



**HSSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**Minutes of the January 12, 2016 Board Meeting**

**Members Present:**

Nancy Isserlis, Chair; Olu Ekundayo, Gary Pollack, Jason Thackston, Dave Vachon, Mike Wilson, and Francisco Velázquez

**Members Absent:**

Dean Martz and Kevin Oldenburg

**Staff Present:**

Susan Ashe, Executive Director  
Gaylene Lewin, Consulting Accountant

**Staff Absent:**

James Emacio, Counsel

**Guests:**

Dr. John Tomkowiak, WSU Elson S. Floyd School of Medicine, and Nancy Fike, WSU Spokane

**1) Call to Order**

Nancy Isserlis, Board Chair, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. The meeting was held in the McKinstry SIERR Building, 850 E Spokane Falls Boulevard, Roundhouse 1 & 2 conference rooms.

**2) Approval of Minutes**

Board member Gary Pollack moved to approve the minutes of the November 4, 2015 Board meeting and Jason Thackston seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**3) Chair's Report**

Board Chair Isserlis reported that she had signed a series of warrants since the Board last met on November 4, 2015, and when a warrant required two signatures these were provided by Jason Thackston, Finance Committee Chair.

The Chair reminded the Board of its remaining 2016 board meeting schedule, which is as follows:

**Tuesday, April 5**

**Tuesday, July 12**

**Tuesday, October 11**

Chair Isserlis introduced the Board's guest, **Dr. John Tomkowiak**, the first Dean of the Elson S. Floyd School of Medicine, recently hired by WSU Spokane. Dr. Tomkowiak received his bachelors of science degree from the University of Illinois and his M.D. and residency training at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine. Prior to joining WSU as Dean of the new medical school seeking accreditation here, he was a professor of psychiatry and is Board certified in General Psychiatry. He has expertise in the areas of medical education, accreditation and transformational leadership.

Chair Isserlis said the Board appreciated his desire to meet with us and looked forward to hearing from him, inviting him to share a bit more background about himself, as well and share with the Board his vision for moving the medical school forward.

In addition to his education, Dr. Tomkowiak spent time at Florida State when it was a brand new allopathic medical school with a regional campus model similar to WSU. He set up the regional campuses. In Chicago, he held a variety of administrative positions, including Acting Dean and upon his return from a stint elsewhere, served as Dean.

He affirmed the need in Washington for additional physicians, as well as students trained in **leadership**, expertise in **basic sciences**, a real need for **population health** training (defined as the health outcomes of a group of individuals, including the distribution of such outcomes within the group) to provide value-based healthcare that keeps people in communities and out of hospitals. He supports the interprofessional environment developing at WSU Spokane in which "systems of care" are delivered, and the health care "team" is supported. The schedule for the medical school is as follows: February 2016, Accreditors will meet to review WSU proposal; a site visit will follow, which WSU very much wants to occur as soon as possible; October 2016, earliest accreditation is accepted, which allows WSU to solicit students for Fall 2017 first class.

He said he had read HSSA's investment plan and was very thankful for the investments in WSU Spokane by HSSA.

#### **4) Executive Director's Report**

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

#### **5) Committee Reports**

##### A. Finance Committee

Finance Committee Chair Jason Thackston reported that he had reviewed HSSA's financials through December 31, 2015, and found HSSA to continue to be in good financial shape. The total state tax remittance for the year was \$1,790, and an additional \$82,644 from Spokane County Allocated Earnings. Operating expenses through March remain below the 10% goal at 6.6%.

Thackston presented the 2016 Budget of to the Board for its discussion, and recommended its passage. Dr. Olú Ekúndayò seconded the motion, and after discussion, the motion to accept the 2016 Budget was unanimously passed.

#### B) Grants Committee

Mike Wilson, Grants Committee Chair, reported that the Committee met on December 15, 2015 and discussed to items. The first was a collaborative proposal developed by WSU Spokane, Ignite Northwest and HSSA for a \$2 million grant in response to the statewide Life Sciences Discovery Fund's "Commercialization Ecosystem" grant. HSSA's role was to set aside \$250,000 to be matched from proceeds from the LSDF grant for early-stage seed money. After discussion, the Grants Committee determined it would not recommend participation by HSSA in the proposal.

The second item discussed was a proposal for a WSU Genetics Model Systems Core proposal for \$185,000. The Grants Committee concluded not to fund this proposal.

#### 6) **Counsel's Report**

Counsel was not in attendance.

Board Chair Isserlis concluded the meeting at approximately 4:00 p.m. The next Board meeting will be **Tuesday, April 5, 2016**, at 3 p.m. and will be held at the **Spokane City Hall, Conference Room 3B. Please note your calendars!** Subsequent meetings in 2016 will be held on July 12 and October 11, both Tuesdays at 3 p.m. at the McKinstry SIERR Building, Roundhouse 1 and 2 conference rooms, 850 E Spokane Falls Blvd., Spokane, WA 99202.

#### **NOTE:**

Please note that the April 5<sup>th</sup> Board meeting has a location change. It will be held at **Spokane City Hall, Conference Room 3B. Please note your calendars!** You may enter the building from the Riverpark Square Parking (Red Level) and take the skywalk directly to the City Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor. The conference room is immediately to your right as you enter the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor and its walls are glass blocks. Very easy to find.