

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

**Jun 18, 2026, 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM**

**Draft Meeting Minutes**

**Present:** Paul Laur (Chair), Tom Kieft, Alex Koglin, Francisco Pallares, David Perkins, Nora Sackett, Tanner Schaub, Prisca Tiasse

**Absent:** Christos Christodoulou, Dale Dekker, Lisa Kuuttila

**Staff Present:** Stephanie Tofighi, Anne-Laure Schmitt Olivier, Irene Gray, Sterling Nichols, Ryan Cangioli

#	Agenda Items	Board Actions
1.	Call to order and Confirmation of Quorum	Chair Laur called the meeting to order at 11:30 AM. A quorum was confirmed.
2.	Approval of Minutes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 21, 2026, Board Meeting</li> </ul>	<p>Chair Laur called for a motion to approve the May 21, 2026 meeting minutes.</p> <p>A motion was made by Tanner Schaub with a second from David Perkins to approve the May 21<sup>st</sup> meeting minutes.</p> <p>A roll call vote of all board members was called with four in the affirmative, none in opposition, three in abstention and four absent. The vote was as follows:</p> <p>Christodoulou-Absent, Dekker-Absent, Kieft-Affirm, Koglin-Affirm, Kuuttila-Absent, Laur-Abstain, Pallares-Absent, Perkins-Affirm, Sackett-Abstain, Schaub-Affirm, Tiasse-Abstain</p>
3.	Announcements and Chair's Report	<p>NMBSA Acting Chair Paul Laur provided his update for the month of <b>June</b>.</p> <p><b><u>Biolink: Connecting Bioscience Innovators Throughout NM</u></b></p> <p>The Chair reported that the <b>BioLink</b> event will connect bioscience innovators with New Mexico's bioscience</p>

		<p>community on Friday, June 26, 2026 4:00 – 6:00 at UNM Rainforest Innovations. Santa Fe Brewery will be sponsoring beverages for the event.</p> <p>The Chair concluded his report.</p>
4.	Executive Director’s Report	<p>NMBSA Executive Director (ED) Stephanie Tofighi provided an update on the following items for the month of <b>June</b>.</p> <p><b><u>New Mexico Economic Development Department Technology Innovation Network (TIN) Advisory Board Meeting: June 1, 2026</u></b></p> <p>ED Tofighi attended the inaugural Technology Innovation Network (TIN) Advisory Board meeting, facilitated by NMBSA Director and Technology Innovation Office (TIO) Director Nora Sackett along with NMBSA Director Tanner Schaub who represents NM State University on the TIN Advisory Board. Tofighi shared documents from the meeting; TIN Charter, TIN Manual and link to the meeting minutes. The meeting also reviewed information on the Research, Development, and Deployment fund and the formal announcement of the TIN Executive committee.</p> <p><b><u>New Mexico Business Luncheon with Kenyan Ambassador David Kerich; Friday, July 10 2026 11:30 – 1:00</u></b></p> <p>Tofighi is currently organizing the event to be held at UNM Rainforest Innovations. The luncheon will gather stakeholders from New Mexico’s Bioscience and Oil and Gas industries.</p> <p><b><u>2026 BIO International Convention; June 22-25, San Diego, California</u></b></p> <p>ED Tofighi will participate at BIO’s annual convention conducting partnership meetings, attending the BIOChina Forum and meeting with representatives from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) representatives. Tofighi has also coordinated a dinner with the Albuquerque Regional Economic Alliance for participants at the New Mexico Pavilion.</p>

		<p><b><u>NMBSA BEE Program and BioLink Event</u></b></p> <p>The BEE internship program has officially begun with interns working with their companies for 20 hours a week and participating in one hour of weekly professional development focused on developing their own companies.. She reiterated that the <b>BioLink</b> event will be occurring, Friday, June 26, 2026 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm at UNM Rainforest Innovations. BioLink will showcase innovation in New Mexico’s bioscience community and encourage collaboration among attendees.</p> <p>ED Tofighi concluded her report.</p> <p>Director Francisco Pallares joined the meeting at 11:50 AM.</p>
5.	President’s Report	<p>NMBSA President Dr. David Perkins presented his report for the month of <b>June</b>.</p> <p><b><u>NMBSA Feasibility Study Update</u></b></p> <p>Following the Feasibility Study ‘Launch’ meeting with FBT Architects on Wednesday, May 13, 2026, Dr. Perkins informed the Board that there were three items to consider in moving forward.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Construction of Facility</b> – FBT Architects presented the option to renovate an existing site or start construction on a new site. Two potential sites for new construction were discussed.</li> <li>2. <b>Location</b> of new construction sites - <b>Lomas Corridor</b> &amp; available space at the <b>UNM Rainforest</b> location</li> <li>3. <b>Facility Size</b> – Options of 25,000 square feet or 40,000 square feet with cost and funding as key items of focus.</li> </ol> <p>President Perkins concluded his update.</p>
6.	Feasibility Study Overview by FBT Architects	<p>Sanjay Engineer; Vice President and Managing Principal of FBT Architects joined the June 18<sup>th</sup> meeting with FBT Architect and Project Manager Justin Milburn to provide an overview of the Feasibility Study.</p>

		<p><b>New Mexico Bioscience Authority Feasibility Study, Wet and Dry Lab and Shared Office Facility</b></p> <p><i>Schedule</i></p> <p>The Feasibility Study began in late May of 2026 with a coordinated effort of activities between FBT Architects and the NMBSA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-<i>Feasibility and Needs Assessment</i></li> <li>-<i>Site and Building Location Evaluation</i></li> <li>-<i>Programming and Space Planning</i></li> <li>-<i>Building Systems Analysis</i></li> <li>-<i>New Facility Systems &amp; Site Analysis Report</i></li> </ul> <p>In June of 2026, FBT will conduct the following to complete the study in July 2026.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-<i>Cost Modeling &amp; Phasing</i></li> <li>-<i>Pros and Con Assessment</i></li> <li>-<i>Implementation Roadmap</i></li> <li>-<i>Culmination of the Draft Report</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Vision and Mission</b></p> <p>FBT and the BSA met to discuss the vision and mission of the study which was summarized in four sentences:</p> <p><b>Project Goals and Vision</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Incubator and Research space is for independent Intellectual Property ownership.</li> <li>2. The translational space will contain resources to bring research to market.</li> <li>3. Attract and retain private research to help diversify the New Mexico Economy.</li> </ol>
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7.	<p>Executive Committee Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NM Angels Venture Builders Discussion</li> </ul>	<p>Chair Paul Laur presented the Executive Committee (EC) Report for the month of <b>June</b>.</p> <p><b><u>New Mexico Angels Venture Builders Discussion</u></b></p> <p>The Board discussed the proposed NM Angels Venture Builders \$5K sponsorship which would allow the BSA to sponsor a company in the Venture Builders program and to provide input on the selection of companies considered for future Venture Builders participation.</p> <p>Director Prisca Tiasse asked if companies participating in Venture Builders have to join the New Mexico Angels. Chair Laur confirmed companies participating had to join. Director Tiasse then proposed that the Board sponsor one company for the first year to evaluate program efficacy to which Director Alex Koglin agreed.</p>

		<p>Chair Laur called for a motion to approve the New Mexico Angels Venture Builders \$5K Sponsorship.</p> <p>A motion was made by Alex Koglin to approve the Venture Builders sponsorship for one year 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>Christodoulou-Absent, Dekker-Absent, Kieft-Affirm, Koglin-Affirm, Kuuttilla-Absent, Laur-Affirm, Pallares-Affirm, Perkins-Absent, Sackett-Affirm, Schaub-Affirm, Tiasse-Affirm</p> <p>Chair Laur concluded his report.</p>
8.	<p>Finance Committee Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monthly Financial Statement Review (May)</li> </ul>	<p>Finance Committee Chair (FCC) Alex Koglin presented the Finance Committee Report for the month of <b>June</b>.</p> <p>Through screen share, FCC Koglin presented the 2026 May Financial Statement.</p> <p><b>May 2026 Financial Statement</b></p> <p>FCC Koglin reported there were no significant changes to the budget for the month of <b>May</b>.</p> <p>FCC Koglin called for a motion to approve the May 2026 financial statement.</p> <p>A motion was made by Tanner Schaub to approve the May financial statement with a second from Prisca Tiasse.</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>Christodoulou-Absent, Dekker-Absent, Kieft-Affirm, Koglin-Affirm, Kuuttilla-Absent, Laur-Affirm, Pallares-Affirm, Perkins-Absent, Sackett-Affirm, Schaub-Affirm, Tiasse-Affirm</p>

		FC Chair Koglin concluded his report.
9.	<p>Mission Accomplishment Committee Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New Mexico Bioscience Benchmark Report from InCites</li> </ul>	<p>Mission Accomplishment Committee (MAC) Chair Tom Kieft introduced NMBSA Bioscience Commercialization intern, Aaron Miller, to present his report on InCites benchmarking data on behalf of the MAC for the month of <b>June</b>.</p> <p><b><u>New Mexico Bioscience Benchmark Report from InCites</u></b></p> <p>NMBSA Commercialization Intern Aaron Miller presented the InCites Benchmark Report. The InCites data report seeks to identify and explain trends found among the research institutions in New Mexico; University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center (UNMHSC), New Mexico Tech (NMT), New Mexico State (NMSU) and the National Labs (Sandia-Los Alamos).</p> <p>Through screen share Miller presented the report.</p> <p><b>InCites Benchmark Report</b></p> <p>Aaron Miller presented the InCites Benchmark Report summarizing research output, specialization metrics, and comparative benchmarking among New Mexico institutions and peer states. The Board discussed opportunities to use the findings to strengthen New Mexico's bioscience ecosystem.</p> <p><b>University of New Mexico</b> – UNM dominates the state’s research ecosystem.</p> <p><b>New Mexico State University</b> – NMSU’s research efforts are found to have the most impact among the states research institutions. NMSU is a leader in agricultural research.</p> <p><b>The National Labs</b> – Possess the highest impact for industrial applications. In patent research that cites research institutions, the labs have the highest rate of patent citations in academic publications.</p>

		<p><b>New Mexico Tech</b> – NMT has received tremendous growth in research which is a positive indicator for New Mexico’s research ecosystem in the southern region.</p> <p><b>Research Output</b></p> <p>The Benchmark report shows a comparison in research output for New Mexico’s research institutions and states such as Arizona, Colorado, Oklahoma and Utah whose research institutions share similar output metrics.</p> <p><b>Specialization Metrics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-States such as <b>Oregon</b> and <b>Arizona</b> share a similar output in research percentages compared to <b>Colorado</b> and <b>Oklahoma</b>.</li> <li>-While research output is not similar to <b>Oklahoma</b> and <b>Colorado</b>, impactful research is occurring among New Mexico’s research institutions.</li> <li>-<b>Arizona</b> and <b>Utah</b> have seen the most growth in research output with heavy investment and funding for their bioscience networks.</li> <li>-<b>Colorado</b> has seen a focus in investment for bioscience research in their ecosystems in the past five years with a focus in medical-industrial collaborations.</li> <li>-<b>Arizona</b> provides an interesting blueprint for achieving growth in research output. Arizona created a bioscience roadmap. The roadmap is a long-term strategic plan to establish quantifiable growth within the state’s bioscience ecosystem. The plan began in 2002 and commences in 2030 with options for renewal.</li> <li>-<b>Utah</b> has seen growth in research but has received less funding. However, Utah has a strong research presence in Artificial Intelligence and Biotechnology integrations.</li> <li>-<b>Oregon’s</b> research out post is most similar to New Mexico of the mentioned states. Oregon has a bioscience incubator that is aligned with programs in New Mexico.</li> </ul>
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10.	Other NMBSA Related Business Discussion	<p><b><u>New Mexico Environmental Department (NMED) Produced Water Meeting</u></b></p> <p>The Chair attended the June NMED meeting in Santa Fe. The meeting discussed using biological methods to remediate treated oil and gas wastewater.</p> <p><b><u>Reemergence of the Screwworm</u></b></p> <p>The Chair commented on a report of an encounter with the screwworm has been confirmed in New Mexico. The worm’s reemergence brings concern for the state’s ranchers, livestock, pets and wild animals. The situation is being monitored and presents an opportunity for the New Mexico bioscience community to respond.</p>

11.	Adjourn	<p>NMBSA Chair Laur called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.</p> <p>A motion was made by Prisca Tiasse to adjourn the meeting with a second from Nora Sackett.</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>Christodoulou-Absent, Dekker-Absent, Kieft-Affirm, Koglin-Affirm, Kuuttila-Absent, Laur-Affirm, Pallares-Affirm, Perkins-Absent, Sackett-Affirm, Schaub-Affirm, Tiasse-Affirm</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM.</p>
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Respectfully submitted by Sterling Nichols & Stephanie Tofighi.