

APPROVED MINUTES

TWO HUNDRED AND EIGHTY THIRD MEETING

of the

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

of the

MASSACHUSETTS TECHNOLOGY PARK CORPORATION

August 23, 2023

Zoom Videoconference

The Two Hundred and Eighty Third Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Technology Park Corporation (“Mass Tech Collaborative” or “Mass Tech”) was held on August 23, 2023, via Zoom videoconference pursuant to notice duly given to the Directors and publicly posted on the Mass Tech Collaborative website with corresponding notice provided to the Office of the Secretary of State and the Executive Office for Administration and Finance.

The following members of the Mass Tech Collaborative Executive Committee were present and participated: Secretary of Economic Development Yvonne Hao, Pamela Reeve, Julie Chen, and Bogdan Vernescu. The following members of the Mass Tech Board of Directors were present and participated: Tye Brady, Albion Calaj, Jeffrey Stein, and Alexander Stoloyarov.

The following members of the Mass Tech Collaborative staff were present: Carolyn Kirk, Holly Lucas Murphy, Lisa Erlandson, Jennifer Saubermann, Michael Baldino, Pat Larkin, Ben Linville-Engler, Joseph Downing, Brianna Wehrs, Brian Noyes, Kelly Kleanthous, Jody Jones, Josh Eichen, Meghan Abella-Bowen, John Petrozzelli, and Paula Foley.

Also in attendance was Undersecretary of Economic Development Sarah Stanton.

Secretary Hao observed the presence of quorum and called the meeting of the Mass Tech Executive Committee to order at 2:33 p.m.

Agenda Item I Report of the Chairperson

Secretary Hao began her report by discussing the status of the Commonwealth’s Economic Development Plan (“Plan”). Secretary Hao reported that all of the scheduled public meetings have now been completed, and the Plan is currently being drafted with the final version to be ready before the end of the calendar year. Secretary Hao indicated that Mass Tech will play a large part in the Plan, with many of the ideas discussed in the Plan linked to Mass Tech activities. Next, Secretary Hao thanked Mass Tech personnel for their work on the recent CHIPS + Science Act Regional Tech Hubs proposals, one of which is fully backed by the state. She noted that the recent Northeastern University grant to be discussed later in the meeting is a win for the Commonwealth and hopefully will be followed by further good news on the soon to be announced Department of

Defense (“DoD”) Microelectronics Commons awards. Secretary Hao then turned to discussion and approval of the minutes of the June 29, 2023, Executive Committee meeting.

Agenda Item II Approval of Minutes

Prior to the vote on the June 29, 2023 minutes, Secretary Hao noted the summary of the Report of the Chairperson in the minutes did not include her commendation and appreciation of Ms. Kirk’s and Ms. Chen’s participation in the Governor’s recent overseas trip to Ireland and she suggested that be added. After a period of discussion and upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously and without abstention VOTED by a roll call vote:

The Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Technology Park Corporation, acting on behalf of the full Board pursuant to section three of Chapter Forty J of the General Laws of the Commonwealth, hereby adopts the Draft Minutes of the Two Hundred and Eighty Second Meeting of the Executive Committee, held on June 29, 2023, by Zoom videoconference, as the formal Minutes thereof.

Agenda Item III Report of the Executive Director

Ms. Kirk’s report consisted of a summary and discussion of her Fiscal Year 20204 (“FY24”) goals for Mass Tech. She began by reviewing Mass Tech’s mission statement and indicated how each goal is derived from and serves the mission statement. First, Ms. Kirk detailed the goals related to strategic investments in the priority sectors of robotics, blue tech, climate tech and quantum, among others. These goals include: (1) establishing a portfolio of investments that are geographically and financially balanced; (2) continuing to pursue significant federal opportunities; and (3) creating additional programmatic events and initiatives. Then, Ms. Kirk discussed her goals related to maximizing Mass Tech’s partnerships with existing priority partners (such as the Tech Hub Legislative Caucus and Cyber Trust Massachusetts, among others) as well as establishing new external partnership structures in the artificial intelligence and industrial biomanufacturing sectors. Ms. Kirk explained that other partnership initiatives will include recurring strategy sessions as part of Board meetings, developing a revised Delegation of Authority structure, and further coordination with the Executive Office of Economic Development to pursue priority federal grant opportunities to add to the current \$2 billion pipeline of potential economic input to the state from existing federal pursuits.

In addition, Ms. Kirk discussed goals related to coordination of workforce development efforts across Mass Tech’s divisions, as well as holding regular all-staff meetings, leadership team workshops, and “lunch and learns” for Mass Tech employees. Ms. Kirk also explained that there are several important goals related to realigning and reorganizing Mass Tech’s budget and operations, such as the need to bring on an operations manager or COO and expanding the use of tools and technology to improve data collection. Lastly, Ms. Kirk discussed this year’s goal to determine the appropriate management and disposition of Mass Tech’s middle mile broadband network.

Following Ms. Kirk’s overview of FY24 goals and objectives, discussion ensued on the importance of coordinating Mass Tech’s activities with the Commonwealth’s other quasi-governmental agencies that have similar ongoing efforts, such as workforce development, life

sciences, and climate tech, in order to amplify, rather than duplicate these efforts. Ms. Kirk agreed and explained that Mass Tech’s Strategic Investment Team will lead the effort to coordinate and eliminate overlaps. Ms. Kirk rounded out the discussion by identifying her primary goal is to address Mass Tech’s operations issues, which will pave the way for achievement of the other stated goals.

Ms. Kirk then turned to discussion of the next agenda item.

Agenda Item IV Innovation Institute – Federal Matching Grant – Northeastern Open6G (motion item)

Ms. Kirk explained that the proposed grant of \$1.5 million to Northeastern University (“Northeastern”) is a capital grant based on the recent National Telecommunications and Infrastructure Administration (“NTIA”) Public Wireless Supply Chain Innovation Fund Award to Northeastern for \$2 million to develop Open RAN systems and testing. Ms. Kirk indicated that Mass Tech had submitted a letter of support to the NTIA on behalf of Northeastern, pledging a conditional capital grant pending a federal award and approval by Mass Tech’s Board. Mr. Larkin then explained that the award will allow Northeastern to acquire unique equipment to test interoperability and AI research towards 6G, as well as build a hub for economic development around an Open RAN/6G wireless ecosystem, and create a workforce development program for Open RAN/6G in the Commonwealth. Lastly, Mr. Larkin noted that Board approval of the proposed motion will allow the Commonwealth to match the federal grant and thus unlock the full award to Northeastern.

After a period of discussion and upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously VOTED by roll call vote:

The Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Technology Park Corporation (“Mass Tech Collaborative”), acting pursuant to the authority delegated under Chapter 40J of the General Laws of the Commonwealth, does hereby authorize a capital grant award in an amount not to exceed \$1,520,875 to Northeastern University for the Open6G: An Open RAN Hub to Jumpstart Next-Generation AI-Driven Connectivity in Massachusetts project, as presented. The grant award is to be funded from Item 7002-8041 of Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, and is subject to the execution of a grant agreement in a form and with terms approved by Mass Tech Collaborative’s Executive Director.

Agenda Item V Center for Advanced Manufacturing – MassBridge Phase II – MassBay Community College (motion item)

Ms. Kirk began discussion of this agenda item by explaining that this DoD funded award is the second phase of the MassBridge program, which is designed to develop a state-based technician training and career pathway model that meets the talent needs of the Manufacturing USA Institutes and the DoD. She then turned the discussion over to Meghan Abella-Bowen to present the agenda item. Ms. Abella-Bowen explained that Mass Tech is still waiting for confirmation from NextFlex, a Manufacturing USA Institute, of Mass Tech’s receipt of this DoD funded award, therefore the proposed award to Mass Bay Community College (“Mass Bay”) is contingent on Mass Tech’s

receipt of the award from NextFlex. Ms. Abella-Brown then explained that Mass Bay will act as the Lead Community College for the MassBridge program and will oversee sub-contracting with nine additional community colleges and will manage the faculty curriculum team’s work to finalize the MassBridge Playbook (i.e., a step by step set of instructions and resources to replicate the mapping and alignment process started in Phase I). Ms. Abella-Bowen explained that Mass Bay took part in the MassBridge project during Phase I through active participation from Mass Bay’s STEM Dean and engineering faculty. Mass Bay also has the programmatic and fiscal capacity to act as the Lead Community College in this Phase and therefore, stated Ms. Abella-Bowen, Mass Bay is the best choice for this sole source award.

Following Ms. Abella-Bowen’s presentation, discussion ensued regarding Massachusetts companies’ continuing need for skilled technicians to address the technician shortage and the significant number of students that will have the opportunity to participate in the MassBridge program.

After a brief period of discussion and upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously and without abstention VOTED by a roll call vote:

The Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Technology Park Corporation (“Mass Tech Collaborative”), acting pursuant to the authority delegated under Chapter 40J of the General Laws of the Commonwealth, does hereby authorize Mass Tech Collaborative’s Executive Director to expend an amount not to exceed \$446,505 to MassBay Community College to serve as the Lead Community College under the MassBridge Phase II project, as presented. Funding for MassBay Community College is contingent upon Mass Tech Collaborative’s receipt of a MassBridge Phase II award from NextFlex with sufficient funding to support the award to MassBay Community College, and the award is subject to the execution of a contract in a form and with terms approved by Mass Tech Collaborative’s Executive Director.

Agenda Item VI Massachusetts Broadband Institute – Digital Equity Partnerships Program – MetroNorth Workforce Investment Board (motion item)

Mr. Baldino began the discussion of this agenda item by explaining that the proposed \$4.1 million award to the MetroNorth Workforce Investment Board will be MBI’s eighth Digital Equity Partnership award and will expand the geographic focus of the partnership program into the MetroNorth and North Shore regions. Mr. Baldino then turned the discussion over to Mr. Eichen for presentation of the agenda item.

Mr. Eichen stated that MBI’s Digital Equity Partnership program, which is funded under the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (“SLFRF”) section of the federal American Rescue Plan Act (“ARPA”), works with three types of partners: (1) regional partners, such the City of Boston; (2) program partners, such as Tech Goes Home; and (3) population partners, such as the Healthy Aging Coalition. Each partner, explained Mr. Eichen, furthers the Commonwealth’s goals to expand digital equity to SLFRF’s target populations. Mr. Eichen stated that upon receipt of the proposed award, the MetroNorth Workforce Investment Board will expand its ongoing digital equity initiatives through a new effort called the Digital Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

(“JEDI”) Consortium. The JEDI Consortium will focus on digital literacy, device refurbishment and distribution, and digital education, outreach and adoption through the use of Digital Navigators serving the communities of Revere, Chelsea, Everett, Malden, Somerville, Cambridge, Lynn, Salem, and Gloucester. Further discussion included the extent to which the program will include digital equity services provided to newly-arrived immigrants and front line health care providers.

After a period of discussion and upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously and without abstention VOTED by a roll call vote:

The Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Technology Park Corporation (“Mass Tech Collaborative”), acting pursuant to the authority delegated under Chapter 40J of the General Laws of the Commonwealth, does hereby authorize an award under the Digital Equity Partnerships Program (RFP No. 2023-MBI04) to MetroNorth Workforce Board, as presented, in an amount not to exceed \$4,118,757.15, to be funded from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), State Fiscal Recovery Funds. The award is subject to the execution of a grant agreement in a form and with terms approved by MassTech Collaborative’s Executive Director.

Agenda Item VII Mass Broadband Institute – Statewide Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Initial Proposal Consulting Services – KPMG (motion item)

Mr. Baldino presented this request for approval of up to \$950,000 for KPMG to assist with drafting the Initial Proposal required by NTIA to unlock the state’s funding under the federal Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (“BEAD”) program. The Initial Proposal, explained Mr. Baldino, will be a detailed, two-volume operational plan for the deployment of BEAD funds across the Commonwealth. KPMG is ideally suited for this task, noted Mr. Baldino, because MBI had previously selected KPMG through a competitive bid process to draft MBI’s BEAD Five-Year Action Plan, a high-level framework of the overall BEAD program to be submitted to NTIA before the end of August 2023. Mr. Baldino explained that KPMG’s cost structure, expertise and capacity compared favorably with the other consulting firms that submitted bids for the work associated with the Five-Year Action Plan, and having KPMG continue MBI’s BEAD-related work will provide valuable continuity during the compressed time frame required for drafting and submission to NTIA of the BEAD Initial Proposal.

Following Mr. Baldino’s presentation, there was discussion on the value KPMG will bring to MBI’s BEAD Initial Proposal given its recent work on MBI’s BEAD Five-Year Action Plan, which came in under budget. Mr. Baldino noted that NTIA allocated a \$5,000,000 planning grant to the Commonwealth and a portion of this planning grant will be used to engage KPMG to develop the BEAD Initial Proposal.

After a period of discussion and upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously and without abstention VOTED by a roll call vote:

The Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Technology Park Corporation (“Mass Tech Collaborative”), acting pursuant to the authority

delegated under Chapter 40J of the General Laws of the Commonwealth, does hereby authorize Mass Tech Collaborative's Executive Director to expend an amount not to exceed \$950,000 to KPMG LLP for Consulting Services to assist with the development of a Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) Program Initial Proposal and other related tasks associated with the deployment of BEAD funds, as presented. This project is to be funded through the National Telecommunications and Information Administration BEAD Program, and is subject to the execution of a contract in a form and with terms approved by Mass Tech Collaborative's Executive Director.

Having determined that there was no other business to discuss, Secretary Hao adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

A TRUE COPY ATTEST: (Secretary)

DATE:

Materials and Exhibits Used at this Meeting:

1. Draft Minutes for the June 29, 2023, Mass Tech Collaborative Executive Committee Meeting
2. Federal Matching Grant – Northeastern Open6G (motion item)
3. MassBridge Phase II – MassBay Community College (motion item)
4. Digital Equity Partnership Program – MetroNorth Workforce Investment Board (motion item)
5. Statewide Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Initial Proposal Consulting Services – KPMG (motion item)