

APPROVED MINUTES

ONE HUNDRED THIRTY SIXTH MEETING

of the

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

of the

MASSACHUSETTS TECHNOLOGY PARK CORPORATION

May 21, 2025

2 Center Plaza, Suite 200, Boston, MA

and by Videoconference

The One Hundred Thirty Sixth Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Technology Park Corporation (“Mass Tech Collaborative” or “Mass Tech”) was held on May 21, 2025, at 2 Center Plaza, Suite 200, Boston, MA, and by videoconference, pursuant to notice duly given to the Directors and publicly posted on the Mass Tech Collaborative website with corresponding notice provided to the Office of the Secretary of State and the Executive Office for Administration and Finance.

The following members of the Mass Tech Collaborative Board of Directors were present in-person and participated: Interim Secretary of Economic Development Ashley Stolba, Rupa Cornell, Joseph Dorant, Pam Reeve, Paige Fetzer-Borelli, Jeffrey Stein, Alexander Stolyarov, and Bogdan Vernescu.

The following members of the MassTech Collaborative Board of Directors were present and participated remotely via videoconference: Beth Boland, Julie Chen, Maeghan Silverberg Welford, Bran Shim (who later joined the meeting in-person), and Ernesto DiGiambattista.

The following members of the Mass Tech Collaborative staff were present: Carolyn Kirk, Michael Baldino, Keely Benson, Lily Fitzgerald, Marc Leonetti, Ben Linville-Engler, Holly Lucas Murphy, Dana Nolfe, Jennifer Saubermann, Brianna Wehrs, Rachael Stachowiak, John Wetzel, Kevin O’Brien, Joseph Downing, Sabrina Masur, and Paula Foley.

Also present was Emily MacCormack, Senior Advisor for the Executive Office of Economic Development.

Secretary Stolba called the meeting of the Mass Tech Board of Directors to order at 2:02 p.m.

Agenda Item I Approval of Minutes (motion item)

After a period of brief discussion and upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously and without abstention VOTED by roll call vote:

The Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Technology Park Corporation, acting pursuant to section three of Chapter Forty J of the General Laws of the Commonwealth, hereby adopts the Draft Minutes of the One Hundred Thirty Fifth Meeting of the Board of Directors, held on March 12, 2025, at 2 Center Plaza, Suite 200, Boston, MA, and by videoconference, as the formal Minutes thereof.

Agenda Item II Report of the MassTech Collaborative Board Chair

Secretary Stolba began her report by briefly introducing herself to the Board. Secretary Stolba explained that she has been in state government for most of her career and one month ago stepped into Secretary Yvonne's Hao's role as Secretary for Economic Development following Secretary Hao's announcement of her departure. Since March, explained Secretary Stolba, she has been focused on implementing the many initiatives contained within the state's economic development package, the Mass Leads Act. Secretary Stolba then provided an update on the state budget process, indicating that the proposed budget has received approval from the House of Representatives and is now before the Senate for debate. Secretary Stolba noted that, as in prior years, MassTech has several line items in the budget to support its activities.

Secretary Stolba indicated that the Executive Office of Economic Development ("EOED") was monitoring closely activity at the federal level, including the withdrawal and withholding of federal funds and the impact of the fluctuating tariff pronouncements. Secretary Stolba highlighted the ongoing efforts of MassTech's Center for Advanced Manufacturing's ("CAM") Massachusetts Tariff Response and Business Support Initiative ("TRBO") Program to track and address the effects of federal activities on Massachusetts' manufacturing sector.

Lastly, Secretary Stolba introduced Ms. Emily MacCormack and asked her to provide an overview of her background. Ms. MacCormack told the Board that she has worked at EOED since 2020, she served as Chief of Staff under Secretary Hao, and is currently transitioning to a Senior Advisor role under Secretary Stolba where she will be picking up some of the responsibilities formerly held by Ms. Sarah Stanton.

Secretary Stolba then turned to Ms. Kirk for her CEO Report.

Agenda Item III Report of the Mass Tech Collaborative Chief Executive Officer

Ms. Kirk noted that she included a comprehensive written Quarterly CEO Report as part of the Agenda Package distributed to the Board prior to the meeting, and then pointed out several items of note in the Report. First, Ms. Kirk indicated that she was pleased to announce that MassTech has hired a Director for MassTech's new Artificial Intelligence ("AI") Hub, Ms. Sabrina Mansur. Ms. Kirk then asked Ms. Mansur to introduce herself and provide a brief overview of her background and experience. Ms. Mansur explained to the Board that she has worked on both the defense and commercial sides of the AI industry and also has a background in robotics, and that she is very excited to undertake her new role as AI Hub Director at MassTech. Second, Ms. Kirk noted that MassTech will be demolishing three (3) buildings on the MassTech campus in Westborough which have become fire and vandalism hazards. Ms. Kirk noted that, with the support of the Westborough Fire Chief, we are working to demolish the buildings within the next 9-12 months.

Next, Ms. Kirk turned to a discussion of the recent withdrawal by the Trump Administration of \$14.9 million in federal funding to the Massachusetts Broadband Institute (“MBI”) under the Digital Equity Act Capacity Grant Program. Ms. Kirk explained that, as a result of the funding withdrawal, MBI must suspend its planned Launchpad Program, under which funding would have been available to Massachusetts entities to provide digital equity services to populations most affected by the digital divide, and also suspend the planned expansion of MBI’s Digital Equity Municipal Planning and Implementation Program, under which funding would have been provided for the creation of digital equity plans for additional Massachusetts cities and towns, followed by additional funding provided directly to those Massachusetts cities and towns to implement the digital equity plans; however not staff would be impacted by the funding cut. Discussion then ensued as to possible other changes to federal funding for MBI’s broadband initiatives, including MBI’s ongoing BEAD Program. Mr. Michael Baldino, Director and General Counsel of MBI, explained to the Board that further guidance from the U.S. Treasury on BEAD funding is expected next month, and that changes, including to funding eligibility requirements, are likely.

Next, Ms. Kirk turned to a recent Open Meeting Law complaint received by MassTech, and asked General Counsel Jennifer Saubermann to provide a summary. Ms. Saubermann explained that the complaint alleged a number of violations stemming from the Board’s March 12, 2025, meeting held in MassTech’s Boston office, including that the complainant failed to receive an email with the link to join the meeting virtually, and assertions that Ms. Kirk’s one-on-one discussions with Board members on administrative matters constituted “serial deliberations” in violation of the law. Ms. Saubermann provided a detailed analysis explaining how each issue asserted by the complainant did not constitute an actual violation under the Open Meeting Law. A discussion ensued regarding the best way to provide access to board meetings held virtually. Board Members discussed balancing concerns regarding disruptions to the meetings by bad actors (so called “Zoom bombing”) and the desire to ensure members of the public can access meetings without difficulty. The Board then endorsed sending the written response previously sent to the board via email to the complainant as proposed.

Ms. Kirk then turned to the next agenda item.

Agenda Item IV Overview and Discussion: Providing Context on MassTech’s Work

Ms. Kirk called the Board’s attention to the presentation contained within the Board’s Agenda Package which, Ms. Kirk explained, provides a detailed overview of the context in which decisions are made at MassTech. After discussing MassTech’s mission and philosophy of economic development, Ms. Kirk used the creation of TRBO as an example of the activation of economic imperatives process described in the presentation. Ms. Kirk explained the various stages the TRBO Program progressed through prior to implementation, including Ideation, Funding, Program Design, and Impacts. Ms. Kirk then explained the Program Design step in detail, using documents created for recent AI Hub and Robotics procurements as examples. Ms. Kirk pointed out that each grant which exceeds a certain amount must go to the Board for approval before a funding agreement is created, and that the Board has a unique perspective on MassTech’s activities, which also affects future program design.

Ms. Kirk continued the presentation by explaining that MassTech has endeavored to streamline and create uniform processes across all seven (7) MassTech divisions with this effort

being led by MassTech’s Strategic Business Operations (“Stratibo”) Team made up of Messrs. Ben Linville-Engler, John Wetzel, and Joseph Downing. As an example, Ms. Kirk explained that the feedback received from the Board last year on effective metrics to measure MassTech’s performance has been used to establish KPIs in recent procurement documents and funding agreements. Turning to a more detailed discussion of metrics, Ms. Kirk explained that MassTech reports various metrics to EOED, and provides internal compliance reports as part of required Program Status Monitoring. Ms. Kirk then explained that MassTech’s focus for the next year and a half will be implementation of the programs in the Mass Leads Act, which requires close collaboration between MassTech, EOED, and the Executive Office for Administration and Finance.

Mr. Vernesu left the meeting at 3:10 p.m.

Discussion then ensued on where and how feedback from the Board could be helpful to MassTech with Ms. Kirk indicating that Board involvement in strategy decisions is most useful. For example, Ms. Kirk pointed to the recent Board strategic discussion on NEMC Hub sustainability, and indicated that a strategic discussion on the future of MassTech’s AI Hub would be the subject of an upcoming Board meeting in the Fall. Secretary Stolba then closed the discussion by stressing the importance of Mass Leads Act implementation and urged MassTech and the Board to continue their great work.

There being no other business to discuss, Secretary Stolba adjourned the meeting at 3:25 p.m.

A TRUE COPY ATTEST: (Secretary)

DATE:

Materials and Exhibits Used at this Meeting:

1. Draft Minutes for the March 12, 2025, Meeting of the Mass Tech Board of Directors (motion item)
2. Quarterly CEO Report (presentation)
3. Open Meeting Law Complaint and Response (presentation)
4. Overview and Discussion: Providing Context on MassTech’s Work (presentation)