

PISCES Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

15 January 2020

10:00 a.m. Hawaii Standard Time

I. Call to Order/Roll Call:

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order by PISCES Board Chairperson, Henk Rogers at 10:13 a.m., HST.

Other members in attendance included:

Kim Binsted
Chung Chang
Luke Flynn
Dennis Gibson
Rachel Solemsaas

Also in attendance:

PISCES staff: Rodrigo Romo, Polly Roth

II. Approval of Board meeting minutes:

Draft minutes for the January 9, 2019 Board meeting were circulated prior to the meeting. Mr. Flynn made a motion to accept the January 9, 2019 minutes as submitted. Mr. Chang seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes.

III. Informational Update on PISCES FY20 Budget, Restrictions and Adjustments made to meet the budget restrictions:

Mr. Romo provided an informational update on preliminary Calendar 2019 operating costs of \$551.7K compared to the budget of \$548.6K, explaining that expenditure in excess of budget was due to year-end spending to use funds that formerly could have been carried into the next calendar year.

The 2020 budget is based on total funds available of \$479K. This funding represents the \$550K appropriation less a \$96.4K restriction, plus \$25.5K available in the PISCES Special Fund. The total budget is \$478.5K, and was achieved mainly by reducing staff by 0.75 FTE and eliminating paid internships.

IV. Informational update on RCUH Contract Changes, future plans/options for PISCES and update on 2020 Legislative actions relating to PISCES:

Mr. Romo notified the Board that RCUH feels that continued administrative services in support of PISCES will not be possible because statutory requirements preclude support of a State organization operating mainly on General Funds. The calendar year 2020 DBEDT-RCUH contract for administrative services for PISCES will be the last one unless the PISCES funding situation changes. Since all PISCES employees are currently RCUH employees, it will be necessary for the PISCES positions to be transferred to DBEDT.

A House Bill is being drafted by Representative Mark Nakashima that will create six PISCES

positions within DBEDT, and addresses other PISCES matters as well. Senator Wakai will introduce a companion bill. The bill proposes to:

- Place PISCES directly as an attached agency to DBEDT rather than being attached to the Office of Aerospace Development;
- Make an adjustment to the Board of Directors by replacing the Ex-Officio Executive Director board seat and replacing it with an Ex-Officio board seat for the UH-Hilo Chancellor or his/her designated appointee;
- Allows the Board of Directors to appoint the PISCES Executive Director;
- Amend the statute on PISCES annual reporting requirements to better reflect current activities, and;
- Create 6 PISCES positions within DBEDT and ensure comparable salaries and benefits to the current RCUH positions.

V. Informational Update on PISCES operations 2019:

Mr. Romo, PISCES Program Manager, provided an update on calendar 2019 operations based on the materials that were provided to Board members in advance.

VI. 2020 Plans and Objectives:

Mr. Romo, PISCES Program Manager, provided an update on plans and objectives for 2020 operations based on the materials that were provided to Board members in advance.

VII. Schedule next Board meeting and Adjourn:

PISCES staff will circulate a poll to find a time for the next meeting, likely to be held in the first half of May 2020 in order to provide a timely review of legislative status. The meeting was adjourned at 11:03 a.m., HST.