Board of Control Windsor, CT October 15, 2025

A meeting of the Board of Control was held on this day at Valley Laboratory, Windsor, CT 06095.

<u>Present</u>: Messrs. Cohan, Duffy (representing Commissioner Hurlburt), Fikrig*, Jones, White, and Ms. Maroney. Mr. LaMondia, Last and Ms. Triplett* were present by invitation.

* = attended via Zoom

Absent: Mr. Venkitanarayanan and Ms. Nichols.

The meeting was convened by Vice President, Terry Jones at 10:05 a.m.

<u>Minutes</u>: On a motion by Ms. Maroney, seconded by Dr. White, the minutes of the August 6, 2025 meeting were approved unanimously.

<u>News Articles and Correspondence</u>: Dr. White briefly reviewed published news articles and correspondence received since the last Board meeting.

<u>Research Report</u>: Dr. James LaMondia, Emeritus, gave an update on his tobacco breeding program, status of growers, and the licensing agreements that provide royalty income annually.

Status of Capital Projects:

- <u>Valley Laboratory</u>- The bid opening date for the renovation and addition to the Valley Laboratory was extended to October 27, 2025. There were over 50 contractors that attended the mandatory pre-bid meeting on September 15, 2025.
- Renovation of Jones Auditorium- The Jones Auditorium has been renovated with painting, new carpet, and a state-of-the-art smart room system.
- <u>Pre-Design Study and HVAC System Upgrades</u>- Governor Lamont recommended \$1.2 million for a pre-design study and HVAC upgrades and the General Assembly authorized the projects during the 2025 legislative session. A request has been submitted for the approval of the Bond Commission.

<u>Louis A. Magnarelli Post-Doctoral Program</u>: Ms. Maroney moved that \$300,000 in Board Funds be authorized to fund a new two-year post-doctoral program. Year two Funding will be contingent upon the successful progress of the project. The motion was seconded by Dr. Cohan and passed unanimously.

<u>Cannibis Reference Laboratory</u>: The Department of Consumer Protection has requested and will fund a Cannibis Reference Laboratory at the Griswold Research Center. The recruitment of an Assistant Scientist II to lead the program has begun.

<u>Budget Updates</u>: Mr. Last reviewed the technical and expansion budget options submitted for Fiscal Year 2027, which begins on July 1, 2026.

Staff Changes: Dr. White reviewed staff changes since the last meeting.

Ms. Maroney moved that an Executive Session be held to discuss Board Funds, Personnel, and the Director's Report. Mr. Last and Dr. Triplett were invited to attend. The motion was seconded by Dr. White and passed unanimously at 11:14 a.m.

The Executive Session adjourned at 11:39 a.m.

Ms. Maroney moved the following promotions, effective October 31, 2025:

- Dr. Sara Nason from Assistant Scientist II to Associate Scientist
- Mr. Jeffrey Fengler from Technician I to Technician II.

The motion was seconded by Dr. Cohan and passed unanimously.

Dr. White moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Ms. Maroney and passed unanimously at 11:53 a.m.

Respectfully,

Jason C. White Secretary Pro-Tem