



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes March 14, 2024 11:00am–12:30pm

Location: STEM AC Office and Zoom (included in meeting invitation)

Present: Molly, Laurie, Sarah, Nick, Caty, Katie, Morgan, Steph, Francine, Hayley, Anne-Marie

Meeting called to order at 11:04 by Laurie.

Previous Meeting's Minutes - Nick

Nick moved to approve the minutes from the last meeting, Anne-Marie seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report – Molly

- Total FY 24 YTD: \$26,411.
- Largest January donation was \$20,000 from State Farm for IRES.
- Largest February donation was TECH CU for Sawtooth teacher award, \$2,500.
- There have been no checks to the Center from the Foundation since October.
- Molly, Francine, and Laurie voiced concern with Hillcrest Bank and speculated the opportunity to move to another bank. Laurie asked that someone find a new bank for the Foundation. Francine volunteered to research and come to the next meeting with a recommendation.
- The finance committee is still working on their FY25 Forecasting.

Executive Director Update - Caty

Caty gave a staff update, sharing that Morgan would be taking on the Communications Manager position and that interviews to fill the financial technician position would begin on Monday. She also said that she would be leaving the STEM Action Center and that her last day would be April 5th, and shared her future plans. She shared that the Governor's Office would publicly post the Executive Director position for applications. Caty expressed gratitude to the Board for the time and work she had done with them and with the organization, as well as optimism for the future of the organization. She invited the Foundation Board to speak to her with any questions. Caty shared an update on the STEM AC Advisory Board Meeting, the planning for creating the STEM AC

Strategic Plan, and plans for sustainability under the EcosySTEM agreement. Caty highlighted the public-private partnerships that STEM AC engages in under Externships. Laurie thanked Caty for her service with STEM AC and asked Caty to expound on current public-private partnerships. Caty clarified that Externships and the Micron grant are public-private partnerships without the matching funds that STEM AC has done in the past. Katie added that future public-private partnerships may involve more work from STEM AC rather than matched funds. Laurie requested a white sheet detailing the new definition of P3s.

Current Business and Foundation Updates

Sarah gave a summary of current grants, highlighting an unexpected grant from Boise Cascade and a new agreement with Perpetua. She also touched briefly on grants that she was waiting on notification from, grants she was currently applying for, and grants that she had applied for but had not been awarded. Sarah asked that the Board share any contacts that may create opportunities for funding. Laurie and Nick expounded on the needs and opportunities to introduce Sarah to contacts for funding. Nick also asked that Sarah examine former sponsors to see if there would be opportunities to reforge relationships. Hayley offered to help make contacts in the natural resource space. Sarah shared that STEM AC would be utilizing a new program for managing donated funds. She updated the Board on STEM Matters month and that State Farm would be doing a check presentation for STEM Matters Month wrap-up. She went on to give updates on the Idaho Gives Campaign, FY25 Projections, and the sponsorship menu. Nick complimented the team on the increased consistency of STEM AC's social media.

Board Update

Laurie shared the new process for finding prospective Board Members. She then shared a new candidate profile and offered up to the Board to give feedback on the questions asked in the new process. She summarized Alex Baca's responses to each of the questions. Laurie asked if anyone would like to make any changes to the questions. Nick responded that the form was good, but asked if it would make sense to also set up meetings between the full Board and prospective members to ensure that AI couldn't be used to bypass the major screening for new Board members. Laurie responded that she agreed that Zoom or face-to-face meetings would be an important factor in screening future members. Laurie asked if the Board would prefer to have a Zoom interview before voting on Alex Baca's candidacy. Molly requested a Zoom call with Alex. Laurie agreed to work to set up a Zoom call with as many Board members as possible. Laurie told the Board that it could be beneficial to recruit a Board member from North Idaho. Laurie shared that her term would end on May 31st and asked if the terms could be aligned with the Foundation's fiscal year. Nick responded that with the term set up the way it was, the newly-elected Board would be in place for the new fiscal year. Laurie

agreed. Laurie then suggested collecting Conflict of Interest forms at the July meeting instead of at the annual meeting.

Laurie shared that the annual meeting would be moved from May to the second week of June. Laurie suggested holding the Board meeting in-person at i-STEM. Laurie then clarified that the annual meeting would be held June 13th at i-STEM at CWI from 11:00-1:00. Katie suggested shifting the time so that the Board could have lunch and network with i-STEM participants, so Laurie shifted the meeting to 10:00-12:00.

Sarah invited Board members to interact with STEM Matters Month social media posts, then shared the dates for Idaho Gives, i-STEM applications, and the EcosySTEM convening.

Laurie thanked Caty again for her time with STEM AC and congratulated her on her new opportunity. The Board adjourned for executive session at 12:27 pm