## Open Meeting Texas Space Commission, Board of Directors

Minutes, Thursday – May 22, 2025 1:00 p.m. CDT

Headquarters: Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) - Greer State Office Building 125 East 11<sup>th</sup> Street - Austin, Texas 78701

## Members, Board of Directors - Attending in-Person:

- 1. Ms. Gwen Griffin, chair
- 2. Dr. Nancy Currie-Gregg
- 3. Mr. Brad Morrison

### **Members, Board of Directors – Attending virtually:**

- 1. Ms. Sassie Duggleby
- 2. Mr. John Shannon
- 3. Mr. Kirk Shireman, secretary
- 4. Mr. Evan Loomis

#### **Member, Board of Directors – Absent:**

1. Dr. Heather Wilson

# Member, Texas Aerospace Research & Space Economy Consortium (TARSEC) Executive Committee – Attending virtually:

1. Ms. Stephanie Murphy, chair

#### **Guests**, invited presenter – Attending in-Person:

Mr. Aaron Demerson
 President/CEO, Space Force Association

#### **Staff, TSC personnel – Attending in-person:**

- 1. Mr. Joseph Behnke, General Counsel
- 2. Ms. Kate Caldwell, Senior Communications Specialist
- 3. Mr. Blake Calvert, Deputy Executive Director
- 4. Ms. Erin Chancellor, Chief Compliance Officer
- 5. Mr. Norman Garza Jr., Executive Director

#### 1) Call to Order:

### Roll call.

At 1:00 p.m. CDT, Board Chair Gwen Griffin called the meeting to order and directed the Executive Director to call the roll of TSC board members. A quorum was confirmed to be present.

### Remarks by Board Chairman:

directors, as well as the different tiers of partnership. Mr. Demerson went on to describe key activities the TxEDC has taken to market Texas both nationally and internationally, highlighting topics and conversations that relate to the space industry.

# 6) Consideration of Space Exploration & Aeronautics Research Fund (SEARF) Grant Program Applications for Funding

#### a) Action Item.

Board Chair Gwen Griffin opened discussion about the SEARF grant <u>program</u>, reminding the Board – and the public – that, pursuant to Texas Space Commission rules, if a Board member has a conflict of interest, the Board member will disclose that conflict of interest during this Open Meeting as the matter arises and recuse him or herself from participating in the review, discussion, deliberation and vote on that application. She also stated that all board members have already disclosed their written notice as required by the Rules, and they have not accessed information regarding the applications in which they are conflicted.

Ms. Griffin raised application #25-0208-G from the West Central Texas Council of Governments for consideration, and confirmed there were no conflicts of interest.

Ms. Griffin then described the proposed project and asked if there was any discussion. There was no discussion, so she called for a motion to approve the award for application #25-0208-G, in the amount of up to \$175,000 for research costs conditioned on the applicant's successful completion of the Commission's administrative background assessments and acceptance of Grant Agreement terms. Secretary Kirk Shireman made a motion to approve the award and Board Director Brad Morrison seconded the motion by Mr. Shireman.

The board unanimously voted to approve the award. Ms. Griffin directed agency staff to move forward on awarding this grant, pending the applicant's successful completion of an administrative background assessment and acceptance of the Grant Agreement terms.

Ms. Griffin raised application #25-0051-B from FluxWorks, Inc. for consideration, with the understanding that Board Director Evan Loomis (absent) previously disclosed a conflict of interest on this application. She then asked if any other Board Members have a conflict of interest, which they did not.

Ms. Griffin then described the proposed project and asked if there was any discussion. There was no discussion, so she called for a motion to approve the award for application #25-0051-B, in the amount of up to \$347,196 for development costs conditioned on the applicant's successful completion of the Commission's administrative background assessments and acceptance of Grant Agreement terms. Board Director Brad Morrison made a motion to approve the award and Board Director John Shannon seconded the motion by Mr. Morrison.

for application #25-0123-B, in the amount of up to \$4,707,457 for eligible costs conditioned on the applicant's successful completion of the Commission's administrative background assessments and acceptance of Grant Agreement terms. Board Director John Shannon made a motion to approve the award and Board Member Sassie Duggleby seconded the motion by Mr. Shannon.

The Board members unanimously voted to approve the award. Mr. Morrison directed agency staff to move forward on awarding this grant, pending the applicant's successful completion of the administrative background assessments and acceptance of Grant Agreement terms.

Mr. Morrison then turned the meeting back over to Chair Gwen Griffin, who concluded this agenda item and noted the progress of the Board over the past year, noting the higher education applications currently being evaluated. Secretary Kirk Shireman also offered his thanks to Joseph Behnke, Chief Counsel from the Office of the Governor for his work, stating that the accomplishments listed by Ms. Griffin wouldn't have been possible without his guidance.

## 7) Adjournment:

At 1:39 p.m. CDT, Board Chair Gwen Griffin moved to adjourn the meeting. There were no objections, and the meeting was adjourned.

Wen do fn A Chair or Designee

Date

6-24-25