**HSSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

September 29, 2022

The Health Sciences & Services Board of Directors met by Zoom on September 29, 2022 at

2 PM. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss three action items needing attention. The items were as follows:

1. **Photon Biosciences matching research grant request for $298,146**. Photon received a grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease for an STTR Phase I in the same amount. The funding is to research a genetically encoded phosphorescent electron data probe for correlative light and electron microscopy to advance biomedical research to understand macromolecules in vivo. Photon has a window of opportunity to secure an intellectual property and an urgency to move forward with next steps. The Grants Committee reviewed in early August and approved the request, only needing some clarification in budget, which Photon supplied.

1. **Access to Care annual grant program** is a bit behind from when we usually call for proposals, so we wish to issue as soon as possible. HSSA has $475,000 to award for funding in 2023 and needs Board approval on this amount to move the process forward.

1. **Spokane Life Sciences Asset and Landscape Study by the life science team at JLL Inc**. The Spokane community has determined it needs a comprehensive market study of the greater Spokane life sciences ecosystem. Supporters say that the pandemic and broader migration trends in the U.S. have brought into focus the need for highly accurate regional inventory of the critical components that attract capital, talent and industry partners. Spokane has a growing tertiary market with many assets necessary to become a nationally recognized life sciences hub. This study will help the region to clearly understand what it has comparable to other markets and identify where we have gaps and need to grow and focus development efforts moving forward.

HSSA would partner with other organizations to fund the study. The total cost of the study is $150,000 and HSSA is being asked to support $30,000. Other partners who will help fund this are Evergreen Bioscience, ($50,000) Spokane County ($50,000), $10,000 each from two Public Development Authorities, as well as HSSA’s $30k should it be approved. It has been 10 years since a similar study was conducted which in our mind justifies a brief review of progress to date, recognized the significant importance of research, and provide more information understanding today’s life sciences asset base and strengths here, as well as gaps, and comparison with other like regions and recommendations for consideration to continue to grow the industry here. This should be helpful to HSSA in its future planning efforts, hence this recommendation for approval.

All three matters were approved unanimously by the Board.

/s/ Susan Ashe, Executive Director