#### DRAFT

# Advisory Committee of the Regenerative Medicine Research Fund

Regular Meeting Tuesday, February 7, 2017

A regular meeting of the **Regenerative Medicine Research Fund Advisory Committee** (the "Committee") was held on Tuesday, February 7, 2017, at the office of Connecticut Innovations, 865 Brook Street, Rocky Hill, Connecticut.

<u>Call to Order</u>: Noting the presence of a quorum, Mr. Wurzer called the Advisory Committee meeting to order at 2:14 p.m.

Committee members present: David Wurzer (acting Chair); Ronald Hart, Ph.D. (by phone); Christopher Heinen, Ph.D. (by phone); Diane Krause, Ph.D. (by phone); Mark Tomishima, Ph.D. (by phone); David Goldhamer, Ph.D. (by phone); Paul Pescatello Ph.D. (by phone).

Other Attendees: Ariel Drew (CI); Whitney Brown, Ph.D. (CI, by phone); Alison Bonds (Yale, by phone); Leslie Larson (CI); Philip Siuta (CI); Dr. Milton Wallack (by phone).

# **Approval of Minutes**

As there was no discussion or questions on the minutes as drafted, Mr. Wurzer asked for a consent agenda vote for the following meeting minutes:

- 9/20/16 Regular Meeting
- 10/18/16 Special Meeting
- 11/8/16 Special Meeting

Upon a motion made by Dr. Krause, seconded by Dr. Tomishima, the Advisory Committee members voted unanimously in favor of accepting the meeting minutes as listed above, by consent vote.

### 2016 RMRF Funding Update

Mr. Siuta addressed the 2016 RMRF funding award delay. He stated that the Connecticut Bond Commission has yet to include the \$6M of RMRF awards on the agenda for review and approval, and reiterated that CI is not in the position to contribute to or commit to the Bond Commission agenda or its meetings. It is anticipated that the 2016 award dollars may be included on the February or March agenda. A discussion ensued.

# **RMRF Advocacy Presentation – Milton Wallack**

Dr. Wallack presented to the Committee the lobbying efforts that the RMRF Advocacy Sub-Committee has been involved with since Fall 2016. He stated that Sub-Committee members continue their efforts by meeting with state legislators and key opinion leaders in an effort to ensure the future of RMRF funding. Dr. Wallack and the Advocacy Sub-Committee will continue to update the Committee on a regular basis. The Committee thanked Dr. Wallack and the Sub-Committee for their efforts and dedication.

# **2017 RMRF Proposal Update**

Ms. Drew provided the Committee with a recap of proposals submitted in response to the 2017 RFP call. She stated that qualifying proposals are currently under scientific peer review, and the Committee will meet in July to create a funding strategy for 2017.

# **Adjournment:**

Upon a motion made by Dr. Hart, seconded by Dr. Heinen, the Advisory Committee members voted in favor of adjourning the meeting at 2:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

David M. Wurzer, Acting Chair Connecticut Innovations