

**New Mexico Bioscience Authority (NMBSA) Board of Directors
Regular Meeting
August 20, 2026, 11:30 AM – 12:51 PM**

Draft Meeting Minutes

Present: Paul Laur (Chair), Dale Dekker, Tom Kieft, Alex Koglin, Lisa Kuuttila, Francisco Pallares, David Perkins

Absent: Christos Christodoulou, Nora Sackett, Tanner Schaub, Prisca Tiasse

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

#	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: June 18, 2026, BOD Meeting	Chair Laur called for a motion to approve the June 18, 2026 meeting minutes. Alex Koglin moved to approve the June 18th meeting minutes with a second from Francisco Pallares. A roll call vote of all board members was called with four in the affirmative, none in opposition, two in abstention and five absent. The vote was as follows: Christodoulou-Absent, Dekker-Abstain, Kieft-Absent, Alex Koglin-Affirm, Kuuttila-Abstain, Laur-Affirm, Pallares-Affirm, Perkins-Affirm, Sackett-Absent, Schaub-Absent, Tiasse-Absent
3.	Announcements and Chair's Report	NMBSA Chair Paul Laur provided his update for the month of August. <u>New Mexico Biotechnology & Biomedical Association (NMBIO) Lunch and Learn: July 31, 2026, Santa Fe, New Mexico</u>

		Chair Laur attended NMBio's July 31, 2026, Lunch and Learn at the New Mexico Innovation Hub in Santa Fe. The event focused on the state's biocosmetics industry. Attendees discussed the need for a contract manufacturing organization capable of supporting the development of water-soluble product. <u>National Security Commission on Emerging Biotechnology (NSCEB) Meeting - August 2026</u> The NSCEB met to discuss concerns and developments in the state's biotechnology industry. NMBSA Executive Director Stephanie Tofighi moderated a panel discussion. <u>2027 New Mexico Legislative Session</u> Chair Laur encouraged Board members to prepare for the 2027 legislative session by supporting the development of co-investment legislation and attending legislative committee meetings during fall 2026. The Chair concluded his report.
4.	Executive Director's Report	NMBSA Executive Director (ED) Stephanie Tofighi provided an update on the following items for the month of August. <u>NMBSA 2026 Summer Business Entrepreneurial Experience (BEE) Internship Program</u> Executive Director Tofighi reported that the Summer 2026 BEE Internship Program was successful and received positive feedback from participating interns and host companies. Interns particularly valued the program's professional-development component. <u>2026 BIO Intl. Conference, San Diego, CA June 22-25</u> Executive Director Tofighi reported that the 2026 BIO International Convention was successful. NMBSA BIO Travel Grant recipients who participated in the New Mexico Pavilion's pitch and pavilion tracks reported gaining valuable insights and making connections with companies, conference attendees, and investors.

		<u>McCune Foundation Grant Proposal</u> Executive Director Tofighi reported that NMBSA applied for funding through the McCune Charitable Foundation’s discretionary and annual grant programs. The proposed project would support underserved communities and complement NMBSA’s internship programming. ED Tofighi concluded her report.
5.	President’s Report	NMBSA President Dr. David Perkins presented his report for the month of August. <u>UNM President Dr. Steve Goldstein</u> Dr. Perkins reported that new UNM President Dr. Steve Goldstein has a strong background in bioscience research and technology transfer. Dr. Perkins identified him as a potential partner in advancing NMBSA’s efforts. Dr. Perkins concluded his report.
6.	Executive Committee Report NMBSA Interns Program Continuation	Director Paul Laur presented the Executive Committee (EC) Report for the month of August. <u>NMBSA Interns Program Continuation</u> Executive Director Tofighi requested authorization to continue the NMBSA Commercialization Internship Program with two of the three UNM interns who participated during summer 2026. She explained that NMBSA did not have sufficient funding to retain all three interns but had up to \$20,000 available to support two interns during the 2026–2027 academic year. Each intern would work approximately 10 hours per week under NMBSA staff supervision. The Chair called for a motion to authorize the continuation of the NMBSA Commercialization Student Internship program with two interns for the academic year. Francisco Pallares moved to authorize up to \$20,000 for the continuation of the NMBSA Commercialization Internship Program for two interns during the 2026-2027 academic

		year, with each intern working approximately 10 hours per week under NMBSA staff supervision. David Perkins seconded the motion. A roll call vote of all board members was called with six in the affirmative, none in opposition, none in abstention and five absent. The vote was as follows: Christodoulou-Absent, Dekker-Affirm, Kieft-Absent, Alex Koglin-Affirm, Kuuttila-Affirm, Laur-Affirm, Pallares-Affirm, Perkins-Affirm, Sackett-Absent, Schaub-Absent, Tiasse-Absent <u>2026-2027 BEE Bridge Internship Program Introduction</u> ED Tofighi presented the 2026-2027 Bridge Program Introduction. With the Bridge program, the NMBSA's contribution of funds will be matched by participating companies to demonstrate their commitment for the program, Tofighi said. The Bridge program will consist of four companies and five interns from institutions from across the state who will collaborate on tasks and projects for the 2026-2027 academic year. <u>Feasibility Study Next Steps</u> Executive Director Tofighi presented FBT Architects' executive summary of the feasibility study evaluating the proposed development of a bioscience incubator and multi-tenant laboratory facility in the Lomas corridor near UNM Hospital and UNM North Campus. She reported that the study identified the Lomas corridor as a promising location for the proposed facility. She also reported that she had presented the findings to several legislative committees and received positive feedback. She plans to request opportunities to present the findings to additional legislative committees. Director Tom Kieft joined the meeting at 12:15 PM.
	2026-2027 BEE Bridge Program Introduction - Feasibility Study Next Steps	

7.	Mission Accomplishment Committee Report 2026 BEE program Results Presentation	Mission Accomplishment Committee (MAC) Chair Tom Kieft presented his report for the month of August. <u>2026 BEE program Results Presentation</u> NMBSA Communications and Industry Outreach Manager (CIOM) presented the survey results for the 2026 NMBSA Summer Business Entrepreneurial Experience (BEE) program. Through screen share, Gray presented the survey responses: At the conclusion of the 2026 Summer BEE program CIOM distributed a final survey to collect responses Host Organization Responses Gray said there was a 56% response rate to the survey. From the remaining responses <i>-86% were likely or very likely to return</i> <i>-86% were satisfied or very satisfied with the experience</i> <i>-71% would not have been able to participate without a Stipend or would have done so with financial strain</i> Testimonials One of the key testimonials was the BEE provides a strong model for connecting students with meaningful industry experience while helping companies advance projects Intern Responses The survey scored a 56% response rate to the survey <i>-20% of respondents were likely to enter the biosciences before starting the program. Following the program, 46% were likely to enter the bioscience field.</i> <i>-66% of respondents were likely or very likely to enter the biosciences</i>
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	NMBSA Outreach Effort	<i>-100% were satisfied or very satisfied with their host organizations</i> <i>-67% have already recommended the BEE to peers</i> <i>-93% of respondents rated the experience overall as positive</i> Summer 2026 Successes <i>Two Interns were hired on with their host organizations</i> <i>Interns were sought out for positions external to their host organization due to relationships developed because of the BEE</i> Intern Testimonials <i>.."This experience was one of the best professional experiences in my life""..</i> <i>.."The opportunity provided me with the experience and appreciation for how I would venture my own entrepreneurial business""..</i> <i>.."As an international student, I am always seeking for opportunities to expand my knowledge, experience and communication skills""..</i> CIOM Gray concluded her survey update. <u>NMBSA Outreach Efforts</u> NMBSA Outreach Efforts Summer and Fall 2026 ED Tofighi listed some of the key outreach efforts for the Fall of 2026 August NMBio Annual Member Appreciation Event-August 25, 2026 September -Governor's Economic Forum-September 2-3, 2026 -New Mexico Economic Development Department TIO Advisory Board Committee Meeting-September 9, 2026
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		October -NMBSA BioLink Fall Mixer-October 15, 2026 - Santa Fe Community College Career Fair-October 28, 2026 -New Mexico District Export Council Event in Hobbs, NM-October 29, 2026 -New Mexico TechFest-October 29-30, 2026 To Be Scheduled -Science, Technology, & Telecommunication Committee Presentation -NM Finance Authority Oversight Committee Presentation -Legislative Finance Committee Presentation -Economic & Rural Development & Policy Committee Presentation -SW CACTI Internal Advisory Board Committee Meeting -NMBio Knowledge Fair
8.	Finance Committee Report • Monthly Financial Statement Review (June & July)	Finance Committee Chair (FCC) Alex Koglin presented the Finance Committee Report for the month of August. Through screen share, FCC Koglin presented the 2026 June financial statement. <u>June 2026 Financial Statement</u> FCC Koglin reported there were no significant changes to the budget for the month of June. FCC Koglin called for a motion to approve the June 2026 financial statement. Francisco Pallares moved to approve the June 2026 financial statement with a second from Paul Laur. 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: Christodoulou-Absent, Dekker-Affirm, Kieft-Affirm, Alex Koglin-Affirm, Kuuttila-Affirm, Laur-Affirm, Pallares-Affirm, Perkins-Affirm, Sackett-Absent, Schaub-Absent, Tiasse-Absent

	Governor's Economic Development Conference Sponsorship	<u>July 2026 Financial Statement</u> Chair Koglin reported that the Finance Committee had not reviewed the July 2026 financial statement at its August 13th meeting. Francisco Pallares proposed deferring Board consideration of the statement until the September 17, 2026 meeting. Francisco Pallares moved to defer consideration of the July 2026 financial statement until the September 17, 2026, Board meeting. Paul Laur seconded the motion. 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: Christodoulou-Absent, Dekker-Affirm, Kieft-Affirm, Alex Koglin-Affirm, Kuuttila-Affirm, Laur-Affirm, Pallares-Affirm, Perkins-Affirm, Sackett-Absent, Schaub-Absent, Tiasse-Absent <u>Governor's Economic Development Conference (GEDC) Sponsorship; September 1, 2026</u> FCC Koglin introduced the finance committee's recommendation to sponsor the 2026 GEDC at the session sponsorship level. This sponsorship presents another opportunity to continue the NMBSA's messaging to establish a strong and connected bioscience community. FCC Koglin requested a motion concerning NMBSA's sponsorship of the 2026 Governor's Economic Development Conference. Tom Kieft moved to approve an NMBSA sponsorship of the 2026 Governor's Economic Development Conference in an amount not to exceed \$1,250. Paul Laur seconded the motion. 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:
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9.	Other NMBSA Related Business Discussion	The Chair announced there were no NMBSA Related Business items to discuss for the month of August.
10.	Adjourn	NMBSA Chair Laur called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Francisco Pallares moved to adjourn the meeting with a second from Alex Koglin. 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: Christodoulou-Absent, Dekker-Affirm, Kieft-Affirm, Koglin-Affirm, Kuuttila-Affirm, Laur-Affirm, Pallares-Affirm, Perkins-Affirm, Sackett-Absent, Schaub-Absent, Tiasse-Absent The meeting adjourned at 12:51 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Sterling Nichols and Stephanie Tofighi.