows:</p> <p>Byrnes-Absent, Catron-Absent, Christodoulou-Affirm, Dekker-Absent, Kieft-Abstain, Koglin-Affirm, Kuuttila-Abstain, Laur-Affirm, Pallares-Affirm, Perkins-Abstain, Sackett-Abstain, Schaub-Abstain, Tiasse-Absent</p>
3.	Announcements and Chair's Report	<p>NMBSA Chair Paul Laur provided an update on the following items for the month of September.</p> <p><u>NMBA Strategic Plan</u></p> <p>The Chair announced that the Strategic Plan meeting will occur on Monday, October 21st 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM. The</p>

		<p>meeting will be held in person at Dekker Design and remotely through zoom.</p> <p><u>NMBio Knowledge Fair; Tuesday, October 22, 2024</u></p> <p>The New Mexico Biotechnical and Biomedical Association will host its 8th Annual Knowledge Fair in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Members of the BSA will participate in a panel discussion to explain some of the current initiatives the Bioscience Authority has implemented that contribute toward the development of the state’s bioscience sector.</p> <p><u>Meeting with the New Mexico Financial Authority (NMFA)</u></p> <p>The BSA will meet with John Brooks; Chief of Programs at NMFA to discuss potential ways to acquire additional funding for the Bioscience Authority’s Co-Investment Fund.</p> <p><u>New NMBSA Board of Director: Lisa Kuuttila, MS</u></p> <p>Director Kuuttila was formally introduced as the thirteenth member the board and the fourth member of the public appointed by the state’s Legislative Council. Kuuttila joins the BSA as the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Economic Development Officer at the University of New Mexico’s Rainforest Innovations organization. Kuuttila develops strategies for implementing the Rainforest Innovations vision, which is to have an active role in New Mexico’s quest for expanded economic development, and to be a leader in technology commercialization.</p> <p>The Chair concluded his report for the month of September.</p>
4.	Executive Director’s Report	<p>Executive Director (ED) Stephanie Tofighi provided an update on the following items for the month of September.</p> <p><u>2024 Annual Report</u></p> <p>A draft of the report will be distributed to members of the board following the September 19th meeting. The BOD is asked to review the report and provide feedback before the final draft is submitted by October 1st, 2024. The report is to be shared with the New Mexico Legislative Council, the current Gubernatorial administration and the state’s Higher</p>

		<p>Education Department. The Annual Report can also be found on the BSA’s website.</p> <p><u>New Mexico Bioscience Ecomap Marketing Plan</u></p> <p>The New Mexico Angels is working with the BSA to develop a marketing plan to increase the presence and reach of the Bioscience Connect Ecomap. The marketing plan will focus on obtaining more traction and to attract additional users such as businesses posting for jobs and looking for resources, as well as those, acquiring information on job opportunities.</p> <p><u>NMBSA Newsletter</u></p> <p>ED Tofighi announced that the first issue of the Newsletter has been distributed to the state’s legislators as a means to inform them on the BSA and its current initiatives. The newsletter has been shared on social media and through the BSA Listserv. Tofighi reported that she has witnessed some traction for the Bioscience ecomap as a result of the newsletter. She will carry the newsletter’s momentum into the second issue which is scheduled for release at the end of September detailing past, present and future events in bioscience.</p> <p><u>UNM Clinical & Translational Science Center (CTSC) Bioventure Partnership Event; September 13, 2024</u></p> <p>SPD Cangiolosi attended the well-received event which promotes the current technology and commercialization efforts originating from UNM, the UNM Health Sciences Center CTSC and public entities.</p> <p><u>UNM Clinical & Translational Science Center (CTSC) Bioscience Entrepreneur and Technology Transfer Course</u></p> <p>NMBSA Strategy and Policy Director Ryan Cangiolosi collaborated with the UNM Anderson School of Management and the Accelerating Solutions for Commercialization and Entrepreneurial Hub 2.0 (ASCEND 2.0) in developing a curriculum that shows researchers how to commercialize prospective technology and establish</p>
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		<p>relationships with CEO's. The Course will also be of interest to entrepreneurs as it provides information and protocol to access emerging technologies from universities. ED Tofighi is promoting the course with mentions on social media and the BSA Listserv. The course will run from October 15, 2024, through November 5, 2024</p> <p><u>Radically Rural Summit 2024</u></p> <p>ED Tofighi will attend the conference to participate in a panel discussion that will focus on introducing biotechnology to rural communities. The Radically Rural national conference meets annually in which attendees collaborate on how to build and expand rural economies.</p> <p>Executive Director Stephanie Tofighi concluded her report for the month of September.</p>
5.	President's Report	<p>NMBSA President Dr. David Perkins welcomed new board member; Lisa Kuuttilla and expressed his enthusiasm to collaborate with her on future BSA endeavors.</p> <p>President Perkins concluded his report for the month of September.</p>
6.	National Center for Genome Resources Update	<p>Callum Bell: Ph.D., President of the National Center for Genome Resources (NCGR) in Santa Fe, New Mexico, joined the BSA's September board meeting to offer insight on the NCGR's interest in innovation, collaboration and education in the field of genomic data science. As President of the NCGR Dr. Bell provides technical leadership in Genome research and has acquired over 25 years of experience in research and development, and management in genetics, genomics and bioinformatics. Bell, a native of Scotland who received his Ph.D. at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland has been with the NCGR since 2008.</p> <p>Through screen share, Dr. Bell presented on the NCGR.</p> <p>National Center for Genome Resources (NCGR)</p>

		<p>The NCGR is a not-for-profit research institute, located in Santa Fe, New Mexico, that innovates, collaborates and educates in the field of Genomic Data Science.</p> <p>The NCGR’s location in Santa Fe is a 32,000 square foot building that offers tenant space with a dedicated data center.</p> <p>NCGR Website</p> <p>The website references the NCGR’s notable research projects and list of publications citing their research. It also lists the current NCGR leadership, board of directors, as well as information on services and education.</p> <p>Origins of the NCGR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The United States Department of Education’s Human Genome Project is responsible for the inception of the NCGR. -Key scientists at Los Alamos National Labs (LANL) wanted to retain a data base and software support for the DOE’s Human Genome Project in New Mexico. The solution for this was to form the NCGR as a non-profit entity. -New Mexico Senator Pete Domenici was instrumental in securing funding to form the NCGR. <p>NCGR Mission</p> <p>Technical development of software and databases for analysis of DNA and RNA sequencing is the main focus. As data information has increased, numerous challenges have occurred. However, the focus of technical development will remain to overcome such challenges providing there is analytics expertise, software engineering, database support, and websites for specialized research communities.</p> <p>NCGR Research</p>
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		<p>NCGR Projects illustrate some of the technical abilities of NCGR analysts.</p> <p>Projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Red Alder – Is a keystone species of trees found in the Northwestern United States whose survival is threatened due to climate change. The NCGR became interested in the species as it represents a large pool of genetic diversity as the Red Alder exists between the borders of British Columbia to California. The pool of genetic diversity relates to the health of numerous ecosystems. ✓ Legume Information System (LIS) – NCGR is renowned for building community resources in which the LIS represents the flagship of community collaboration. The LIS is a collection of data with analytical tools. It is a center for studying legume genes and genomes, representing the bean family, that are critical for food security. Legumes account for 30 percent of human dietary protein. For 20 years the NCGR has been in partnership with the United States Drug Association and scientists to maintain the LIS as a source of information. ✓ Pangenomes: Developing algorithms and links to Phenotypes – In relation to the computer science aspect of research, a new approach is needed such as utilizing algorithms to solve complex problems in biology. ✓ Single Cell Transcriptions in Plant Systems – The NCGR has developed an application of principles and methods pioneered in the study of single neurons to bring the benefits of single cell transcriptomics to plant biology. <p>Education</p> <p>NCGR's mission is to provide education to the research community in a variety of ways.</p>
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		<p><u>Internships</u> College students are recruited to participate in bioinformatics training where they learn how to independently analyze datasets.</p> <p><u>K-12 Outreach</u> The NCGR strives to help students think critically about the world around them and to build their capacity and confidence in understanding and creating scientific knowledge. Researchers go into classrooms to present relevant information and take part in STEM fairs and other community programs.</p> <p>New Mexico’s Bioscience Landscape</p> <p>NCGR can contribute towards the development of the bioscience industry by building strong relationships with researchers and companies and collaborating on various projects involving data science, algorithm development and molecular biology.</p> <p>Dr. Bell concluded his presentation by reaffirming NCGR commitment to extend their services to those requesting assistance with biological concerns. NCGR can help with solving problems.</p>
7.	<p>Executive Committee Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Planning Meeting Agenda Discussion 	<p>Executive Committee Chair Paul Laur presented the September Executive Committee report.</p> <p><u>Strategic Planning Meeting Agenda Discussion</u></p> <p>The Strategic Planning meeting will occur on Monday, October 21st 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM in Albuquerque. It will be in person with options to attend remotely.</p> <p>The Chair said the meeting will explore partnering with external organizations such as the Albuquerque Regional Economic Association (AREA) and the New Mexico Biotechnical and Biomedical Association (NMBio). Partnering with AREA and NMBio would provide invaluable feedback. The BSA can also seek feedback from key</p>

		<p>individuals from the state legislature, Los Alamos National Labs and others from various state entities.</p> <p>Director Dale Dekker, who has made accommodations for the meeting will have someone to facilitate the meeting for discussion of ideas and strategy. The meeting will be a collaborative process the Chair stated. For the BOD's reference of the previous strategic plans, ED Tofighi confirmed that the previous plans can be found on the BSA website. Tofighi will send drafts of the previous plans to the BOD via email.</p> <p>The Chair concluded his report stating that the meeting in October will be a good time to revisit the plan.</p> <p>Director Tanner Schaub left the meeting at 12:15 PM.</p>
8.	<p>Finance Committee Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly Financial Statement Review (August) 	<p>Executive Director Stephanie Tofighi presented the August Financial statement for review via Screen Share:</p> <p><u>August 2024 Financial Statement</u></p> <p>ED Tofighi reported that there were no significant changes to the budget for the month of August except for staff salaries, fringe benefits, legal fees, and facility rent.</p> <p>The Chair called for a motion to approve the August financial statement.</p> <p>A motion was made by Alex Koglin with a second from Christos Christodoulou.</p> <p>A roll call vote of all board members was called with eight in the affirmative, none in opposition, none in abstention and five absent. The vote was as follows:</p> <p>Byrnes-Absent, Catron-Absent, Christodoulou-Affirm, Dekker-Absent, Kieft-Affirm, Koglin-Affirm, Kuuttila-Affirm, Laur-Affirm, Pallares-Affirm, Perkins-Affirm, Sackett-Affirm, Schaub-Absent, Tiasse-Absent</p>
9.	Mission Accomplishment Committee Report	Mission Accomplishment Committee (MAC) Chair Tom Kieft presented the MAC report for the month of September.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NMBSA & Industry Marketing 	<p>NMBSA & Industry Marketing</p> <p>The Chair reported the MAC reviewed marketing ideas on how to market bioscience and the BSA to the public. University of New Mexico Anderson School of Management student Intern; John Saldana, proposed utilizing Billboards for targeted promotional efforts. The committee agreed to approach the BOD about discussing some of the marketing ideas at the September 11th MAC meeting and adding them to the Strategic Plan. ED Tofighi added that Intern John Saldana will acquire more information on pricing to present at the October 21st Strategic Planning Meeting. The New Mexico Angels will provide feedback on a marketing plan that will also be presented at the Strategic Planning Meeting she said.</p> <p>The Chair concluded the September Mission Accomplishment Committee Report.</p>
10.	Other NMBSA Related Business Discussion	<p><u>NMBSA October 2024 Board Meeting</u></p> <p>The Chair announced that the October board meeting has been canceled. The BOD will meet for the October 21st Strategic Planning Meeting in place of the regularly scheduled board meeting.</p>
15.	Adjourn	<p>The Chair called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.</p> <p>A motion was made by Tom Kieft with a second from Christos Christodoulou.</p> <p>A roll call vote of all board members was called with eight in the affirmative, none in opposition, none in abstention and five absent. The vote was as follows:</p> <p>Byrnes-Absent, Catron-Absent, Christodoulou-Affirm, Dekker-Absent, Kieft-Affirm, Koglin-Affirm, Kuuttilla-Affirm, Laur-Affirm, Pallares-Affirm, Perkins-Affirm, Sackett-Affirm, Schaub-Absent, Tiasse-Absent</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 12:45 PM.</p>

Respectfully submitted by Sterling Nichols and Stephanie Tofighi.