

**New Mexico Bioscience Authority (BSA) Board of Directors
Regular Meeting**

April 18, 2024, 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

317 Commercial St. NE, Suite 311, Albuquerque, NM

Present: Dale Dekker (Chair), Dana Catron, Tom Kieft, Paul Laur, Francisco Pallares, Dr. David Perkins, Nora Sackett

Absent: Greg Byrnes, Christos Christodoulou, Tanner Schaub, Prisca Tiasse

Staff Present: Stephanie Tofighi, Sterling Nichols, Ryan Cangiolosi, Anne-Laure Schmitt-Olivier

#	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"> March 20, 2024 BOD Meeting 	<p>The Chair called for a motion to approve the March 20, 2024, meeting minutes.</p> <p>A motion was made by Francisco Pallares to approve the January 18th minutes with a second from Dana Catron.</p> <p>A roll call vote of all board members was called with six in the affirmative, none in opposition, one in abstention and four absent. The vote was as follows:</p> <p>Byrnes-Absent, Catron-Affirm, Christodoulou-Absent, Dekker-Affirm, Kieft-Affirm, Laur-Affirm, Pallares-Affirm, Perkins-Affirm, Sackett-Abstain, Schaub-Absent, Tiasse-Absent</p>
3.	Announcements and Chair's Report	<p><u>Chair's Report: April</u></p> <p>NMBSA Chair Dale Dekker provided an update on the following items for the month of March.</p> <p><u>NMBSA Director Greg Byrnes Meets with US Congress</u> The Chair informed NMBSA Director Greg Byrnes is currently in Washington, DC meeting with Congressional Delegates to discuss the BSA's role in developing New</p>

		<p>Mexico’s Bioscience industry. Byrnes, a staunch proponent for Bioscience in New Mexico plans to educate the Delegation on what the BSA offers in terms of economic development, vitality and growth.</p> <p><u>2025 Legislative Session</u></p> <p>The Chair concluded his report affirming that in preparation for the upcoming 2025 Legislative session, BSA Staff will make plans for the BOD to attend some of the State’s Legislative Interim Committee Meetings scheduled for Summer 2024.</p>
4.	President’s Report	<p><u>President’s Report: April</u></p> <p>In response to the Chair’s comments regarding preparation for the 2025 Legislative Session in his April Announcement’s & Chair’s report, NMBSA President Dr. David Perkins, added that having a session for the BOD to collect ideas and develop strategy to approach the upcoming session would be advantageous. The Chair agreed to a possible follow up meeting with the BOD which would include external guests to participate in developing an effective strategy. The Chair proposed to discuss the planned Strategy session at the May 2024 Executive Committee Meeting.</p>
5.	Executive Director’s Report	<p>Executive Director (ED) Stephanie Tofighi provided an update on the following items for the month of April.</p> <p><u>New Mexico Bioscience Business Map</u></p> <p>ED Tofighi has created a map of current licensed Bioscience businesses in New Mexico for an upcoming business conference in Taiwan. Tofighi contacted businesses and individuals for an accurate representation of current biosciences businesses. In addition to the conference in Taiwan, the map will be presented at 2024 BIO International conference June 3-6; 2024. For companies seeking representation on the map at BIO 2024, Tofighi urged that they provide a link to their website, company logo and name with information on where they are located.</p>

		<p><u>Small Business Administration Growth Accelerator Fund Competition (GAFC) Prize Report</u></p> <p>Tofighi announced she is near completion with the GAFC Report’s final draft and will adopt suggestions made by Director Catron.</p> <p><u>Meeting with the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC)</u></p> <p>NMBSA Director Nora Sackett, ED Tofighi, and Dr. Stuart Rose; Founder of the Bioscience Center in Albuquerque, met with the HKTDC representative to discuss an overview on bioscience in New Mexico. Collectively, they provided insight for prospective investors in Hong Kong interested in investment opportunities that will advance start-up companies from New Mexico.</p> <p><u>New Mexico Bioscience Connect Ecomap</u></p> <p>ED Tofighi announced the NM Bioscience Ecomap is on schedule to launch following a successful introduction of the Ecomap at the New Mexico Rural Bioscience Ecosystem Meeting at Spaceport America; February 28th, 2024. Attendees at the meeting were given a tutorial on Ecomap. Attendees provided valuable feedback that will be essential for its growth.</p> <p>Executive Director Stephanie Tofighi concluded her report for the month of April.</p>
6.	Executive Committee Report	<p><u>NMBSA Annual Meeting</u></p> <p>The BSA’s Annual Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 23, 2024. A ‘<i>Closed Session</i>’ will occur on the meeting’s agenda for a discussion of the BSA’s current legal matters.</p>
7.	<p>Finance Committee Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly Financial Statement Review (March) 	<p>Monthly Financial Statement Review: March</p> <p>Strategy and Policy Director Ryan Cangiolosi presented the March Financial statement to the BOD via Screen Share:</p>

		<p><u>March 2024</u></p> <p>SPD Cangiolosi reported that there were no significant changes to the budget for the month of March. The only changes were for typical operating expenses such as staff salaries, rent, and fringe benefits. An additional change to the budget will be the second installment payment for consulting services rendered by the New Mexico Angels. The NM Angels expertise will assist in building the Rural New Mexico Bioscience Ecosystem and the development of the New Mexico Bioscience Connect Ecomap.</p> <p>The Chair called for a motion to approve the March Financial Statement.</p> <p>A motion was made by David Perkins to approve the March Financial statement with a second from Tom Kieft.</p> <p>A roll call vote of all board members was called with seven in the affirmative, none in opposition, none in abstention and four absent. The vote was as follows:</p> <p>Byrnes-Absent, Catron-Affirm, Christodoulou-Absent, Dekker-Affirm, Kieft-Affirm, Laur-Affirm, Pallares-Affirm, Perkins-Affirm, Sackett-Affirm, Schaub-Absent, Tiasse-Absent</p>
8.	Mission Accomplishment Committee Report	<p>Mission Accomplishment Committee (MAC) Chair Tom Kieft began the report asking BSA Chair Dale Dekker to expand on some of the Career Developments items discussed at the April 10th MAC Meeting:</p> <p><u>Creating a Reference Manual for Students interested in Bioscience Careers</u></p> <p>Chair Dekker explained while serving on the New Mexico Workforce Development Board, a reference manual titled '<i>The Green Book</i>' was distributed to High School Counselors throughout the state. The Green Book contained information on careers in New Mexico that were organized according to the State's identified Economic Development Clusters, and jobs available within the clusters which coincided with specific education requirements. School</p>

	<p>Counselors serve as the primary source of information for High School Students who wish to continue their education at the secondary level in STEM related fields. Creating a reference manual would present an opportunity to work with Workforce Solutions by curating information tailored to students interested in pursuing Bioscience careers. The information could be for High School Juniors and Seniors considering there are Dual Degree programs at local Community Colleges such as Central New Mexico (CNM). This would assist students in selecting the appropriate career path he said. This task would not require a significant amount of effort because a statewide association exists for School Counselors. We can collaborate with them to expand our efforts in career development.</p> <p>ED Tofighi added to the Chair’s comments on career development stating that she has joined the Northern New Mexico Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math, (STEAM) Coalition recently. STEAM advocates stress that inclusion of the Arts directly aligns with STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) in that they both possess creative problem solving and creative thinking attributes.</p> <p>In joining the coalition, Tofighi learned of plans to develop metrics to evaluate if schools were STEAM or STEM focused. By partnering with the coalition, it would be beneficial to work with high schools in evaluating their STEAM-STEM programs, and adjusting curriculum according to current bioscience industry standards and best practices.</p> <p>In moving forward with plans for career development, the Chair Dekker said workforce development will be the top priority as companies look to expand in New Mexico or relocate. If we don’t have the workforce, we cannot grow the industry or attract companies, he said. The key is to create a long-term strategy addressing such specifics.</p> <p><u>NSF 23-507 Experiential Learning for Emerging and Novel Technologies (ExLENT) Gant.</u></p> <p>At the April 10th MAC meeting, Tofighi led a strategy discussion about the preparation of the proposal as it will elicit broader implications. Tofighi explained she wants to</p>
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		<p>gather perspectives from Program Officers on the concept of Intellectual Merit as MAC Member Christos Christodoulou stated that Biotech in Space has not been fully addressed. This means an onus will be placed on companies willing to incorporate interns into their space domains. At present, the main concern is to quickly develop a White Paper addressing Intellectual Merit and record their feedback, she said.</p> <p>MAC Chair Kieft concluded the Mission Accomplishment Committee meeting for the month of April.</p>
9.	Other NMBSA Related Business Discussions	<p><u>New Mexico Pavilion at the 2024 International BIO Conference</u></p> <p>NMBSA Director Greg Byrnes and Danielle Casey; President and CEO of the Albuquerque Regional Economic Alliance (AREA), have made a joint effort to raise money for a booth at the Conference; June 3-6, 2024, in San Diego, California. Byrnes and Casey are attempting to raise \$100,000 for the booth in which their efforts will match the other conferences' major participants' and contributors' motivations for creating impactful exhibits at BIO 2024. The Chair commended Byrnes and Casey's for their actions to ensure New Mexico will leave an indelible impression at the conference.</p> <p>NMBSA Director Paul Laur announced that the Mercury BIO Company of Santa Fe will participate at the conference. Laur serves as the current Chief Operating Officer at Mercury BIO. Laur informed Mercury BIO has also submitted a poster for the Blue Night Breakout Session which is a Johnson & Johnson sponsored poster session in collaboration with the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA).</p> <p><u>Northern New Mexico College Hiring Event, April 10, 2024</u></p> <p>BSA Staffers Anne-Laure Schmitt-Olivier; Intellectual Property Specialist and Program Specialist Sterling Nichols attended the Hiring event to educate students, faculty and the public about the Bioscience Authority's mission and current initiatives. Schmitt-Olivier and Nichols also took the</p>

		<p>opportunity to promote the New Mexico Bioscience Connect Ecomap and explain its intrinsic value to New Mexico’s rural communities.</p>
10.	Adjourn	<p>The Chair called for a motion to adjourn the meeting</p> <p>A motion was made by Tom Kieft to adjourn the meeting with a second from Francisco Pallares.</p> <p>A roll call vote of all board members was called with seven in the affirmative, none in opposition, none in abstention and four absent. The vote was as follows:</p> <p>Byrnes-Absent, Catron-Affirm, Christodoulou-Absent, Dekker-Affirm, Kieft-Affirm, Laur-Affirm, Pallares-Affirm, Perkins-Affirm, Sackett-Affirm, Schaub-Absent, Tiasse-Absent</p> <p>The Chair adjourned the meeting at 12:30 PM.</p>

Respectfully submitted by Sterling Nichols and Stephanie Tofighi