



## **Andy Hill Cancer Research Endowment (CARE) Fund Board Meeting Minutes December 8, 2021**

The following board members, constituting a quorum, were present: Elaine Albert, Leslie Alexandre, Fred Appelbaum, Thomas Brown, David Byrd, Carol Dahl, Steve Harr, Eunice Hostetter, Gary Kaplan, Beth Lawlor, Jennifer Kampsula Wong

Board Members Absent: Cliff Berkman

CARE Fund Staff Attendees: Laura Flores Cantrell, Peter Choi, Sarah Hiller, Christie Roening

Guest Attendees: Sandra Adix (WA State Assistant Attorney General), Allegra Calder (BERK Consulting), Dr. Darrick Carter (HDT Bio), Beth Harvey (ESI), Dr. André Lieber (University of Washington), Keith Swenson (WA State Department of Commerce)

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Wednesday, December 8, 2021, 3:00–5:00 p.m. (PT)

### **1. Welcome**

The meeting was called to order at 3:04 p.m. A quorum was confirmed with a roll call of the board by the Chair, Dr. David Byrd.

### **2. Consent Agenda**

David Byrd presented the consent agenda consisting of the Final Draft September 14, 2021 Ad Hoc Committee Meeting Minutes, Final Draft September 15, 2021 CARE Board Meeting Minutes, and Final Draft September 17, 2021 Ad Hoc Committee Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: David Byrd made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented; Jennifer Kampsula Wong seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

### **3. CARE Fund Executive Director's Update**

Laura Flores Cantrell provided updates to the board.

She informed the board of the statutory requirement to issue an annual report to the public. The final draft of the annual report was provided in the board meeting materials. Feedback from the board is welcome and can be sent to Sarah Hiller.

Laura provided local, state, and federal government affairs updates. Concerning the local government, Laura provided an update on \$500,000 in funding awarded to the CARE Fund by the King County Council in July as part of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to local governments. Laura informed the Board that contract negotiations are in process with the County.

She provided an update regarding the CARE Fund's state appropriation from the tax on vapor products. The CARE Fund's share of the latest Department of Revenue updated forecast is higher than originally forecasted when the biennium budget was passed.

Laura informed the Board that Lyset Cadena is CARE Fund's the new government affairs lead in Olympia. Laura provided a brief update about possible name confusion between the CARE Fund and Washington State's new long-term care insurance mandate called Washington Cares Fund. Staff will continue to monitor this issue and address any name confusion.

At the federal level, CARE Fund submitted a Build Back Better (Phase 1) concept proposal to the Economic Development Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce. A decision is anticipated in December.

Lastly, Laura welcomed Christie Roening as CARE Fund's new Program Coordinator.

#### **4. Breakthrough Research Grant**

[Beth Lawlor and Elaine Albert joined the call.]

David Byrd provided a brief award history for the Breakthrough Research grant, *Recombinant Epithelial Junction Opener Protein for Enhanced Drug Penetration in Epithelial Tumors*, noting that this grant was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and was provided a no-cost extension through November 2022 to accomplish Year 2 milestones. He then welcomed principal investigator Dr. Lieber and collaborator Dr. Carter to provide a project update.

Dr. Lieber and Dr. Carter presented the project's progress and the preliminary findings and responded to questions from the board.

#### **5. Distinguished Researchers Grant Cycle 5 (Reissue) Award Decision**

[Keith Swenson and Gary Kaplan joined the call.]

David Byrd introduced the applications that were submitted for the Distinguished Researchers Cycle 5 (Reissue) Grant Program. Five applications were received and reviewed by American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS). Of the five applications, American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS)'s scientific peer review committee rated four as "Recommended" and one as "Worthy of Consideration".

[Thomas Brown and Allegra Calder joined the call.]

David Byrd explained that the board had previously approved a maximum total of \$1,000,000 for this cycle, with awards up to \$500,000 per grant and the Final Draft Strategic Plan for the period July 1, 2021-June 30, 2023 proposes one to two Distinguished Research cycles and up to five awards totaling \$2.5 million. Therefore, awarding more than two grants for this round may be an option.

Board members were asked to disclose potential conflicts of interest and the nature of the conflict prior to the discussion regarding applications.

For the three applications from Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, three board members disclosed potential conflicts of interest: Fred Appelbaum due to his employment at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, David Byrd due to the potential merger between the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance and Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, and Beth Lawlor due to her position as an affiliate member of the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center.

For the one application from the University of Washington, Fred Appelbaum disclosed a conflict of interest due to his involvement in the recruitment process of the applicant. David Byrd, Beth Lawlor, and Elaine Albert each disclosed a potential conflict due to his/her respective employment or affiliation with the University of Washington.

For the one application from Seattle Children's Research Institute, Fred Appelbaum disclosed a conflict of interest due to his involvement in the recruitment process of the applicant. Beth Lawlor and Elaine Albert each disclosed a potential conflict due to her employment or affiliation with Seattle Children's Research Institute.

MOTION: Carol Dahl made a motion to award the four grants rated as "Recommended":

- Up to \$500,000 to Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center for the research project *Identification and Clinical Utility of Genetic Risk Factors Contributing to Prostate Cancer Risk and Health Disparities* by the Principal Investigator Burcu Darst.
- Up to \$500,000 to Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center for the research project *Improving Breast Cancer Disparities Among Women of Color* lead by the Principal Investigator Vida Henderson.
- Up to \$500,000 to Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center for the research *Improving Engagement in Advance Care Planning and Quality End-of-Life Care among Underserved Cancer Patient Populations* lead by the Principal Investigator Megan Shen.
- Up to \$345,000 to the University of Washington for the research *Spatiotemporal Mapping of Diverse Cellular Responses to Lung Cancer Therapeutics* lead by the Principal Investigator Devin Schweppe.

Leslie Alexander seconded the motion. The motion was approved. Elaine Albert, Fred Appelbaum, David Byrd, and Beth Lawlor abstained.

## **6. Department of Commerce Update**

Keith Swenson, Deputy Assistant Director at the Washington Department of Commerce, provided an agency update.

## **7. Strategic Plan Update**

Allegra Calder presented the Final Draft CARE Fund Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023 (July 1, 2021-June 30, 2023). By consensus, the Board approved renaming the tentatively named "Exploratory Research Grant" to "Breakthrough Seed Funding". The CARE Fund

Strategic Plan for the period July 1, 2021—June 30, 2023, as amended, was adopted by consensus.

## 8. Board Chair's Update

David Byrd invited Beth Harvey to briefly introduce herself. Beth gave an update of her role as Executive Director for Evergreen Social Impact (ESI).

David Byrd then noted that as the employer of record, Evergreen Social Impact is establishing human resources policies and practices, part of which involved completing a compensation analysis of all staff positions based on external market data, including the Council on Foundations Salary Survey Data. Laura worked with ESI on CARE Fund staff salaries. David Byrd worked with ESI's Executive Director, Beth Harvey, to determine the CARE Fund Executive Director's salary. David invited board members to contact him directly should they have any questions.

David Byrd discussed board recruitment and renominations. A representative from the Governor's Office is planning to present to the board and answer questions at the February meeting.

Lastly, David Byrd and others acknowledged and thanked Leslie for her many contributions to the Board and wished her well in her retirement.

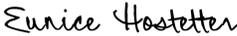
## 9. Public Comment

No members of the public were present to provide comment.

## 10. Adjourn

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:58 p.m.

I certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes approved by the CARE Board of Directors at a regular meeting of the board on February 23, 2022.

DocuSigned by:  
  
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Eunice Hostetter, CARE Board Secretary

2/25/2022  
Date