

## ICR Governing Board Meeting Minutes

February 14, 2020 12:00 – 1:00 pm

Virtual Meeting

<https://csupueblo.zoom.us/j/510564566>

**Attendees: Maureen Leehey, Ann Bennan, Chad Kinney, Timothy Mottet, Mara Brosy-Wiwchar, Sue Sisley, Malik Hasan, Sal Pace, John Lord, Nicole Quartiero**

### Meeting Agenda:

- I. Welcome (12:00-12:05pm)
  - Dr. Bidwell unable to attend so Ms. Bennan will serve as today's meeting chair
- II. Approve minutes from 01/10/20 meeting (12:05-12:10pm)
  - Dr. Hasan moves to approve the minutes; Dr. Leehey seconds. All (7 voting members) voted to approve the minutes.
- III. ICR Budget Request and Draft Budget (12:05-12:45pm)
  - State Budget Request Update (Cinnamon Bidwell, Chad Kinney) (10 minutes)
    - i. Input on 1 page summary document for lawmakers
  - Dr. Kinney provided an update that he and Dr. Bidwell had a follow up discussion with Rep. Esgar, and shortly after Dr. Bidwell and Mr. Pace had dinner with her. Dr. Kinney informed the group that there was not significantly different information from the first meeting; essentially that this is a tight budget year for the state. However, she recommended that the team put together a 1-page budget summary document for legislators. This was shared with the group. Drs. Bidwell and Kinney put together the content; the CSU-Pueblo Marketing department consulted on the design. Drs. Bidwell and Kinney would like to receive feedback on the content. Mr. Pace recommends that the feedback be submitted via email (offline); Dr. Kinney agreed. Mr. Pace agrees though that it is a good approach because most of the legislators are receiving a multitude of requests for funding so it is important to have a streamlined document where they could get pertinent information in a simple format.
  - Mr. Pace and Dr. Bidwell had dinner with Rep. Esgar as well as Rep. Moreno who has significant experience on the JBC. It was a positive experience where they discussed the history and the vision of the ICR. Rep. Esgar emphasized the challenges of this budget year, but some good questions and answers were discussed. Mr. Pace feels that it is going to be critical to have someone who can consistently work with the JBC to relay the needs of the ICR with respect to a budget amendment. Mr. Pace received a bid from a lobbyist who might be able to assist with this endeavor. Dr. Hasan also suggests having a lobbyist because of his previous experience in witnessing their influence. This should be a consideration on an ongoing basis. Dr. Hasan said it was a missed opportunity to include the funding aspect previously, and in his conversations with the Governor he feels that he is very supportive of the ICR and would be receptive to an additional funding request.
  - President Mottet asked Mr. Pace if there is any threat to the ICR losing funding. Mr. Pace said that this is a possibility, but with a very low chance. Dr. Hasan added that in difficult budget years there is always a chance for this potential.
  - President Mottet asked Dr. Kinney if there are any preclusions that prohibit us from hiring a lobbyist. Dr. Kinney isn't aware of any.
  - President Mottet recommends the following approach with respect to the 1-pager from a structure perspective: 1) Research Mandate 2) Need and 3) Impact
  - Mara's thoughts with respect to lobbyist – she said that this is an interesting approach and we should make sure it is legal. She said one key difference is state employees versus contractors. She wanted to reiterate that bills are not moving forward with fiscal notes as low as \$40k because there are not extra dollars to allocate. She also brought up the idea of a lobbyist working toward securing industry funds versus state funds based on recent gifts from major Colorado companies to other states. Mr. Pace gave

some examples of other state agencies with contracted lobbyists. Dr. Hasan also shared the history of the first bolus of funding for the ICR in the middle of a budget year during a time where it was understood that no funds were available.

- Ms. Bennan asked if there are funds available in the current budget to support \$9k. Dr. Kinney responded that we would have to find that funding because funds are currently allocated, but that he is confident that we could find it. Dr. Hasan asked if \$400k was unspent last year. Dr. Kinney clarified that that was not the case. Ms. Quartiero provided the amount of roll forward from FY19 approved by the state was \$147,328, but these funds were all previously obligated.
- Dr. Hasan asked if we should move forward with the lobbyist. Mr. Pace suggested that we give the chair and subcommittee the authority to vote on the issue and make a decision. Mara supported this approach. Dr. Hasan moves that to a motion; Mr. Pace seconds. Dr. Kinney recommends that this be assigned to the fundraising subcommittee. Dr. Hasan supports this amended motion and Mr. Pace seconds. Dr. Kinney stated that the contract will have to be issued from CSU-Pueblo and ICR staff. All support this approach. All members voted to approve (8).
- Fundraising Subcommittee Update (Sal Pace, John Lord, Sue Sisley) (10 minutes)
  - i. County Budget Request update (TBD)
  - ii. Updates on letters to other counties
- Mr. Pace mentioned that a week or so ago that he provided to Dr. Bidwell contact information to the 3 assistants to the Pueblo County Commissioners.
- Ms. Bennan shared that historically Boulder County has only ever committed \$3500 to the University for Research so she is unsure how effective this approach would be.
- Mr. Pace responded that Pueblo County has the most potential for this approach based on some historical ties to the ICR.
- Follow up with Pueblo County first and table the discussion regarding other counties until next meeting.
- The committee members are still discussing other ideas.
- Draft budget for currently known appropriation (Chad Kinney) (15-20 minutes)
  - i. Continuation of current staffing pattern
  - ii. Consider continued funding of existing multi-year projects
  - iii. Discuss date for the next RFA
- Dr. Kinney provided an overview of the FY21 budget and the critical nature of the points above. Current state is that the governing board has not yet approved a FY21 budget. Dr. Kinney hopes that the Board would put forth a motion to approve current levels (as reflected in the budget) for: staffing (amounts in budget include salary and fringe benefit costs) and research projects that were funded for multiple years before HB19-1311 was passed. Dr. Kinney has received inquiries in these areas and thus, this is the reason for the request. President Mottet asked if we get progress reports for continuation projects. Dr. Kinney responded that we do close to the end of the fiscal year to evaluate progress with respect to the next increment of funding. President Mottet feels that the progress report evaluation should be in alignment with the budget review. Dr. Kinney responded that he agrees, however, we have now introduced an additional step with the Board's approval. We have a mechanism for adjusting budget allocations should the progress not match.
- Dr. Sisley asked what the total of continuation projects would be. The figure is \$474k for 5 projects.
- Dr. Leehey shared that she feels that there is a high percentage of administration costs; however, she does support continuation of funding. She also hopes that the administration costs can be adjusted down, from a percentage perspective going forward. President Mottet would also like to know what the impact to operations would be if there was a reduction in staff. It would also be helpful to have documentation regarding each person's role and responsibilities.
- Dr. Sisley feels that there needs to be a more in depth review of these projects before making a decision. She recommends that there is subcommittee appointed to this review. Ms. Bennan recommended reviewing the website and match that with the request and make a determination. Dr. Sisley said we need to move away from esoteric research and owe it to taxpayers to take a closer look at it. She recommends herself, Dr. Leehey, Dr. Bidwell be a part of this subcommittee. Ms. Bennan asked if Dr. Kinney could coordinate this request. Dr. Kinney agreed. We could also try and get a preliminary progress report from the funded researchers. President Mottet agrees with this approach. Ms. Bennan

asked if this could be put together prior to our next meeting and could we vote then? Dr. Kinney feels that yes for preliminary information, but a detailed report might require more time from the investigators.

- Drs. Bidwell, Leehey, Sisley and Hasan will work with Dr. Kinney on this deliverable before the next meeting.
- President Mottet made a motion to continue the staffing pattern for FY21 with an analysis to evaluate this for FY22. Dr. Hasan seconded the motion; we cannot make changes like this without being thoughtful about the impact to the mission. 7 members voted to approve the motion; 1 Nay (John Lord).
- The RFA is part of a bigger conversation, however, the ICR has been receiving many inquiries about this. Ms. Bennan requested that the Board think about how we can facilitate this. Ms. Bennan suggests that we put something on the ICR website to say “coming soon”.

IV. University of Mississippi Update (12:45-12:50pm)

- Updates (Sue Sisley)
- Tabled until next meeting in the interest of time; also pending some additional information from the DEA.

V. Other Business (12:50-12:55pm)

- a. In person ICR Meeting at ICR Conference
  - i. Preliminary Program Available ([https://www.csupueblo.edu/institute-of-cannabis-research/doc/preliminary\\_programme\\_detailed\\_02032020.pdf](https://www.csupueblo.edu/institute-of-cannabis-research/doc/preliminary_programme_detailed_02032020.pdf))
  - ii. Conference Updates
  - iii. Would the Governing Board entertain the idea of a “Meet the ICR Governing Board” session?
- b. Plan for By laws review
  - Ms. Bennan needs to send to Drs. Leehey and Hasan.
- Dr. Kinney asked if he could send a summary of the topics that were not discussed due to time to the Board with respect to the in person meeting at the ICR conference as well as the release of the RFA.

VI. Public Comment (12:55-1:00pm)

- No public comment received.

VII. Adjourn