

APPROVED MINUTES

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SECOND MEETING

of the

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

of the

MASSACHUSETTS TECHNOLOGY PARK CORPORATION

May 22, 2024

2 Center Plaza, Suite 200, Boston, MA
and by Zoom Videoconference

The One Hundred and Thirty Second Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Technology Park Corporation (“Mass Tech Collaborative” or “Mass Tech”) was held on May 22, 2024, at 2 Center Plaza, Suite 200, Boston, MA, and by Zoom videoconference, pursuant to notice duly given to the Directors and publicly posted on the Mass Tech Collaborative website with corresponding notice provided to the Office of the Secretary of State and the Executive Office for Administration and Finance.

The following members of the Mass Tech Collaborative Board of Directors were present and participated: Undersecretary of Economic Development Sarah Stanton (representing Secretary of Economic Development Yvonne Hao), Beth Boland, Julie Chen, Rupa Cornell, Scott Dellicker, Ernesto DiGiambattista, Joseph Dorant, Paige Fetzer-Borelli, Jeffrey Stein, Alexander Stolyarov, Alok Tayi, Bodgan Vernescu, Nate Walton, Maeghan Silverberg Welford, and Secretary of Economic Development Yvonne Hao (who was present via Zoom videoconference but did not vote).

The following members of the Mass Tech Collaborative staff were present: Carolyn Kirk, Michael Baldino, Mark Halfman, Pat Larkin, Ben Linville-Engler, Marc Leonetti, Holly Lucas Murphy, Christine Nolan, Danna Wolfe, John Petrozzelli, Jennifer Saubermann, Briana Wehrs, Rachel Stachowiak, John Wetzell, James Byrnes, Joseph Downing, Lily Fitzgerald, Richard Cook, Josh Eichen, and Paula Foley.

Undersecretary Stanton observed the presence of quorum and called the meeting of the Mass Tech Board of Directors to order at 2:02 p.m.

Agenda Item I Approval of Minutes

Before approval of the minutes, Undersecretary Stanton explained that she would chair today’s Board meeting on behalf of Secretary Hao, given that Secretary Hao was travelling and unable to participate fully in the meeting. After a period of brief discussion and upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously and without abstention VOTED by roll call vote:

The Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Technology Park Corporation, acting

pursuant to section three of Chapter Forty J of the General Laws of the Commonwealth, hereby adopts the Draft Minutes of the One Hundred Thirty First Meeting of the Board of Directors, held on March 6, 2024, at 2 Center Plaza, Suite 200, Boston, MA, and by Zoom videoconference, as the formal Minutes thereof.

Ms. Fetzer-Borelli joined the meeting via Zoom videoconference at 2:04 p.m.

Agenda Item II Report of the Mass Tech Collaborative Board Chair

On behalf of Secretary Hao, Undersecretary Stanton provided an update on the pending Economic Development bill, the Mass Leads Act. Undersecretary Stanton noted that the Governor testified in favor of the bill before the legislative committee reviewing the bill, and that they continue to advocate for the legislative approval necessary for the bill's passage. She stated that the proposed legislation will affect all the quasi-public agencies under the Executive Office of Economic Development, and that she appreciated the collaboration from Mass Tech to date on work to move the bill forward. Undersecretary Stanton then asked Ms. Kirk to provide her report.

Agenda Item III Report of the Mass Tech Collaborative Chief Executive Officer

Ms. Kirk began her report by welcoming Ms. Boland to her first official meeting as a Board member. Ms. Kirk then noted the full agenda for today's meeting and indicated that the next scheduled meeting would consist of budget discussions for all the Mass Tech divisions. She then ceded her remaining time to Mr. John Petrozelli who provided the Board with an overview and demonstration of the Cybersecurity Role Playing Cards he developed to help prepare organizations for real world cyber-related security incidents. The cards, explained Mr. Petrozelli, contain numerous scenarios that could potentially affect municipal or business operations, and each "player" is assigned a specific role to address the security intrusion. Mr. Petrozelli indicated that the Cybersecurity Role Playing Cards were employed at the recent Municipal Cybersecurity Summit held in Worcester on May 8, 2024, and received a positive response.

Ms. Kirk then asked Mr. Linville-Engler and Ms. Saubermann to join the Board at the table to present the next agenda item.

Agenda Item IV Board Discussion – Realizing Upside from MassTech Administered Funding Beyond Economic Impacts

Ms. Kirk began the discussion by noting that on several occasions, Board members have inquired whether there is an opportunity for Mass Tech to take equity in the companies to which it provides funding. Ms. Kirk further noted that, to date, it has been Mass Tech's priority to serve the greater good, rather than layer on an investment perspective, however, she agreed that it is an important question to bring to the Board for input and discussion. Ms. Kirk then turned to Mr. Linville-Engler and Ms. Saubermann to lead the discussion.

Mr. Linville-Engler first explained that Mass Tech is not explicitly empowered to take equity in the same way that other quasi-public agencies are. Further, he explained that Mass Tech does not primarily provide funding directly to companies, and that such direct to company grants are precluded in Mass Tech's R&D, Tech & Innovation, MMAP, and M2I2 programs (which are funded through bond proceeds). In addition, Mr. Linville-Engler noted that Mass Tech grants are not

usually simple pass-throughs to companies, they are instead performance-based, with regular reporting and deliverable due dates.

Mr. Linville-Engler then noted that other quasi-public agencies are set up differently, with MassVentures and Mass Clean Energy Center, for example, having specific statutory-based investment program portfolios. Mr. Linville-Engler then discussed potential opportunities for a financial return for Mass Tech, other than taking equity. These include IP proceeds and licensing, as well as taking portions of revenues from core facilities payments. Lastly, Mr. Linville-Engler discussed the pros and cons of factoring a potential upside for Mass Tech into its grant decisions, noting that “pros” include income to Mass Tech’s bottom line to offset expenses, while “cons” include creating strong disincentives for companies, universities, or non-profits to participate in Mass Tech grant programs resulting in undermining of the original intent of the programs.

A discussion then followed among Board members regarding the points raised in the presentation. The robust discussion included an evaluation of Mass Tech’s mission and whether investment strategies are more appropriate as part of the other quasi-public agencies’ responsibilities, and question regarding the success rate of companies receiving assistance from MassTech. Closing out the discussion, Secretary Hao and Ms. Kirk thanked the Board for their input and indicated that the topic would come back before the Board for additional discussion following further thought and deliberation on the issue.

Following the discussion, Undersecretary Stanton turned to the next agenda item.

Agenda Item V Center for Advanced Manufacturing (“CAM”) – Massachusetts Manufacturing Innovation Initiative (M2I2) – Capybara Energy and Circe BioScience (motion item)

Ms. Fitzgerald explained that CAM is proposing grants in the amount of \$1.7 million to Capybara Energy, and \$1.5 million to Circe Bioscience, as part of CAM’s Manufacturing Innovation Institute (“M2I2”) program. Ms. Fitzgerald explained that Capybara Energy is partnering with The Powering Forward Program, and will use the funding to build a manufacturing line using aqueous supercapacity technology for the automated production of long duration energy storage systems. This facility, according to Ms. Fitzgerald, will be state of the art and will integrate advanced robotics technology into its manufacturing processes. Ms. Fitzgerald expects approximately 50 new Massachusetts jobs will result from the proposed funding to Capybara Energy. Turning to a discussion of Circe BioScience, Ms. Fitzgerald explained that, as part of its partnership with Activate Boston, Circe BioScience will build a pilot scale bioindustrial manufacturing facility in Waltham for its carbon-negative fermentation process, in which triglycerides are fermented by genetically engineered microbes that consume CO². This process, explained Ms. Fitzgerald, results in less CO², consumes less water, and requires a smaller footprint than conventional agriculture and industrial processes. Ms. Fitzgerald indicated that Circe BioScience expects to add fifteen (15) new jobs in the first year of this project and fifteen (15) more in the second.

After a brief period of discussion and upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously and without abstention VOTED by roll call vote:

The Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Technology Park Corporation (“Mass Tech Collaborative”), acting pursuant to the authority delegated under Chapter 40J of

the General Laws of the Commonwealth, does hereby authorize the following grant awards to be funded through the Massachusetts Manufacturing Innovation Initiative (“M2I2”) through a contract with the Executive Office of Economic Development to disburse funds from item 7002-8047 of Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023:

- **to the Powering Forward Program in an amount not to exceed \$1,171,000 to support CopyBara Energy’s build out of an advanced manufacturing facility for the automated production of their long duration energy storage systems, as presented; and**
- **to Activate Boston in an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000 to support Circe Bioscience’s build out of a pilot scale bioindustrial manufacturing facility for their carbon-negative fermentation process, as presented.**

The grant awards are subject to the execution of grant agreements in a form and with terms approved by Mass Tech Collaborative's Chief Executive Officer.

Agenda Item VI Center for Advanced Manufacturing – MA Manufacturing Accelerate Program – Round 5 (motion item)

Ms. Fitzgerald continued the discussion by presenting CAM’s funding proposal for Round 5 of CAM’s Massachusetts Manufacturing Accelerate Program (“MMAP”). Ms. Fitzgerald explained that this round of MMAP awardees consist of twenty-four (24) small to medium manufacturers which will receive grants up to \$200,000.00 each. Under the MMAP, Ms. Fitzgerald explained, funding is directed to non-profit partners, such as MassMEP and the Berkshire Innovation Center, who then are responsible for distribution to the manufacturers. Ms. Fitzgerald explained that the MMAP funding will be used by the manufacturers for necessary capital equipment purchases and will result in approximately 135 new advanced manufacturing jobs.

After a brief period of discussion and upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously and without abstention VOTED by roll call vote:

The Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Technology Park Corporation (“Mass Tech Collaborative”), acting pursuant to the authority delegated under Chapter 40J of the General Laws of the Commonwealth, does hereby authorize the following grant awards under the Massachusetts Manufacturing Accelerate Program (“MMAP”) (RFP No. 2024-CAM-01, Round 5), to be funded from item 7002-8043 of Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, to:

- **the Massachusetts Manufacturing Extension Partnership in an amount not to exceed \$2,461,339.61;**
- **the Berkshire Innovation Center in an amount not to exceed \$459,952.93; and**
- **MIT Lincoln Lab in an amount not to exceed \$61,972.00.**

The grant awards are subject to the execution of grant agreements in a form and with terms approved by Mass Tech Collaborative’s Chief Executive Officer.

Agenda Item VII Center for Advanced Manufacturing – Advanced Manufacturing Training Grant Program – MassHire New Bedford Workforce Board (motion item)

Mr. Cook then began the discussion on the next agenda item. Mr. Cook explained that CAM is proposing a \$546,505 grant to MassHire Greater New Bedford Workforce Board as part of CAM's Advanced Manufacturing Training Grant Program. This funding will be used by MassHire, explained Mr. Cook, to train up to seventy (70) individuals in manufacturing careers at three partner training locations: (1) South Shore Vocational Technical School; (2) Bristol Plymouth Regional Technical School; and (3) Mass MEP. Mr. Cook explained that the programs at these locations include training for young adults with autism to become entry-level Computer Numerical Control ("CNC") operators, as well as basic manufacturing training for recent immigrants which contains an English for Speakers of Other Languages ("ESOL") component.

After a brief period of discussion and upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously and without abstention VOTED by roll call vote:

The Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Technology Park Corporation ("Mass Tech Collaborative"), acting pursuant to the authority delegated under Chapter 40J of the General Laws of the Commonwealth, does hereby authorize a grant award under the Advanced Manufacturing Training Program (RFP No. 2024-CAM-02), to be funded from Line Item 7002-0020 of the Commonwealth's Fiscal Year 2024 budget, to the MassHire Greater New Bedford Workforce Board in an amount not to exceed \$546,505. The grant award is subject to the execution of a grant agreement in a form and with terms approved by Mass Tech Collaborative's Chief Executive Officer.

Ms. Kirk then asked Mr. Pat Larkin to discuss the next agenda item.

Agenda Item VIII Innovation Institute – Tech and Innovation Ecosystem Grant Program – Barnstable County Massachusetts Alternative Septic System Test Center (motion item)

Mr. Pat Larkin indicated that the Innovation Institute was seeking the Board's approval for a \$1.97 million grant to the Massachusetts Alternative Septic System Test Center ("MASSTC") located in Barnstable County. Mr. Larkin then introduced Mr. James Byrnes to provide details regarding the proposal. Mr. Byrnes explained that the proposed grant will be matched by \$1.3 million in ARPA funds to MASSTC. This funding, explained Mr. Byrnes, will allow MASSTC to expand its operations as an innovation hub for the septic system industry to pioneer technologies to address environmental and health issues related to wastewater treatment. Mr. Byrnes further explained that this this proposal is a direct result of the Executive Office of Economic Development's listening tour at Cape Cod last year. This proposal will have significant benefits, explained Mr. Byrnes, including new jobs and career pathways on Cape Cod, as well as addressing a key priority – a healthy ocean – by enabling mitigation research to remove pollutants and prevent toxic bacteria.

After a brief period of discussion and upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously and without abstention VOTED by roll call vote:

The Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Technology Park Corporation ("Mass Tech Collaborative"), acting pursuant to the authority delegated under Chapter 40J of the General Laws of the Commonwealth, does hereby authorize a grant award under

the Technology and Innovation Ecosystem Awards Program (RFP 2022-JAII-03), in an amount not to exceed \$1,975,000, to Barnstable County for its Massachusetts Alternative Septic System Test Center, as presented. The grant award is to be funded through the Scientific and Technology Research and Development Matching Grant Fund (M.G.L. Chpt. 40J, Sec. 4G), and is subject to the execution of a grant agreement in a form and with terms approved by Mass Tech Collaborative’s Chief Executive Officer.

Ms. Kirk then asked Mr. Michael Baldino to present the next agenda item.

Agenda Item IX Mass Broadband Institute – Digital Equity Partnerships Grants – City of Boston and Baystate Health (motion item)

Mr. Baldino began the discussion by providing an overview of the existing Digital Equity Partnership Grants to the City of Boston and Baystate Health. Both of these entities, explained Mr. Baldino, have a need for expansion funds, given the unanticipated demand for digital equity services and their inability to meet the demand with the existing awards. He then turned to Mr. Josh Eichen to provide additional information on the MBI proposal to provide additional digital equity funding to both the City of Boston and Baystate Health. Mr. Eichen explained that the additional ARPA funding will allow the City of Boston to expand its public space initiative and serve an additional 2,900 residents with Wi-Fi hotspots and/or devices, including recently arrived immigrants in emergency shelters. Mr. Eichen further explained that Baystate Health will use the additional funds to add Digital Navigators and add capacity for digital literacy programming to reach an additional 1,200 learners. These outcomes, explained Mr. Eichen, will further Mass Tech’s goals for robust and effective partners in its Digital Equity Partnership Program.

After a brief period of discussion and upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously and without abstention VOTED by roll call vote:

The Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Technology Park Corporation (“Mass Tech Collaborative”), acting pursuant to the authority delegated under Chapter 40J of the General Laws of the Commonwealth, does hereby authorize an additional award under the Digital Equity Partnerships Program (RFP No. 2023-MBI-04) to be funded from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), State Fiscal Recovery Funds to the City of Boston in an additional amount not to exceed \$1,000,000. The award is subject to the execution of an amendment to the subaward grant agreement in a form and with terms approved by MassTech Collaborative’s Chief Executive Officer.

After a brief period of discussion and upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by roll call vote, with Ms. Boland abstaining:

The Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Technology Park Corporation (“Mass Tech Collaborative”), acting pursuant to the authority delegated under Chapter 40J of the General Laws of the Commonwealth, does hereby authorize an additional award under the Digital Equity Partnerships Program (RFP No. 2023-MBI-04) to be funded from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), State Fiscal Recovery Funds to Baystate Health in an additional amount not to exceed \$1,000,000. The award is subject to the

execution of an amendment to the subaward grant agreement in a form and with terms approved by MassTech Collaborative’s Chief Executive Officer.

Agenda Item X Mass Broadband Institute – Capital Investments for Network Equipment refresh on the MassBroadband 123 Network (motion item)

Turning to the next agenda item, Mr. Baldino indicated that MBI was proposing \$5.36 million for new equipment for the MassBroadband 123 Network, the fiber network owned by Mass Tech and operated by Local Linx, consisting of more than 1,000 miles of fiber in Western Massachusetts. Mr. Baldino indicated that the new equipment is necessary as the current equipment is at the end of its useful life, and, after May 2024, will no longer be serviced by the manufacturer. The new equipment consists of Ciena switches that will upgrade the speed, connections, and capacity of the existing network and will have a ten (10) year lifespan. This proposal, indicated Mr. Baldino, was the result of a competitive procurement process conducted by Local Linx with the involvement of MBI staff. Discussion then ensued on the future plans for the MassBroadband 123 Network, which Mr. Baldino indicated would be discussed further as part of a future meeting.

After a brief period of discussion and upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously and without abstention VOTED by roll call vote:

The Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Technology Park Corporation (“Mass Tech Collaborative”), acting pursuant to the authority delegated under Chapter 40J of the General Laws of the Commonwealth, does hereby authorize Mass Tech Collaborative’s Chief Executive Officer to expend an amount not to exceed \$5,362,948.81 for the purchase of equipment and related services to upgrade the MassBroadband 123 Network, as presented. This project is to be funded with state bond funds, and is subject to approval of the form and terms of any change order or invoice by Mass Tech Collaborative’s Chief Executive Officer.

There being no other business to discuss, Undersecretary Stanton adjourned the meeting at 3:35 p.m.

A TRUE COPY ATTEST: (Secretary)

DATE:

Materials and Exhibits Used at this Meeting:

1. Draft Minutes for the March 6, 2024 Meeting of the Mass Tech Board of Directors
2. Discussion – realizing Upside from MassTech Administered Funding Beyond Economic Impacts (presentation)
3. Center for Advanced Manufacturing – Massachusetts Manufacturing Innovation Institute (M2I2) – Capybara Energy and Circe BioScience (motion item)
4. Center for Advanced Manufacturing – MA Manufacturing Accelerate Program (motion item)
5. Center for Advanced Manufacturing – Advanced Manufacturing Training Grant program – MassHire New Bedford Workforce Board (motion item)
6. Innovation Institute – Tech and Innovation Ecosystem Grant Program – Barnstable County

- Massachusetts Alternative Septic System Test Center (motion item)
7. Mass Broadband Institute – Digital Equity Partnerships grants – City of Boston and Baystate Health (motion item)
 8. Mass Broadband Institute – Capital Investments for Network Equipment Refresh on the MassBroadband 123 Network (motion item)