

**HSSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Minutes of the April 18, 2017 Board Meeting**

**Members Present:**

Nancy Isserlis, Chair; Olúgbémiga T. Ekúndayò, Kevin Oldenburg, Gary Pollack, Jason Thackston and Francisco Velàzquez.

**Members Absent:**

Dean Martz

Mike Wilson

Dave Vachon

**Staff Present:**

Susan Ashe, Executive Director

Gaylene Lewin, Consulting Accountant

**Guests:**

Dr. Laureen O’Hanlon, Dean, EWU College of Health Sciences & Public Health and Stacia Rasmussen, GSI Vision 2030.

1. **Call to Order**

Nancy Isserlis, Board Chair, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m. The meeting was held at WSU Health Sciences Building (HSB), Room 260.

1. **Board Actions**
2. No action was taken on the November 30i 2016 meeting minutes as they were not included in the Board packet. Action will be taken at the July meeting.
3. **Chair’s Report**

Board Chair Isserlis reported that she had signed a series of warrants since the Board last met on November 30, 2016, and when a warrant required two signatures these were provided by Jason Thackston, Mike Wilson or Dave Vachon.

The Chair asked Dr. Ekúndayò to introduce Dr. Laureen O’Hanlon, Dean of the EWU College of Health Sciences & Public Health, who had been invited to provide an overview of the work in health sciences at EWU, as part of the HSSA Board’s effort to learn about all things “health sciences-related” in our region. She also thanked the Dean for EWU hosting our Board meeting.

Dean O’Hanlon stated that the college’s focus today is in Physical Therapy and Occupational Medicine, along with Dental education (RIDE program through the University of Washington), Dental Hygiene, Speech Therapy and the new collaborative participation at the Spokane Teaching Health Center where EWU is partnering with St. Luke’s Rehabilitation Center to provide Physical and Occupational Therapy Clinic as a way to model innovative service delivery. EWU has the most students on the Riverpoint Campus with 330 undergraduates and 1l0 graduate students. Students and staff also participate in inter-professional education such as Veterans Service Day where students provide health assessments, and Excelsior program for troubled youth where EWU provides in-patient and out-patient services.

Finally, the Dean spoke to potential future funding opportunities such as in the areas of inter-professional education and innovative treatment for the community; the Dean’s scholarship for expanding the community health workforce; a new health science degree (two-fold: AA grads and those who don’t get into pre-nursing, etc. as an entry level degree; new informatics certificate that is accredited to provide local informatics and a stronger curriculum.

Next, Board member Dr. Frank Velàzquez provided an update about Vision 2030 – Health Sciences Education, Research and Life Science Industry Growth initiative. He described the for categories of focus by community members and GSI staff:

* Health & Medical Education, co-chaired by Dr. John Tomkowiak & Dr. Thayne McCulloh
* Bioscience Research & Business Development, co-chaired by Dr. Velàzquez and Marcelo Morales
* Academic & Industry Infrastructure & Facilities, Dr. Lisa Brown and Latisha Hill
* Branding, Marketing & Communication, co-chaired by Michelle Hege and Stacey Cowles

Velàzquez reviewed the category he is co-chairing as that would be of most interest to HSSA. This emphasis is to enable, support and promote the growth of the regional bioscience related research and resulting economic impact. It would enhance efforts by facilitating expansion and retention strategies (e.g. LabCorp), accelerator and support services, and targeted precision recruitment. Under Precision Recruitment, he discussed the community effort with Laboratory Corporation of America whose CEO was invited to Spokane for a visit on April 28th. A remarkable effort seems to have convinced the CEO to keep some operations in Spokane and perhaps grow here. Without the effort, just the opposite was planned.

He also spoke to a visit from Roche and the Indiana Bioscience Research Institute May 10-11 visit to Spokane. IBRI presents a very successful model for the life sciences and wants to work with Spokane, e.g. opioid research. The Roche team pushed the Spokane group to identify what its “it” in life sciences was. The question, while discussed, was left unanswered.

1. **Executive Director’s Report**

The Executive Director’s Report was included in the Board packet members received at the meeting.

1. **Committee Reports**
2. Finance Committee

Finance Committee Chair Jason Thackston reported that he had reviewed HSSA’s financials through March 31, 2017, and found HSSA to continue to be in good financial shape. The total state tax remittance for the year to date is $488,989, a 6.8% increase for the same period a year ago, and an additional $23,981 from Spokane County Allocated Earnings. Operating expenses through March remain below the 10% goal at 7.3%. Mr. Thackston also reported that the County Treasurer’s Office has communicated that HSSA will be charged quarterly banking fees for our warrant account and payroll account. The changed was advised by the state auditors to find an equitable solution to the county paying all banking fees. The May-December 2016 fee of $2,028 was withdrawn from the general account in April.

B) Grants Committee

There was no Grants Committee report.

1. **Counsel’s Report**

Counsel had no report.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:30 PM by Board Chair Isserlis.

**The next meeting of the HSSA Board is scheduled for July 19, 2017, 3 PM at the WSU Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Sciences Building (PBS), conference room 441 on the 4th Floor.**  Metered parking is available on Spokane Falls Boulevard or across the Boulevard in the yellow permit parking area where there is a kiosk.