Exhibit 1

Minutes of the

North Carolina Innovation Council

Wednesday, May 29, 2024

The North Carolina Innovation Council [IC] convened in virtual format via Zoom, on May 29, 2024, at 3:00 pm, for its regular council meeting.

Chairman Douglas Hague called the meeting to order and led the Council in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll was called and the following participants were in attendance:

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| **Appointed Members** |  | **Government Members** |  |
| Lawrence Baxter | X | Commissioner Katherine M.R. Bosken [NCCOB] | X |
| Tariq Bokhari | X | Robert Croom [NCDOI Designee] | X |
| Leonardo Diosdado |  | Leo John [NC SOS Designee] | X |
| Stephanie Dunn | X | Phil Woods [NCDOJ Designee] | X |
| Douglas Hague | X |  |  |
| Vijay Srinivasan | X |  |  |
| Agnes Gambill West | X |  |  |

Lewis Lamar was present as counsel for the NC Innovation Council.

After determining that a quorum was present, Chair Hague read the conflict of interest statement, and issued a call for conflicts. Hearing none, Chair Hague moved on to Agenda item II and asked for comments regarding the April 24, 2024 minutes. He also noted that the minutes from the February 28, 2024 meeting [exhibit 2] had been corrected and circulated. Hearing no comments or corrections for the April minutes, Chair Hague asked for a motion to approve the April 24, 2024 minutes. Councilmember Baxter moved to approve, Councilmember Gambill West seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Chair Hague then directed the Council’s attention to the topics for discussion, beginning with the topic of councilmember reimbursement [exhibit 3]. Councilmembers who are non-government employees can receive reimbursement for expenses incurred while conducting business on behalf of the NC Innovation Council. Exhibit 3 outlines the simple procedures involved in submitting a substitute W-9 form [exhibit 4] and an electronic payment form [exhibit 5].

The next item for discussion was an update on the Executive Director posting, delivered by Councilmember Gambill West. Dr. West reported that the press release had been issued announcing the new position and had already received good traction. As of this meeting date, there were already 124 applicants. The Department of Commerce’s HR office will conduct an initial screening on the applicants by end of business on May 30, 2024. The goal is to have final candidates ready to interview with the full Council during the June 26, 2024 meeting [in closed session] and hire by July 1, 2024.

There was a brief discussion regarding the process for reviewing candidates, including getting standardized interview questions to pose to each final candidate. The June council meeting will be structured to include closed session virtual breakouts for the candidate interviews.

Chair Hague then provided a very brief update on the Rules committee work. Counsel Lewis Lamar has provided some helpful information to the working group. The group will have its first meeting in the next week or so and hopes to have a draft of the Rules for the next meeting.

Chair Hague then introduced the final topic for discussion which was the receipt of two expressions of interest on the NC Innovation website. The first company is DigsFact which is an Illinois company focusing on crime-prediction [e.g. money-laundering and fraud] based on AI. They claim to be able to predict financial crimes before any transaction occurs. A pre-meeting has been scheduled with a company representative. Several councilmembers expressed interest in the company and hearing more about what they want through the Innovation sandbox. There was also brief discussion on the length of the presentation and the types of questions asked in the pre-meeting. 20 minutes was agreed upon for the presentation time and Chair Hague asked for feedback from the Council as to questions to ask. He will also send the councilmembers a YouTube video on the company.

The second expression of interest came from SiteTrail based out of New York. Their industry product is insurance and their service is authenticating news information and journalists. Chair Hague has offered a pre-screen meeting but there was some question as to why they would need to go through a sandbox. There was also a question as to how they found us [i.e. North Carolina sandbox]. Chair Hague believes they found us through the press release. Councilmember Bosken felt that it was premature to invite them for a presentation at this time. Chair Hague will get additional information from the company during the prescreen but will not invite them to present to the council at this time.

Hearing no further questions/comments on the discussion items, Chair Hague invited councilmembers to raise comments for Open Forum. Councilmember Baxter asked for additional thoughts on the fall meeting. Chair Hague stated that we were looking at a September/October meeting on the main campus of UNC Charlotte. He asked if there were any guests to invite to this meeting. Councilmember Bokhari has some ideas and will follow up with Chair Hague. Councilmember Baxter suggested a representative from another “textbook” example of a sandbox, e.g. Arizona. Councilmember Gambill West agreed that someone from Arizona or Utah would be a good choice. It was agreed to extend an invitation to one of these state representatives to participate via zoom. Councilmember Bosken volunteered to reach out to her contacts and invite.

Chair Hague mentioned that the initial allocation of $150,000 will carry over into the new fiscal year and a new allocation will be made after July 1. This means that the council will have a reserve of $150,000 going into the new fiscal year. Regarding the monthly budget statements, there is not an obligation to post these statements but it is considered best practice to make available to the Council a regular budget update, e.g. quarterly basis. Chair Hague agreed to follow this practice.

The next meeting of the Council is June 26, 2024. The agenda will include candidate interviews as well as the 20-minute presentation from DigsFact, and a recent draft of the rules. Hearing no further comments for the Open Forum, Chair Hague asked for a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Gambill West motioned to adjourn, Councilmember Woods seconded and the motion was unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm.