

NEW JERSEY COMMISSION ON SCIENCE, INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY

March 24, 2023

NJEDA Boardroom
36 West State Street
Trenton, NJ

This meeting was held in-person and via Microsoft Teams teleconference.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Members of the Commission present in person: Public Voting Members: Debbie Hart, BioNJ, Chair.

Members of the Commission present via conference call: Public Voting Members: David Pascrell, Gibbons, Treasurer; Dr. Alain Kornhauser, Princeton University; and Adam Sternbach, Public Member; Ex-Officio Voting Members: Kathleen Coviello for Tim Sullivan, CEO of the New Jersey Economic Development Authority, Dr. Brian Bridges, Secretary, OSHE; and Non-Voting Legislative Member Senator Robert Singer.

Members of the Commission absent: Ex-Officio Voting Member Angelica McMillan, Commissioner, DOE; Cuneyt Erdogan, Clarus Engineering; Non-Voting Legislative Members: Senator Paul Sarlo, Assemblyman Christopher DePhillips, and Assemblyman Christopher Tully; Non-Voting University Members: Dr. Nariman Farvardin, President, Stevens Institute of Technology; and Dr. Jonathan Holloway, President, Rutgers University.

Also present: Dana Walter, Assemblyman Tully's Office; Christopher Hughes, Assemblyman DePhillip's Office; Non-Voting University Representatives: Greg Townsend for Stevens Institute of Technology, Vincent Smeraglia for Rutgers University; Judith Sheft, Executive Director, CSIT; Elizabeth Marshall, Christine Machnowsky, and Christopher Kay, Deputy Attorneys General; Jamera Sirmans, Governor's Authorities Unit; EDA Staff: Danielle Esser, Director; Mahako Etta, CSIT Program Manager; Frances Keel, CSIT Program Officer; Franklin Dureke, CSIT Program Officer; Hector Serrano, Governance Officer; and Muneerah Sanders, Board Liaison.

Per the Chair's request, Muneerah Sanders read the Open Public Meetings announcement and performed the roll call of the Commission.

Prior to commencing the meeting, Chair Hart asked Ms. Esser to read aloud a statement regarding the process for public comment at the board meeting for any members of the public on the call. No members of the public presented themselves at this time.

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

The first item was the approval of the January 20, 2023 meeting minutes.

MOTION TO APPROVE: Ms. Coviello **SECOND:** Dr. Kornhauser **AYES: 5**

Dr. Bridges abstained as he was not present for the meeting.

FOR INFORMATION ONLY: The next item was the presentation of the Chair's Report to the Commission.

FOR INFORMATION ONLY: The next item was the presentation of the Executive Director's Report to the Commission presented by Judith Sheft.

Ms. Etta presented the next item before the Board:

Item: Approval of NJEDA funding of \$750,000 to CSIT for the launch of the Food and Agriculture Research and Development (R&D) Pilot Seed Grant Program

Request: To approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the New Jersey Economic Development Authority and the New Jersey Commission on Science Innovation and Technology to allocate funding of \$750,000 to CSIT to deploy the Food and Agriculture Research and Development Pilot Seed Grant Program.

MOTION TO APPROVE: Dr. Kornhauser **SECOND:** Dr. Bridges **AYES: 6**
RESOLUTION ATTACHED AND MARKED EXHIBIT: 1

Ms. Etta presented the next item before the Board:

Item: Approval of Approval of the Food and Agriculture Research and Development (R&D) Pilot Seed Grant Program

Request: To approve:

- The launch of the \$750,000 Food and Agriculture Research and Development (R&D) Pilot Seed Grant Program, a competitive grant program supporting innovative technological solutions to food insecurity challenges.
- Grant delegated authority to the Executive Director to:
 - Decline Applications that are deemed incomplete following the resubmission deadline
 - Decline applications that are deemed ineligible based on non-discretionary reasons at any point during the application process up to the board approval
 - Appoint a Hearing Officer for appeals, if necessary
 - Establish dates for opening and closing of grant submissions prior to publication of the Notice of Funding
 - Approve Applicant request of 3-month no cost extension at sole discretion of CSIT

MOTION TO APPROVE: Dr. Kornhauser **SECOND:** Dr. Bridges **AYES: 6**
RESOLUTION ATTACHED AND MARKED EXHIBIT: 2

Ms. Etta presented the next item before the Board:

Item: Approval of Round 2 Catalyst Research and Development (R&D) Pilot Seed Grant Program :

Request: To approve:

- The launch of the \$1,500,000 Round 2 Catalyst Research and Development (R&D) Pilot Seed Grant Program to support NJ based companies accelerating the commercialization and deployment of innovative technologies in the area of life sciences therapeutic drug discovery. This program will be funded from CSIT's FY 2023 budget.
- Delegated authority to the Executive Director to:
 - Decline applications that are deemed incomplete following the resubmission deadline
 - Decline applications that are deemed ineligible based on non-discretionary reasons at any point during the application process up to the board approval
 - Appoint a Hearing Officer for appeals, if necessary
 - Establish dates for opening and closing of grant submissions prior to publication of the Notice of Funding
 - Approve Applicant request of 3-month no cost extension at sole discretion of CSIT

MOTION TO APPROVE: Dr. Bridges **SECOND:** Ms. Coviello **AYES: 6**
RESOLUTION ATTACHED AND MARKED EXHIBIT: 3

Ms. Sheft presented the next item before the Board:

Item: Approval of Memorandum of Understanding – No Cost Extension - NJ Commission on Science, Innovation and Technology and New Jersey Institute of Technology, Evaluation of CSIT Program Economic Impact

Request: To approve a 3-month no cost extension to the May 2, 2022 Memorandum of Understanding with New Jersey Institute of Technology for evaluation of the economic impact of CSIT grant programs (SBIR/STTR Direct Financial Assistance, Clean Tech Seed Grant and Clean Tech R&D Voucher).

MOTION TO APPROVE: Ms. Coviello **SECOND:** Dr. Bridges **AYES: 6**
RESOLUTION ATTACHED AND MARKED EXHIBIT: 4

Mr. Saldutti presented the next item before the Board:

Item: Approval of Hearing Officer’s Recommendation on DGB Technologies Appeal of Denial Decision for the Catalyst Seed R&D Grant program

Request: To approve the Hearing Officer’s Recommendation on DGB Technologies Appeal of Denial Decision for the Catalyst Seed R&D Grant program

MOTION TO APPROVE: Ms. Coviello **SECOND:** Dr. Bridges **AYES: 6**
RESOLUTION ATTACHED AND MARKED EXHIBIT: 5

Mr. Saldutti presented the next item before the Board:

Item: Approval of Hearing Officer’s Recommendation on Visual Intelligence Appeal of Denial Decision for the Catalyst Seed R&D Grant program (“Program”)

Request: To approve the Hearing Officer’s Recommendation on Visual Intelligence Appeal of Denial Decision for the Catalyst Seed R&D Grant program (“Program”)

MOTION TO APPROVE: Dr. Bridges **SECOND:** Mr. Pascrell **AYES: 5** **NO: 1**
RESOLUTION ATTACHED AND MARKED EXHIBIT: 6

Mr. Saldutti presented the next item before the Board:

Item: Approval of Hearing Officer’s Recommendation on Ubiquity Systems Appeal of Denial Decision for the Clean Tech Seed Grant – Round 2 Program

Request: To approve Vote the Hearing Officer’s Recommendation on Ubiquity Systems Appeal of Denial Decision for the Clean Tech Seed Grant – Round 2 Program

MOTION TO APPROVE: Dr. Kornhauser **SECOND:** Dr. Bridges **AYES: 6**
RESOLUTION ATTACHED AND MARKED EXHIBIT: 7

FOR INFORMATION ONLY:

Ms. Etta provided a Delegated Authority Update on CSIT Catalyst R&D Voucher Program.

Mr. Franklin Dureke provided a Delegated Authority Update on CSIT Clean Tech R&D Voucher Program.

Ms. Kathleen Coviello provided an update on Update on EDA Initiatives.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Dr. Jacques Ohayon, President, Visual Intelligence. LLC addressed the board regarding the Hearing Officer’s Recommendation on the Visual Intelligence Appeal of the Denial Decision for the Catalyst Seed R&D Grant program.

ADJOURNMENT:

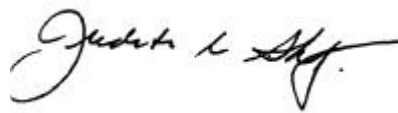
There being no further business, on a motion by Dr. Bridges, and seconded by Dr. Kornhauser, the meeting was adjourned at 11:28 AM.

NEXT MEETING DATE:

The next meeting date for the Commission on Science, Innovation and Technology is scheduled for May 12, 2023, at 10:00 am, in person and virtually.

CERTIFICATION:

The foregoing and attachments represent a true and complete summary of the actions taken by the Commission on Science, Innovation, and Technology at its Meeting on March 24, 2023.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Judith L. Sheft". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line drawn underneath it.

Judith Sheft, Executive Director
Secretary