

COLORADO HIGHER EDUCATION COMPETITIVE RESEARCH AUTHORITY

Minutes of the August 26, 2008 Board Meeting

David Skaggs called the meeting to order at 2:00pm.

In attendance by telephone conference call were all four Board members: David Skaggs, Bill Farland, John Poate, Michael Poliakoff and Robbyn Wacker. Also in attendance were Rae Ann Armijo, Tony Dyl, Michael Evans and Inta Morris.

Approval of April 23 minutes. Board members corrected two errors in the April 23 minutes (in 5.D. changing “boast” to “boost” and in 8 correcting the location of the NOAA center to Ft. Collins from Boulder). David Skaggs made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

Adoption of by-laws. David Skaggs moved to adopt the by-laws (in the version attached to these minutes). The motion was seconded by John Poate and Bill Farland and unanimously passed.

Election of officers and other organizational matters. Bill Farland nominated David Skaggs as chair. The nomination was seconded by Michael Poliakoff and unanimously passed.

John Poate nominated Michael Poliakoff as vice chair. The nomination was seconded by Robbyn Wacker and unanimously passed.

Board members had agreed at the previous meeting that Rae Ann Armijo would serve as secretary/treasurer.

Michael Poliakoff moved to approve 1560 Broadway, Denver, CO as the business address for the CHECRA. The motion was seconded by John Poate and unanimously passed.

Tony Dyl, Assistant Attorney General, observed that the CHECRA’s governing statute requires the Board to submit an annual report to the Legislature on or before March 1 of every year. David Skaggs noted that the report for 2007 was past due and said he would prepare the report.

Tony Dyl also explained that the by-laws require the Board to meet annually. David Skaggs moved to set the annual meeting as the 3rd Wednesday of January. The motion was seconded by Michael Poliakoff and Bill Farland and unanimously passed. The Board agreed that additional meetings would be called as needed to review proposals.

Mike Evans, Controller for the Department of Higher Education, reported that he had investigated a number of banks and recommended that the Authority use Colorado

Business Bank. The funds would be put in a money market account, with the interest rate adjusted quarterly. David Skaggs moved to approve the selection of Colorado Business Bank and the designation of the Chair and Treasurer as signatories on the account. The motion was seconded by John Poate and unanimously passed.

David Skaggs moved to approve Michael Poliakoff and Inta Morris as backup signatories. The motion was seconded by Robbyn Wacker and unanimously passed.

Funding Matters. Board members reviewed commitments that the CHECRA had made to date and proposals that institutions were anticipating in the coming months. The Board had committed matching funds for each of two Materials Research Science and Engineering (MRSEC) proposals submitted to the National Science Foundation (NSF) (see subsequent item). Michael Poliakoff noted that the Extreme Ultraviolet project with NSF, to which CHECRA had committed \$200,000, would be up for renewal next year. He also said that CU was planning to submit three proposals to the Department of Energy's Energy Frontier Research Centers (EFRC) program, two of which would be joint proposals with CSU. While a state match is encouraged for the EFRC program, it is not required.

Bill Farland reminded Board members of the NOAA/CIRA proposal. Board members discussed this and other potential proposals that would benefit from but do not require a state match. The Board agreed that the CHECRA would put priority on those proposals where a state match is required.

Materials Research Science and Engineering (MRSEC) Awards. John Poate reported that the School of Mines had received word from NSF that its Renewable Energy Materials Research Science and Engineering Center, to which the CHECRA had committed \$400,000 annually, had been selected by NSF and awarded funding. Michael Poliakoff said CU had received similar good news regarding renewal of its "liquid crystal" MRSEC, for which CHECRA had similarly committed \$400,000 annually. Bill Farland moved to approve the funding commitments for the two MRSECs. The motion was seconded by John Poate and unanimously passed.

David Skaggs recommended an event at the Capitol involving the Governor to publicize the awards and the role of the CHECRA. He introduced Inta Morris, Department of Higher Education Assistant Director, who would coordinate the event.

David Skaggs moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Michael Poliakoff and the meeting was adjourned.