

Science and Technology Board Minutes of the 21 February 2008 Meeting

1. BOARD COMPOSITION:

Dr. Marilyn M. Freeman (Chair)
Director, Natick Soldier Research, Development &
Engineering Center - Present

BG R Mark Brown
Commanding General, Natick Soldier Systems Center /PEO Soldier - Present

COL Beau Freund
Commander USA Research Institute of Environmental Medicine – Present

Dr. Barbara A. Avellini
Director, Navy Clothing & Textile Research Facility – Not Present

LTC Craig Rettie
Project Manager
Force Sustainment Systems – Not Present

COL Gregory J. Ulsh
Garrison Commander, Soldier Systems Center Garrison – Not Present

Mr. Joe A. DeBlase
Chief Clothing Designer, US Coast Guard Clothing Design & Technical Office –
Present

The Honorable Daniel O'Connell
Secretary, Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Economic
Development – Represented by Undersecretary Greg Bialecki

Mr. James D. Shields
President/CEO, Draper Laboratory – Present

Mr. Mitchell Adams
Executive Director, Massachusetts Technology Collaborative – Represented by
Mr. Robert Kispert

Mr. Robert L. Culver
President/CEO, Mass Development - Represented by Mr. Richard Montuori

Dr. Jack M. Wilson
President, University of Massachusetts - Represented by Mr. Jeff Brancato

Dr, Stephen A. Jamison
Chairman, Massachusetts Defense Technology Initiative - Present

Mr. Michael J. Ahearn
Director, Integrated Logistics, SBC – Present

Mr. A. Theodore Welte, CCE`
President, MetroWest Chamber of Commerce - Present

2. Agenda: Attachment 1

3. Discussions

The meeting was brought to order by Dr. Freeman
This was the second meeting of this Board. Each Board member present introduced themselves.

The initial introductions and opening comments was followed by:

a. BG Brown – Thanked the members present for taking time out of their valuable schedules to continue participation in this newly formed Board activity. Summary of extemporaneous comments:

- Expressed the value of such a forum, composed of senior leaders from various sectors in the greater MA community, to engender a greater understanding of the Army, its priorities, and missions. In turn, it allows a forum for the Natick Soldier Systems Center (NSSC) community to gain a greater understanding of the community beyond the legal/contractual relationships. “This is a win-win relationship.”

- Offered some projection of the value of the relationship one can anticipate by pointing to the successes of similar forum in other parts of country. Specifically, he pointed to the Aberdeen Proving Ground’s S&T Board and its partnership with their local and state government and academic communities as proof of major positive paradigm shifts resulting from the association. He points to the expansion of private sector companies growing outside the APG fence but in the near proximity as proof of value to the private sector. Representative examples of this growth include Booz Allen, SASIC, CACI, Battelle, Computer Science Corporation EAI Corp, MITRE Corp, Teledyne Brown Engineering, to name but a few and many other small businesses established to complement the growing APG mission. He pointed to the successes at Ft Detrick and Ft George Meade in MD and Huntsville in Ala as other examples of successes when the

public, private, and academic sectors come together. It did not merely happen. It required the involvement of groups like this one.

- He announced the movement to NSSC of two of his Program Managers – Clothing and Equipment and Survivability. He also provided at the mission of the Central Management Office was also in the process of being established at NSSC

- He expressed and optimism that as the relationship matures, the relationship can serve as a catalyst to economic activity outside the NSSC gates.

- He announced the ceremony to name NSSC buildings after MA Medal of Honor recipients scheduled for 19 April 2008. All Board members have been invited.

- finally, he mentioned scheduling a Soldier Show on Beacon Hill later this year. Coordination with Senator Spilka's office was on-going. More to come.

b. Administrative activity adding an Annex to the Articles of Collaboration (Attached) was offered to the group and accepted without comment. The Annex referred to the process of adding and withdrawing members, resolving disputes should any arise and the median and mechanism of communicating progress reports. All members initialed the addendum as evidence of concurrence.

c. Dr. Marilyn Freeman – Expressed similar sentiments to BG Brown's regarding the anticipation of value in the Board's relationships and activity.

- She then offered a summary of FY 07 and FY 08:

- o Science and Technology Program funding levels.

- o Congressional Funding.

She reminded the membership that activity relating to encouraging advocacy by Congressional members to the funding profile of the government activity is prohibited to government employees.

She then offered some information to the on-going productive relationships with the Board member organizations including:

- o Natick Soldier Research, Development, and Engineering Center (NSRDEC) association with UMass Lowell where Natick scientists serve as adjunct faculty/visiting scientists.

- o Listed the active contracts and agreements with the UMass System.

- o Listed the contracts and agreements with Draper Laboratory.

Dr. Freeman offered to invite the sister Army Research, Development, and Engineering Centers to future Board meetings to discuss their initiatives, how they relate not only to the Army, but to the NSRDEC. Further, she offered that the Board may find valuable, a listing of all the NSRDEC Cooperative Research and Development Agreements (CRADAs), Memorandum of Agreements, all Congressional Funding regardless of ultimate performance.

Undersecretary Bialecki expressed interest in the Center's associations with all MA companies and state academic campuses, including UMass Medical.

d. Mr John Stone provided the guiding principles associated with such a Board, specifically The Federal Advisory Committee Act. This was responding to a 28 Nov 2007 Board request. He covered the Legislation, regulations, definitions, exceptions and offered some examples. Since this is not an advisory board, but merely a forum for discussing topics of mutual interest, boundaries and requirements must be understood. Mr. Stone also commented on the anti-lobbying guidance, Hatch Act and restrictions which apply to federal government Senior Executive Service and General Officers. Finally, he provided some guidance applicable to ethics.

e. Mr. Richard Walunas walked the membership through the Web Site being set up as a vehicle for transparency. The site is to insure that all the information discussed and presented to the Board is also available to the community at large. The site will carry minutes of the meetings, listing of attendees, and slides of presentations to the Board. Additionally, the site will have links to the Broad Agency Announcements and guidance relating to doing business with the NSSC.

f. COL Richard Hansen, Project Manager, Soldier Warrior provided an orientation of the new Land Warrior System in theatre on a limited basis and offered some vignettes of its utility and success in live operations. He addressed the system's capability improvements and anticipated future for the system.

g. Dr. Jack Obusek provided a summary of activity surrounding Human Dimension & Cognitive Performance and the working of a newly established Senior Steering Group to address this challenge. The presentation covered the total scope, initial focus, group composition, and some definition of the task.

h. Ms Jean Herbert described the Center of Excellence for High Performance Fiber including the scope of the facility, the equipment within the Center, explanation of novel fiber technology, and on-going development activity regarding Novel Bi/Tri-Component fiber within the NSRDEC. Comment was made that once the research effort results in generating high performance fibers; these will end up in soldier items and will require skilled manufacturing to meet the anticipated need. Consideration now, in terms of addressing the capital equipment to tool up, may be prudent if MA companies hope to be competitive in securing the contracts anticipated to come from the US Army.

i. As a catalyst to generate discussion, Mr. James Shield, President/CEO of Draper Laboratory presented a concept of a Soldier Innovation Center. The concept describes a partnership with MA and its Universities, Companies, and Communities. Mr. Shields offers his view of benefit, opportunity, and some next step considerations, particularly in terms of impact to the first responders, fire fighters, law enforcement, and the commercial markets generally.

General comments following the presentation:

- Ref Chart # 9 – What is envisioned to be the interaction with the Communication & Electronic RDEC?

- Prior to fully endorsing, the Board would like to see the Business Plan and what will the Center do and what will the Center not do, including more specificity in terms of goals and objectives.

- Are there existing facilities? Res – this is not a capital intensive effort. It is more of an intellectual endeavor – “virtual” vice “capital” concept.

The intent of the presentation was to begin defining technology needs, jog the collective thinking regarding how to participate, and generate some thoughts and actions external to this group.

4. Summary:

Undersecretary Bialecki - Some of the capabilities in Ma include engineering, materiel, environmental, and life sciences. Identify 5-6 aspects which have some level of capabilities with the capabilities in MA.

We need to build on something we want to do anyway. E.g. Life Science Initiatives; the 5 regional centers in Life Sciences. What makes sense and do we need to bring resources to bear.

Dr. Freeman suggests that we look at the model in Detroit on the subject of Next Energy.

Undersecretary Bialecki – there is a new program which will focus on a key industry sector each month. The Defense technology sector will be a focus in the spring. The challenge is to describe the significance of this sector on the regional economy.

Undersecretary Bialecki – Talk to MA Dev off line to compile what is going on in MA at the state level, academia and within MA Dev.

COL Freund – We should examine the feasibility of sabbatical programs as a no cost, value added initiative. In the process consider exchange Inter Personnel Agreements and well as the exchange of scientists.

BG Brown – We, NSSC, have significant capabilities to help small business and start ups focus and funnel those small businesses. UMass commented that they could help in this regard.

General comment: We should all be talking off the same “power point”. How much Defense \$s in MA; What technology is being “spun off”? How many people are employed by the Defense Industry in MA? Include the AF.

Finally, as part of knowledge sharing, a magazine recently devoted to the PEO Soldier initiatives can be found at:

>http://www.usaasc.info/alt_online/toc.cfm?iD=0802

5. Specific Tasks for the Work Group to address at the next meeting:

- a. List total CRADAs, MOU's, Congressional, dollars.
- b. Contract activity throughout MA.
- c. Provide a link on the Web site to the ASALT Magazine which spotlights the PEO Soldier.
- d. Look at the "Next Energy" in Detroit as a model.
- e. Draft Business Plan supporting the Draper Laboratory Proposal.
- f. Draft metric describing the Defense Industry in MA, e.g. people employed, dollar expenditures etc. Include the AF.
- g. How to bring an agenda item to the table.

6. Next Meeting:

Schedule for May or the month in which the Defense Sector will be the MA focus and make the meeting part of the month's program.

AGENDA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY BOARD
21 February 2008

1030-1045 Opening Remarks:

Dr. Freeman
BG Brown

1045-1055 Administrative Actions:

Minutes of 28 November 2007 Accepted
Outstanding business of the last meeting:
Additions/Withdrawals of Membership
Charter Dispute Resolution

1055-1115 Directed Actions from 28 Nov Meeting:

Federal Advisory Committee Act – Mr. John
Stone
Web Design Progress – Mr. Richard Walunas

1115-1205 Update of Natick Soldier Systems Center Activity/Initiatives:

1115-1130 Land Warrior – Experience of System in the Field- COL Hansen

1130-1145 Human Dimension Initiative – Dr. Jack Obusek

1145-1155 High Performance Fiber Center – Ms Jean Herbert

1155-1205 Thermal Test Facility Status – Dr Marilyn

Freeman

1205-1220 Proposed Initiative:

Soldier Innovation Institute – Draper Laboratory

1220-1235 Executive Session

1235 Meeting Adjourns

ANNEX TO THE ARTICLES OF COLLABORATION

1. **REPORTING STATUS:** The board will report the status of its activities through the following:

- a. Meeting minutes
- b. Annual performance reports

2. **ADDITIONS AND WITHDRAWALS:**

- a. Entities will petition the board for membership.
- b. Any member may elect to withdraw from this board at any time.

A withdrawing member should provide 30 days notice to the board. The withdrawal of any member to the charter terminates only that member's board membership. This charter will stay in effect for the remaining members.

- c. If a member withdraws, it has a continuing obligation under this charter to safeguard proprietary and other protected or sensitive information and any rights relating to intellectual property or technical data that it received as a result of its participation as a member of this board.

3. **DISPUTES UNDER THIS CHARTER:**

- a. If any members of the board have a dispute and can reach an agreement that will settle the dispute. If the concerned members cannot settle the dispute between them, they agree to submit the matter to the entire board for decision.

- b. Until any disputes are settled, the members agree that they will continue to fulfill all obligations made pursuant to this charter.