

January 11, 2024, Regular Board Meeting

7:30 – 9:00 AM

7106 W Will D Alton Lane, Suite 103A, Spokane, WA 99224

Minutes – Board Meeting

Attendance:

S3R3 Board Members physically present: Al French, Paul Katovich, Betsy Wilkerson

S3R3 Board Members present online: Greg Birchell, Larry Krauter, Scott Simmons

S3R3 Board Members absent: Garrett Jones

S3R3 Solutions Staff present: Karen Corkins, Project Manager, Sueann Herkel, Executive Administrative Manager; Taudd Hume, Legal Counsel; Chris Pengra, Executive Director

Guests physically present: Julia McHugh, Citizen of Palisades Neighborhood

Guests present online: Marcia Davis, City of Spokane

Meeting called to order 7:32 AM

Welcome and Introductions:

Roll call conducted, quorum is present.

Public Comment/Courtesy of the Floor:

Julia McHugh voiced concerns about well contamination in the Palisades Neighborhood and commended Commissioner French for positive involvement. She urged consideration for water supply in any development within S3R3 Solutions' boundaries.

Action Item No. 1 Consent Agenda

Board Chair Al French called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda Action Item No. 1 which includes minutes for the January 11, 2024 and November 2023 Financials. Board Member Betsy Wilkerson motioned for approval, Board Member Paul Katovich seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Project Updates, Presentations and Briefings

A comprehensive discussion unfolded regarding S3R3's endorsement of the American Aerospace Materials Manufacturing Center Tech Hub. Executive Director Chris Pengra provided an overarching summary of the \$70 million grant, outlining S3R3's specific focus on two key components: Workforce Development and Entrepreneur & Business Development.

Board Chair Al French expanded on crucial details, emphasizing that the Tech Hub, funded by the grant, will be housed in the old Triumph building with a primary focus on research and technology. Board Vice Chair Larry Krauter highlighted our region's successful selection out of 400 applicants and emphasized S3R3's pivotal role with financial and in-kind commitments.

As part of the in-kind commitment, S3R3 contemplates hiring a full-time employee dedicated to workforce development for the Tech Hub, incurring a net cost ranging from \$62,000 to \$91,000. This move addresses the complexity of current workforce development programs and state agencies. The

envisioned role involves coordinating with business and education communities, focusing on community impact, conducting labor market research and analysis, and undertaking primary research to comprehend industry needs.

The discussion underscored challenges related to securing a specific labor force for the Tech Hub, highlighting the broader issue faced by industries in the region—the need for a skilled workforce. Executive Chris Pengra proposed collaboration with regional professionals to enhance the existing workforce, a proposition unanimously supported by all board members.

Further deliberation addressed the financial commitment required for a 10% match annually over ten years to fully realize the \$70 million grant. While S3R3 does not bear the entire cost, a portion of the current S3R3 marketing budget will be allocated to assist with the match. Board Chair Al French affirmed confidence in meeting the thresholds with community partners.

To formalize these commitments, S3R3 board members pledged to allocate personnel, matching funds, and a percentage of the current marketing budget to the Tech Hub. The briefing concludes with the announcement that an action item for a resolution will be presented at the February board meeting.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

None

Board Member Items

Board Chair Al French remarked on the alignment between the new leadership at NIMA and the direction S3R3 is heading.

Board Vice Chair Larry Krauter announced an upcoming direct flight to Charlotte via American Airlines at the Spokane International Airport.

8:41 AM - Board Chair Al French announced he had to leave for another meeting and turned the meeting over to Vice Chair Larry Krauter. At the request of Vice Chair Larry Krauter, Counsel read the Board into Executive Session.

8:54 AM – Executive Session ends and the January 11, 2024 Board Meeting was adjourned.