**BioDistrict New Orleans**

**Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes**

**June 7, 2021**

**3 p.m. – 4 p.m.**

**Location: New Orleans Business Alliance Zoom**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88396253369?pwd=VlJ2NzNrVUYxdThrb2pycUpzcm12UT09>

Meeting ID: 883 9625 3369
Passcode: 832594

1. Call to Order at 3:05pm
2. Roll Call

-Board members present: Andy Kopplin, Alison Bordelon, Blake Stanfill, Brad Lambert, Harold Gaspard, Nicole Honoree, Michael Hecht, Lowry Curley, Gene D’Amour, Lowry Curley;

-Caitlin Berni

-NOLABA members present: Jeannette Weiland, Quentin Messer, Norman Barnum, Victoria Miles, Chandra Teddleton

Adoption of Agenda for Board Meeting at 3:07pm

Adoption of previous board meeting minutes at 3:08pm

1. Introduction of Guest(s) no other guest present
2. Call for Public Input Cards on Agenda Items- no public input cards submitted
3. Financial Report by NOLABA from Victoria Miles
* Insurance payment- $1,230.00
* Summary financial statement- $21,781.62
1. Chairperson’s Report
* General Updates:

Positive feedback from the City for the TIF. We will seek local government approval first for funding, then go to the state. The CEA was introduced last Thursday by request of the Mayor; asked council to support and all seven members agreed.

CEA highlights 20-year TIF of 2% above the baseline, shared with the state and city with 2022-2039 projections from Dr. Richardson. Cap on state CEA of $25M over the life of the 20 years. No maximum cap on City CEA, but we have voluntarily capped our receipts to 125% of Dr. Richardson’s projections so we do not unintentionally benefit from a windfall should our economy recover more quickly from the pandemic than expected.

-LED suggest use TIF job creation (bio science) to leverage other resources; i.e., American Rescue Plan, for drainage etc.

-State requested to spend hard costs and activate through partnership; soft costs for bioscience section such as Workforce leveraged through partnerships.

-Great feedback on SBIR, support of local bioscience incubators and Universities

-Final passage next step 1st city council meeting in July

-It was related that an attorney advised there is no liability for Bio District in the McNamara suit to directly sue or ability to garnish funds based on the court of appeals ruling. Judgements may only be paid if state initiates the legislative process to pay for the judgement.

-CEA request to highlight job retention and expansion for the local populous in the science field

Harold Q: Is there a question about staff and staff costs

Andy A: No staff funding addressed but staffing conversations and additional resources critical to support the mission. Highlight of work mentioned in local news outlet WWL radio that Andy and Michael spoke on, highlighting Bio District goals.

Q: (Jeanette)- Are match funds for federal grants? Also, how do we make sure companies and workers stay in Orleans? A: (Caitlin)- Only businesses within the geographic boundaries of the BioDistrict are eligible for TIF money.

Jeannette-Wet lab expansion to attract companies in the Parish (ex. UNO expansion)

Andy- Proposal does not outline expenditures/requested investments

Michael- Don’t want to artificially set up additional barriers between the BioDistrict and other areas; Andy- bringing a partnership that creates a workable district to support mission

Next steps request- Logos from additional partners requested (LSU, LCMC)

* TIF updates
	+ Approval of CEA with the City of New Orleans- no oppositions presented when showcasing to City Council.

Motion to approve the CEA 1st by Harold and 2nd by Sharon. CEA stands approved (Andy).

* + Review of current presentation conducted by Caitlin
	+ State JLCB update- present details in June budget at the end of June or July and then will be put to JLCB for vote
1. New Orleans Business Alliance Update- Joint EDA grant funded with official announcement shortly after legal reviews. Obatala private wet lab in commercial space to increase labs
2. Partner Updates
	* New Orleans Bio Innovation Center (not present)
	* Tulane University – Tulane 1315 Gravier Warwick Hotel operational by the end of August with a waiting list. Research broke all records and continual corporate and foundation, and federal research. Tulane focusing on how to keep growing and turn educational pathways to jobs. Starting an innovation incubator program with a proof of concept & startup fund with a staffed institute. Working on grants that focus on health equity
	* LSU- Actively vaccinating and running vaccination clinics up 12; hosting vax for snacks events and supporting general population in getting access to local vaccinations
	* LCRC-director of funding search continues and starting fundraising
	* Xavier- 4 million in funding committed by Korea to support cancer research. Multiple NIH grants addressing vulnerable communities and COVID-19
	* Delgado- Delgado opened the School of Nursing with Ochsner; this year and previous year used to reflect on meeting the needs of community and partners better (i.e., addressing the healthcare gaps and supporting the neuroscience initiatives in the city)
	* GNO Inc- Idea for Neuro Nola make the region similar to Texas medical center for example in which 5 billion generated to their economy with a medical trust.

-Local expertise to support the Neuro Nola and scale up while addresses dementia and other neurological degenerative diseases. Key stakeholders in Ochsner, Tulane, LSU, LCMC, Veterans Hospital, Saints, Team Gleason, Xavier University, Loyola. Focus on workstreams and control the narrative while focusing on coordination of entities together. Adopting public policy initiatives and historic and current data to support the project that is a catalyst to multigenerational growth.

* LED- continue to lean on Mandy for support of JLBD
1. New Business- no new business added to the agenda
2. Public Comment(s)- no public comments received
3. Adjournment at 4:10pm

**Certification Under JBE 2020-30 Related to Open Meetings**

The Board of Commissioners of the BioDistrict New Orleans is unable to operate due to quorum requirements. Therefore, under Section 4 of Proclamation Number JBE 2020- 30 of March 16, 2020, the BioDistrict board will conduct the Wednesday, June 7th, regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners by telephone conference. The public is invited to observe and provide input to the Board via email. A person may email a comment related to a particular actionable agenda item upon which a vote is to be taken. Emails should be sent to cteddleton@nolaba.org. Please include your name and the agenda item you wish to comment on.