

ICR Governing Board Meeting
March 18th, 2026, 1:00 – 2:00 pm
Meeting By Zoom

In Attendance: Dr. David Lehmpuhl, Dr. Jon Reuter, Mr. Michael Hennesy, Mr. Dieter Raemdonck, Ms. Elyse Contreras, Ms. Emma Hudson, Dr. John Harloe, Mr. Michael McMaster, Ms. Nathalie Clavette, Ms. Julie Powell, Dr. Chad Kinney, Ms. Justyna Dubey, Dr. Jeff Smith, Dr. John Williamson, Mr. Ean Seeb

Absent: Dr. Angela Bryan, Dr. Joanna Zeiger, Dr. Melissa Reynolds, Mr. Sherard Rogers, Mr. Chuck Smith

Meeting Minutes:

I. Welcome (1:00-1:02pm) Dr. Reuter

- Dr. Jon Reuter & Dr. Lehmpuhl: Introduction of Dean Lehmpuhl to the board. Dr. Lehmpuhl has worked at CSU Pueblo since 1998. He is an analytical chemist, chair of the Chemistry department for a decade, has been Dean of the College of STEM for a decade, and was on the advisory board when the ICR was initially set up. Dr. Lehmpuhl will help select the next director and help the board navigate university processes.

II. Consent Agenda (1:02-1:05pm) Dr. Reuter

- a. Feb 18, 2026, Meeting Minutes
- b. Position Description – Director
- c. Advancement and Networking Gala
 - i. Save the date
 - ii. Website
 - iii. How Board Members can help
- d. **Quorum: *Not Met*—Informational meeting only, no votes taken**

III. Government Relations Updates (1:05-1:13pm) - Emma Hudson, Dieter Raemdonck, & Nathalie Clavette

- a. Higher Ed Figure Setting
 - Mr. Dieter Raemdonck: State budget setting discussions are ongoing. The March revenue forecast is expected to be unfavorable. The JBC rejected a motion that combined a cut to funding from the CU School of Public Health and an increase of funds to the ICR. The committee members were not interested in the combined motion. ICR funding restoration will be considered on Friday, possibly Thursday afternoon.
 - **Senator Bridges has requested information detailing research grants that you could characterize as pro- or anti-industry to show the ICR does objective scientific research.**
 - Ms. Emma Hudson: There's value in the board members expressing their support for the work and the importance of the work in the community. **Recommends sending a quick email to JBC members to say that restoring ICR's funding to what it was last year would have a meaningful impact on their ability to provide grants for critically important work that's made in their organization.**
 - **Dr. John Harloe will work on writing an email.**
 - **Dr. Chad Kinney will on getting a summary of research funding and highlight**

the breakdown in where funding has gone in terms of the type of projects.

- Dr. Chad Kinney: Are you hearing that JBC will go through the Marijuana Tax Cash Fund and look at what it's being used to fund?
 - Ms. Emma Hudson: The revenue forecast may suggest that they have some competency issues in the Marijuana Tax Cash Fund and they would be forced to find opportunities for cuts and savings. It's worth acknowledging that almost every other state entity is at risk of massive cuts.
 - **Dr. John Williamson will ask a few funded researchers to send emails to the JBC.**

- b. Meeting with Representative Brown
 - Mr. Dieter Raemdonck: Conversation with Representative Brown was positive.

IV. FY27 Budget Draft Review (1:13-1:28pm) – Dr. Reuter

- a. Review Draft Budget and scenarios for FY27 (Budget provided as a separate file)
 - Dr. Jon Reuter: The Budget Subcommittee met and mapped out several different scenarios. We won't know which one of these, if any, are going to meet the funding from the state. We're trying to get ahead of this and identify priorities and how to make cuts to have the least amount of impact on our mission.
 - Dr. Chad Kinney: Presented are three funding scenarios. A flat funding scenario has no change from current appropriations. A scenario returns that funding to FY25 level of \$3.8M. A reduction scenario modeled at a \$725,000 decrease. The reduced funding would significantly limit the ability to issue new research awards and would require reductions to continuing awards (modeled at 10%). Internal research lines were also reduced proportionately in the cut scenario. In the scenario with restored funding, approximately \$67,000 remains unallocated, preliminarily assigned to research.
- b. Board Feedback for Budget Subcommittee
 - Ms. Elyse Contreras: Asked about reducing the ICR's internal research funding as a worst-case scenario to reduce the cut to externally funded research.
 - Dr. Chad Kinney: The ICR employs a researcher, and they need funds to do research. This cut would only reduce the external research to a 5% or 6% reduction and a larger reduction to internal research.
- c. Budget will be a decision item in April

V. Search (1:28-1:38pm) – Dr. Kinney

- a. Position Description – Decision Item
 - Dr. Chad Kinney: The position description was updated based on the feedback the board provided.
 - Dr. Chad Kinney, Dr. Jon Reuter, Mr. Michael McMaster: Discussion about who needs to approve the final position description. Legal counsel confirmed that no formal vote is required because the hiring authority (CSU Pueblo President) approves the final position description. **The updated description will be forwarded to the President for approval.**
- b. Announcement
 - Dr. Chad Kinney: Hope is that the position will post next week and that we will be on track for the proposed timeline to make the August start date feasible.
- c. NeoGov training module
 - Dr. Chad Kinney: The NeoGov training module was sent out to the board members. Dr. Kinney is happy to answer questions related to the training.
- d. Other

VI. Advancement and Networking Dinner (1:38-1:48pm) – Dr. Harloe

- a. Updates
 - Dr. John Harloe: Event promotions are underway; board members encouraged to share

- posts and assist with outreach.
 - b. Sponsorship
 - Dr John Harloe: Sponsorship site is now live on the website. Can purchase sponsorships and update the attendee names for tables later.
 - c. Share potential attendees or donors (contact information, website, etc.)
 - Dr. Chad Kinney: Share potential attendees and donor information with John, Chad, or Daphne, and they will make contact. Silent auction items are starting to come in.
 - d. Account for donations
 - Dr Chad Kinney: Discussed account scenarios with Ean and am certain about their viability. The long play is to work with the new Executive Director of CDHE to see if the department would be willing to set up an account. Ean raised a concern about the support potentially needed to manage the account.
- VII. Service Agreement (1:48-1:55pm) – Dr. Kinney
- a. Recent changes in OFM services
 - Dr. Chad Kinney: There have been recent changes to the CSU Pueblo Office of Financial Management on campus and how it operates. Part of this is associated with aligning processes and services with CSU Fort Collins and as a result of these changes, more responsibilities are being pushed to individual units and departments on campus. This effectively requires person power in the department to address those responsibilities that have previously been centrally managed by folks in accounting or the controller. Is it worthwhile for the ICR and CSU Pueblo to come up with a service agreement that would outline the services that are provided for the indirect costs that are recovered?
 - b. Is a service agreement between ICR and CSU Pueblo warranted?
 - Dr. Jon Reuter: Discussion about the proposed service agreement. Suggested passing this along to the Budget Subcommittee for further discussion.
- VIII. Public Comment (1:55-2:00pm) - Dr. Reuter
- Dr. Chad Kinney: Facilitated introduction of the board members to Dean Lehmpuhl.
 - Dr. Jon Reuter: CDA is looking for volunteers to serve on the Hemp Advisory Committee.
- IX. Meeting adjourned at 2:00PM MDT