

Technology and Innovation Network Advisory Board Regular Board Meeting

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 9, 2026 | 1:00pm – 5:00pm Mountain Time

Location: Sandia Office Supply, Large Conference Room, 5801 Office Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM, 87109 and Virtual via Microsoft Teams

Present: TIO Director (Chair Designee), Edward (Ed) Blandford, Dana Catron, Lique Coolen, Jake Douglas, David Hanson, Josué F Martinez Hardigree, Leslie Hielema, Yen Kha, Chad Matheson, Nathaniel (Nate) Miller, Mary Monson, Janeth Pena, Gabe Mounce, Hengameh Raissy, Jim Redman, Sarah Rubin, Stephanie Tofighi, Gil Travish, James Zahler, Charlene (Charlie) Jacka, Tracy Hartzler, Steve Grey, Jim Redman, Eric Smith, Mika Coden, Josh Agenbroad

Absent: Becky Rowley, Tanner Schaub, Jason Arviso

Staff Present: Nora Meyers Sackett, Lindsay Humphries, Anh-Dung Le, Esteban Martinez, Jamie Sandoval, Eric Smith (SGR/Contractor), Cristina Killingsworth (SGR/Contractor)

#	Agenda Item	Board Actions
1	Welcome and Call to Order TIO Director Nora Sackett	TIO Director Sackett called the meeting to order at 1:10 PM . A quorum was confirmed.
2	Open Meetings Act Acknowledgment TIO Director Nora Sackett	TIO Director Sackett provided OMA acknowledgement and overview
3	Roll Call; Approval of Agenda and of June 1, 2026 Minutes; Introductions TIO Director Nora Sackett	Action: Approval of Agenda for 06.01.26 Motion Moved By: Josué F Martinez Hardigree Motion Seconded By: Lique Coolen Vote Verdict: Unanimously approved by all board members in attendance. None in opposition. 3 members absent. Action: Approval of Minutes for 06.01.26 Motion Moved by: Stephanie Tofighi Seconded by: Mary Monson Vote Verdict: Unanimously approved by all board members in attendance. None in opposition. 3 members absent.
4	Chairs Update: Progress Since June	TIO Director Sackett provided an update on TIO and Board activities since the June meeting,

	TIO Director Nora Sackett	including reviewing of the RD&D Fund approach, the opening of the targeted federal match and capital leverage solicitations, and provided an update of the RD&D Fund rulemaking public comment period. Director Sackett also provided updates on recent TIO grant awards programmatic numbers, scheduled grants, staffing growth, and the addition of an RD&D Fund Coordinator.
5	Executive Committee Report TIO Director Nora Sackett	TIO Director Sackett provided an overview from June 29, 2026, Executive Committee meeting. The Executive Committee adopted the Board Manual and Charter, adopted the Conflict-of-Interest Reporting Form, recommended an approach for the first RD&D Fund solicitation, and approved four sector subcommittee slates.
6	The RD&D Fund Today and the Board's Role TIO Director Nora Sackett & Eric Smith, SGR	Contractor Smith provided an overview of the \$150 million RD&D Fund, including its structure, statutory requirements, funding categories, and application process. Contractor Smith reviewed the Targeted Federal Match and Capital Leverage Grant solicitations and discussed the Board's role in fund strategy, application review, and development of performance metrics. Board members asked questions regarding the Targeted Federal Match process, eligibility and letters of commitment, and the allocation of RD&D funding. Director Sackett and Contractor Smith provided clarification on the current funding structure and clarified differences between the RD&D Fund and other TIO grants and special appropriations.
7	How the Fund Evolves: Instruments Beyond Grants Eric Smith, SGR	Contractor Smith discussed the flexibility of the RD&D Fund and potential funding instruments beyond traditional grants, including mechanisms that could return or leverage funding for future investment. Board members discussed potential approaches which will be further explored through the sector subcommittees as part of upcoming strategy work.
8	Sector Subcommittees: Charge, Structure, and Cadence TIO Director Nora Sackett & Eric Smith, SGR	Director Sackett and Contractor Smith reviewed the statutory role and responsibilities of the sector subcommittees, including developing sector-specific metrics and goals, reviewing relevant grant proposals, monitoring sector performance

		and trends, preparing annual reports, and identifying cross-sector opportunities. The presenters also reviewed the anticipated cadence and workflow between the subcommittees, Executive Committee, and full Board. Initial subcommittee work will focus on metrics followed by sector strategy. Board members asked for clarification regarding subcommittee membership, terms, and Open Meetings Act requirements. Clarification was provided.
9	Working Session, Part 1: What Does Success Look Like for the Fund and the Sectors? Facilitated by TIO Director Nora Sackett & Eric Smith, SGR	Contractor Smith facilitated a Board discussion on defining long-term success for the RD&D Fund and New Mexico's targeted technology sectors. Discussion focused on developing sustainable innovation ecosystems; strengthening collaboration among industry, universities, laboratories, and workforce partners; positioning New Mexico as a location of choice for nationally significant projects; supporting commercialization and company growth; and improving the recruitment, development, and retention of talent. Board members also discussed the importance of establishing realistic near-term milestones toward longer-term economic development goals.
10	Working Session, Part 2: What Metrics Would Demonstrate Success? Facilitated by TIO Director Nora Sackett & Eric Smith, SGR	Director Sackett and Contractor Smith facilitated a discussion regarding metrics for measuring success at the RD&D Fund, project, sector, and ecosystem levels. Board members discussed potential measures including portfolio diversification, follow-on capital, commercialization, ecosystem connectivity, investment activity, technology transfer, and external interest in New Mexico's innovation ecosystem. The Board also went over the importance of establishing reporting requirements that allow TIO to consistently collect meaningful performance data from award recipients and the possibility of placing specific verbiage in award contracts to ensure timely reporting. Contractor Smith reviewed the subcommittee's statutory role in developing and recommending sector-specific metrics and goals. Recommendations are anticipated for presentation to the Board in December 2026, followed by Executive Committee consideration in early 2027.

11	Looking Ahead: TIO Director Nora Sackett	Director Sackett reviewed upcoming Board activities and reporting deadlines. Sector subcommittee meetings are anticipated in October, followed by an Executive Committee meeting in early November. The next full Board meeting will be in December, and TIO's RD&D Fund report is also due in December. Recommended metrics are anticipated to move through Executive Committee review in early 2027 before returning to the Board for consideration for future strategy planning.
12	Public Comment TIO Director Nora Sackett	Director Sackett asked for Public Comment online and in person. No public comments were received.
13	Adjournment TIO Director Nora Sackett	Director Sackett called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion to adjourn: Jake Douglass Second: David Hanson Meeting Adjourned at 4:10pm.

This meeting is held in accordance with the New Mexico Open Meetings Act, NMSA 1978 §§ 10-15-1 through 10-15-4. The Board may act on any item on this agenda.