

April Meeting Minutes

ICR Governing Board Meeting

April 15th, 2026, 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Meeting By Zoom

In Attendance: Ms. Julie Powell, Dr. Chad Kinney, Dr. Jeff Smith, Ms. Justyna Dubey, Dr. David Lehmpuhl, Dr. Melissa Reynolds, Dr. Joanna Zeiger, Ms. Elyse Contreras, Dr. John Harloe, Mr. Michael McMaster, Mr. Dieter Raemdonck, Mr. Ean Seeb, Dr. John Williamson, Ms. Emma Hudson

Absent: Dr. Jon Reuter, Mr. Chuck Smith, Mr. Michael Hennesy, Dr. Angela Bryan, Mr. Sherard Rogers

Meeting Minutes:

- I. Welcome (1:00-1:02pm) Dr. Zeiger
- II. Consent Agenda x 2 (1:02-1:05pm) Dr. Zeiger
 - a. March Consent agenda for approval April Consent agenda
 - b. March 18, 2026, Meeting Minutes
 - c. Conference – Abstract Submission
 - The abstract submission is currently open for the National Cannabis Research Conference. It will be open for the next two weeks.
 - d. Advancement and Networking Gala
 - Save the date
 - Website
 - How Board Members can help
 - e. **Quorum: *Not Met*—Informational meeting only, no votes taken**
- III. Government Relations Updates (1:05-1:13pm) - Emma Hudson, Dieter Raemdonck, & Nathalie Clavette
 - a. Long Bill
 - Mr. Dieter Raemdonck: The state budget was introduced and debated in the House last week and they spent about 15 hours reading the long bill at length. The ICR will not have an increase in funding next FY but will maintain the same funding as the current year.
 - b. Looking Ahead
 - Ms. Emma Hudson: Next year, our budget situation will be the same or worse.
 - Mr. Ean Seeb: Discussed cuts in the budget for FY27 including the Governor's budget.
 - c. Transition process for new Governor
 - Ms. Emma Hudson: There will be a proposed budget in November, then come January, the new governor will have the opportunity to make adjustments. There will likely be more budget cuts next year regardless of which candidate is in place. The second year of the new governor is when we will start to see their funding priorities.
- IV. FY27 Budget Draft Review (1:13-1:18pm) – Dr. Zeiger
 - a. Final Review - Draft Budget – Flat Funding (i.e. maintaining last year's cut; Budget provided as a separate file)
 - Dr. Chad Kinney: Reviewed the proposed flat budget scenario consisting of funding at

\$3.075 million. There were no recommendations from the full board related to this budget scenario last month, so it remains unchanged. We cannot approve the budget because we don't have enough board members present, which means that we will likely be delayed in announcing any new research awards.

- Dr. Joanna Zeiger: Proposed that a special board meeting be scheduled to approve the two consent agendas and proposed budget to keep the research awards on schedule.

b. Decision item

- **Tabled until the Special Board Meeting**

V. Search – Brief Updates (1:18-1:23pm) – Dr. Kinney

- Dr. Chad Kinney: The position posted on April 3rd and the priority deadline is May 3rd.
- Dr. David Lehmpuhl: May 3rd is the “closing date” although we can still look at applications after that if we decided as a group to do that. On or before May 3rd, I will start reviewing for minimums. After the minimums are done, we'll push it out to the committee to start the subject matter expert review of the candidates.

VI. Advancement and Networking Dinner (1:23-1:28pm) – Dr. Harloe

a. Silent Auction

- Dr. John Harloe: The run of show is basically done. There is more emphasis on allowing time for people to socialize and network. Called out Sherard for single-handedly saving the silent auction through a number of items including sports memorabilia. Proposed discussing whether to open the auction online during the next Fundraising Subcommittee meeting. **Still need more silent auction items.**

b. Seats

- Dr. John Harloe: Not a lot of people have signed up for tickets yet, which is normal. Last year most of the tickets were sold through table sponsors.
- Ms. Elyse Contreras: Question about the bank account. Where will these funds go? Has this been resolved?
 - Dr. Chad Kinney: The funds will move into the ICR's account that the CSU Pueblo Foundation holds, which is where the resources that were generated last year are being held.

VII. RFA 2026 (1:28-1:55pm) – Ms. Contreras and Dr. Kinney

a. Review Board Role/Process

- Ms. Elyse Contreras: The Research Subcommittee looked at our procedures over the past few years and tried to align them better with NIH protocols, especially around conflict of interest. Over the past couple meetings, I've tried to express interest in formalizing the board's recommendations to the ICR Director. Currently, board members individually review the applications, scores get sent to ICR staff, and then to the ICR Director who makes the ultimate decision. It might be wiser to formalize this by marking a letter or email that comes from the board and states the top applications as scored by the governing board members. We will table this idea until the next meeting when we have quorum.
 - Dr. Joanna Zeiger: Can you explain how the scoring is done? That the board will be scoring based on how the project fits into the mandate of the ICR and not based on scientific merit?
 - Dr. Elyse Contreras: The plan for today was for the governing board members to discuss applications. The board is given a week or two to review the applications using a given criteria which focuses on the potential impact the research might have, and how it measures up against the mission of the ICR.

b. Board Discussion of Applications

- Ms. Elyse Contreras, Dr. Joanna Zeiger, Dr. Chad Kinney: Discussed whether to table the board's discussion about the grant applications. It was determined that board discussion about the applications is not needed. The critical thing is to keep the scoring on track.

c. Submit Online Review Form by April 28th.

VIII. Public Comment (1:55-2:00pm) – Dr. Kinney

IX. Meeting adjourned at 1:55PM MT.