

APPROVED MINUTES

TWO HUNDRED NINETY-FOURTH MEETING

of the

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

of the

MASSACHUSETTS TECHNOLOGY PARK CORPORATION

February 12, 2025
Zoom Videoconference

The Two Hundred Ninety-Fourth 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 February 12, 2025, 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: Undersecretary of Economic Development Sarah Stanton (representing Secretary of Economic Development Yvonne Hao), Julie Chen, Joe Dorant, Paige Fetzer-Borelli, Pam Reeve, and Bodgan Vernescu. The following member of the Mass Tech Collaborative Board of Directors was present: Jeffrey Stein.

The following members of the Mass Tech Collaborative staff were present: Briana Wehrs, Michael Baldino, Keely Benson, Lilly Fitzgerald, Jody Jones, Marc Leonetti, Holly Lucas Murphy, Dana Nolfé, John Petrozelli, Jennifer Saubermann, Rachel Stachowiak, Austin Vella, Karen Jenkins, Jason Hoch, and Paula Foley.

Also in attendance was Steve Baker, Director of Broadband and Digital Equity for the Executive Office of Economic Development.

Undersecretary Stanton observed the presence of a quorum and called the meeting of the Mass Tech Executive Committee to order at 2:04 p.m.

Agenda Item I Approval of Minutes (motion item)

Undersecretary Stanton began the meeting with a vote to approve the prior meeting’s minutes. After a brief period of discussion and upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED by a roll call vote, with Ms. Chen abstaining:

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 Ninety-Third Meeting of the Executive Committee, held on January 16, 2025, by Zoom videoconference, as the formal Minutes thereof.

Agenda Item II Report of the Board Chair

Undersecretary Stanton reported that significant progress had been made to date implementing the initiatives contained in the economic development legislation, the Mass Leads Act. Undersecretary Stanton noted that Mass Tech is spearheading several of the initiatives, such as the Artificial Intelligence (“AI”) Hub, currently being implemented by Mass Tech’s Mr. Pat Larkin and Ms. Sharron Wall. Undersecretary Stanton then asked Chief of Staff Ms. Brianna Wehrs to provide the Chief Executive Officer Report on behalf of Ms. Kirk.

Agenda Item III Report of the Chief Executive Officer

Ms. Wehrs began the Chief Executive Officer Report by stating that the availability of federal funding for the Mass Broadband Institute’s (“MBI’s”) ongoing and future broadband initiatives remains unclear. She indicated that Mass Tech is working closely with the Executive Office of Economic Development (“EOED”) on a path forward and that Mass Tech is evaluating the risks associated with the potential termination or freeze of federal broadband funding by the new administration. Ms. Wehrs stated that other federal funding, such as funding for the NEMC Hub, is not considered to be at risk at this time. Undersecretary Stanton further stated that EOED is also working closely with the Commonwealth’s Federal Funds and Infrastructure Office, as well as the Executive Office for Administration and Finance, and the Governor’s Office, to determine whether federal broadband funds will be available for MBI’s programs, but in the meantime, Mass Tech and the Board should continue to operate as usual, including with regard to the broadband item on today’s agenda. Undersecretary Stanton also committed to keeping the Board informed on further developments.

Next, Ms. Wehrs reported that it was evident from Ms. Kirk’s one-on-one outreach to Board members that the Board would appreciate additional context when presented with motion items, and Ms. Wehrs confirmed that suggestion would be implemented going forward beginning with today’s meeting. Undersecretary Stanton then asked Ms. Jody Jones to introduce the next agenda item.

Agenda Item IV Mass Broadband Institute – Broadband, Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program – Final Proposal Consulting Services – Accenture (motion item)

Ms. Jones, Program Executive for MBI, explained that today’s agenda item is part of MBI’s BEAD Program, under which MBI is required to submit a Final Proposal to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (“NTIA”) describing how MBI will achieve universal broadband coverage in the Commonwealth. Ms. Jones then introduced Mr. Michael Baldino, MBI’s Director and General Counsel, to explain the item in detail. Mr. Baldino stated that MBI is requesting that the Board approve Accenture as the consultant to assist MBI in drafting and submitting its Final Proposal to NTIA. Mr. Baldino explained that Accenture was the highest scoring applicant in response to MBI’s Request for Proposals from qualified consultants. Mr. Baldino also confirmed that it is possible, and perhaps likely, that NTIA will change the

requirements, or make other changes to the availability of federal funding for MBI's BEAD Program, therefore Mr. Baldino ensured the Board that any agreement with Accenture for consultant services would be flexible enough to accommodate any such changes. Mr. Baldino further explained that federal funding for MBI's BEAD Program is subject to cost reimbursement, in other words, neither the Commonwealth nor MBI have the funding currently in hand.

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 Chief Executive Officer to expend an amount not to exceed \$598,860 to Accenture LLP for consulting services to support the development of the Final Proposal for the Commonwealth's implementation of the Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) Program, which shall be submitted to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) for federal review and approval, as presented. This contract is awarded under the BEAD Final Proposal Consulting Services, Solicitation No. 2025-MBI-04, and shall be funded through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, through a contract with the Executive Office of Economic Development, and is subject to confirmation from NTIA and the Executive Office of Economic Development that funds specific to this program remain available for disbursement. The form and terms of the agreement with Accenture are subject to approval by Mass Tech Collaborative's Chief Executive Officer.

Agenda Item V Center for Advanced Manufacturing (CAM) – MA Manufacturing Accelerate Program (MMAP) – Massachusetts Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MassMEP) (motion item)

Ms. Lilly Fitzgerald, CAM Director, introduced the next agenda item and provided an explanation and overview of CAM's MMAP. Ms. Fitzgerald explained that under the MMAP, small and medium sized manufacturers can apply for up to \$200,000 in grants for capital equipment with a 1:1 funding match requirement. Companies must collaborate with a non-profit or academic partner serving as their contracting agent. Since 2021, explained Ms. Fitzgerald, CAM has held six (6) funding rounds and has provided awards to ninety-nine (99) Massachusetts manufacturers under the MMAP. Ms. Fitzgerald explained that each application received in the current round was evaluated and scored on criteria including the number of jobs created and retained, collaboration with ecosystem partners, and elements that contribute to geographic, social, racial, and economically equitable outcomes. She then asked Mr. Austin Vella, CAM's Community Engagement and Marketing Manager, to discuss the proposed awards in detail. Mr. Vella noted that CAM was requesting the Board approve awards to twenty (20) manufacturers for a total amount of \$3.2 million. These companies, explained Mr. Vella, will create up to 125 new jobs and upskill more than 100 existing employees. Mr. Vella then discussed the background of several of the proposed awardees, including RIBCRAFT USA in Marblehead, Massachusetts, which intends to use the MMAP award to purchase a needed forklift.

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 to the Massachusetts Manufacturing Extension Partnership (“MassMEP”) in an amount not to exceed \$3,247,592.64 under the Massachusetts Manufacturing Accelerate Program (“MMAAP”) (NOFO No. 2025-CAM-01, Round 6), to be funded from item 7002-8059 of Chapter 238 of the Acts of 2024, as presented. The grant award is subject to the execution of a grant agreement in a form and with terms approved by Mass Tech Collaborative’s Chief Executive Officer.

Having determined that there was no other business to discuss, Undersecretary Stanton adjourned the meeting at 2:40 p.m.

A TRUE COPY ATTEST: (Secretary)

DATE:

Materials and Exhibits Used at this Meeting:

1. Draft Minutes for the January 16, 2025, Mass Tech Collaborative Executive Committee Meeting (motion item)
2. Mass Broadband Institute – Broadband, Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program – Final Proposal Consulting Services – Accenture (motion item)
3. Center for Advanced Manufacturing – MA Manufacturing Accelerate Program (MMAAP) – Massachusetts Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MassMEP) (motion item)