

NEW JERSEY COMMISSION ON SCIENCE, INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY

July 14, 2023

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

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Members of the Commission present in person: Ex-Officio Voting Member: Kathleen Coviello for Tim Sullivan, CEO of the New Jersey Economic Development Authority.

Members of the Commission present via conference call: Ex-Officio Voting Members: Dr. Brian Bridges, Secretary, OSHE; Dr. Jorden Schiff for Angelica McMillan, Commissioner, DOE; Public Members: Debbie Hart, Chair; David Pascrell, Gibbons, Vice Chair; Adam Sternbach, Tessara; Dr. Alain Kornhauser, Princeton University; and Cuneyt Erdogan, Clarus Engineering.

Members of the Commission absent: Non-Voting Legislative Members: Senator Paul Sarlo, Senator Robert Singer, 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: Gilbert Gonzalez, DOE; Judith Sheft, Executive Director, CSIT; Franklin Dureke, and Frances Keel, CSIT Staff; Elizabeth Marshall and Christine Machnowsky, Deputy Attorneys General; Jamera Sirmans, Governor’s Authorities Unit; EDA Staff: Danielle Esser, Director; Hector Serrano, Governance Officer, and Muneerah Sanders, Board Liaison.

Per the Chair’s request, Ms. 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 May 12, 2023, meeting minutes.

MOTION TO APPROVE: Ms. Coviello **SECOND:** Dr. Kornhauser **AYES: 6**

Dr. Bridges abstained because he did not attend the meeting.

Mr. Sternbach abstained because he did not attend 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.

Ms. Sheft presented the next item before the Board:

Item: Payment to NJIT and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between NJ Commission on Science, Innovation and Technology and New Jersey Institute of Technology

Request: To approve the following:

- 1) To approve a transfer of \$20,000 to New Jersey Institute of Technology, so that their Leir Research Institute for Business, Technology, and Society (LRI) can conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the economic impact of CSIT grant programs since its inception.
- 2) To approve a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with NJIT, attached hereto as Exhibit A, provided the final form is in substantially the same form. The MOU details the transfer of funds to NJIT and the scope of the evaluation to be conducted. Delegation of authority to the Executive Director is also requested so that changes, insertions or deletions to the form of the MOU, as may be necessary or appropriate, may be made with the advice of the Office of the Attorney General.

MOTION TO APPROVE: Ms. Coviello **SECOND:** Mr. Pascrell **AYES: 8**

RESOLUTION ATTACHED AND MARKED EXHIBIT: 1

Ms. Keel presented the next item before the Board:

Item: Provision of \$50K to Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey and MOU to Support Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer (SBIR/STTR) Grant Writing Activities.

Request: To approve the following:

- 1) Payment to Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. These funds will be used by Rutgers on behalf of the NJSBDC to support Phase 0 SBIR/STTR grant writing. This funding will provide technical assistance to NJ entrepreneurs who are considering an application to the federal SBIR/STTR program.
- 2) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between CSIT and Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, provided it is in substantially the same form as attached to this memorandum (as Exhibit A). The MOU addresses mutual understandings regarding this \$50,000 allotment.

MOTION TO APPROVE: Dr. Bridges **SECOND:** Mr. Erdogan **AYES: 8**

RESOLUTION ATTACHED AND MARKED EXHIBIT: 2

Ms Keel presented the next item before the Board:

Item: Increase in Funding Available for Catalyst Research and Development (R&D)Voucher Pilot Program

Request: To approve an additional \$500,000 in funding for the Catalyst Research and Development (R&D) Voucher Pilot Program (“Program”). The funding, which is to come from CSIT’s general FY24 budget, will support a total of approximately twenty awards.

MOTION TO APPROVE: Dr. Kornhauser **SECOND:** Mr. Erdogan **AYES: 8**

RESOLUTION ATTACHED AND MARKED EXHIBIT: 3

FOR INFORMATION ONLY:

The next items were

1. Delegated Authority Update on Awards for Catalyst R&D Voucher Program;
2. Delegated Authority Update on Awards for Clean Tech R&D Voucher Program;
3. Delegated Authority Update on CSIT Event Sponsorships;
4. Update on EDA Initiatives.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT:

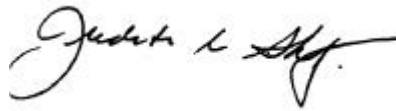
There being no further business, on a motion by Dr. Kornhauser, and seconded by Mr. Erdogan, the meeting was adjourned at 11:05 AM.

NEXT MEETING DATE:

The next meeting date for the Commission on Science, Innovation and Technology is scheduled for September 15, 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 July 14, 2023.



Judith Sheft, Executive Director
Secretary