

**HSSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Minutes of the June 16, 2021 Board Meeting**

**Via Zoom Conference Call**

**Members Present:** Mike Wilson, Grants Chair; Carla Cicero, Daryll DeWald, Allison Glasunow, Kevin Oldenburg, Darryl Potyk, Dave Vachon and Frank Velázquez.

**Members Absent**: Jason Thackston

**Staff Present:** Susan Ashe, Executive Director; Laura McAloon, Attorney; Gaylene Lewin, Accountant

**Guests:** Marcelo Morales, CEO, Allele Diagnostics; Cyndi Donahue, Ignite Northwest

1. **Call to Order**

Mike Wilson welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at about 3:00 PM for the Board meeting.

1. **Board Actions**
2. Kevin Oldenburg made a motion to approve the March 17, 2021 Board meeting minutes, and Frank Velázquez seconded the motion. The Board approved the motion with one abstention by Carla Cicero who had yet to be appointed to the Board.
3. Dave Vachon moved to accept a proposed new policy related to authorizing the Executive Director to approve extensions of times post contract deadlines for up to six months under certain conditions. Kevin Oldenburg seconded the motion and it unanimously passed.
4. Kevin Oldenburg moved to approve a $106,500 matching SBIR Phase 1 grant to Integrated Lipid Fuels, LLC, Airway Heights, and Dave Vachon seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by the Board.
5. Frank Velázquez moved to approve Resolution 2021-1, and Daryll DeWald seconded the motion, to inform the Spokane County Board of County Commissioners to continue the transfer of .02 percent of county-wide sales tax to HSSA during the term of its reauthorization 2023–2038. The Board unanimously approved the motion.
6. **Chair’s Report**

Acting Chair Mike Wilson called the meeting to order at approximately 3 PM. In addition, the Chair sought the approval of the March 17, 2021 Board Minutes, which he received with one abstention.

Wilson welcomed the Board’s newest member, Carla Cicero, CEO of Numerica Credit Union. She was appointed by Governor Jay Inslee for a term beginning June 15, 2021 through October 14, 2022. [Note: we have contacted the Governor’s office as this should have been a four-years (4) standard term]. Carla has been the CEO at Numerica for ten (10) years and has grown it to 21 branches, $33 billion in assets and 165,000 members. She has served on a number of boards. The Acting Chair asked the Executive Director to provide our new member with an appropriate orientation.

Wilson then introduced Marcelo Morales, CEO, Allele Diagnostics, who provided the Board with an update on the two HSSA grants he has received and more. Allele Dx has developed a novel gene-centric assay for congenital heart disease (CHD) funded buy NIH SBIR and HSSA grants. Allele Dx has commercialized and in 31 hospitals across the U.S. The rapid genetic testing is reducing finding results in hours rather than days. The company will expand into next generation sequencing and targeted genetic mutations.

Morales says the company needs to expand and is looking at downtown properties and interested in a potential collaboration with HSSA that would meet the company’s needs and also provide additional wet lab and office space for life science start-ups, an HSSA interest.

Mike thanked Morales for his presentation and complimented him on the trajectory of his business.

1. **Executive Director’s Report**

The full Executive Director’s Report was included in the Board packet members received in an email prior to the meeting. She did remind Board members of the upcoming 2021 Life Science Washington East-West Summit to be held in Spokane Sept. 8-9, and that HSSA is a co-sponsor.

1. **Finance Committee Report**

Allison Glasunow, our new Finance Committee Chair, reported that budget overhead remains below 10% at 6.2%, and that HSSA is recognizing a 4% ($32,405) gain in sales tax collections compared to the same time period in 2020 as Jan-Feb 2021. She said that on February 1, 2021, the County transferred the remaining balance of P&I ($2,107,166) for our loan related to the 2010 bond o a segregated account, effectively paying off the loan. These will no longer be reported on future financial reports, and HSSA will receive the interest from the amount the County has in its segregated account.

1. **Grants Committee Report**

HSSA had received a request for a match to a SBIR Phase 1 grant to Integrated Lipid Fuels LLC during the interim between Board meetings. Board member and Grants Committee member Kevin Oldenburg visited Lipid Fuels and met with Dr. Shulin Chen, a WSU professor, and Dr. XioaChao Xong, WSU Associate Professor, to discuss the business and its future. They have genetically modified a yeast strain so that it can make a number of precursors for the synthesis of biodegradable plastics such as PLA, PHA, PHB and others, using green waste as feedstock like that collected by municipalities everywhere.

Kevin Oldenburg moved for HSSA to fund matching grant of $106,500 to Integrated Lipid Fuels LL, and Dave Vachon seconded the motion and it was approved with one abstention by Daryll DeWald, WSU VP of Health Sciences and Spokane Chancellor.

1. **Legal Report**

Counselor Laura McAloon prepared and presented Resolution 2021-1 asking the Board of Spokane County Commissioners to continue to transfer .02 percent County-wide sales tax to HSSA on a monthly schedule beginning 2023 for 15 years. This is related to HSSA’s reauthorization 2023-2038. Frank Velázquez moved to approve Resolution 2021-1, and Daryll DeWald seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved the motion.

1. **Other Business**

There was no other business.

1. **Adjournment**

The Chair adjourned the meeting at approximately 5:15 PM.

**The next regularly scheduled meeting of the HSSA Board is scheduled September 15, 2021,**

**the location for an in-person meeting to be determined.**