

# **Basis for Closing Meetings and Closure Vote Notice**

## **NSB-NSF Commission on Merit Review – 4/30/2024 Committee on Awards and Facilities – 4/30/2024 and 5/5/2024 National Science Board – 5/1-2/2024**

On April 24, 2024, the Executive Committee of the National Science Board (NSB, Board) voted to close portions of the April 30 and May 1-2, 2024, meetings of the NSB, NSB-NSF Commission on Merit Review (MRX), and the Committee on Awards and Facilities (A&F). All Executive Committee members, Panchanathan, Reed, McCrary, Leath, and Ward, voted “yes” to close the meetings. The justification for closing the meetings is provided in the attached certificate.

For closed meetings of the Board, the NSF Chief Operating Officer, Assistant Directors and Office Heads, senior OD staff members, Board Executive Officer, Board Counsel, the applicable Executive Secretaries and NSBO staff may attend in addition to the Board members. For the committee meetings, staff preparing a presentation or who are needed to answer questions may be invited to attend. For the executive closed agenda items, only the NSF Chief Operating Officer, Board Executive Officer, Board Counsel, and Executive Secretary are expected to attend. The Board Chair or Committee Chair may allow other necessary or appropriate attendees or restrict attendance further.

### **CERTIFICATE**

It is my opinion that the discussions in the following meetings of the NSB and its subdivisions may properly be closed for the reasons given.

#### **MRX closed meeting**

**Tuesday, April 30, 2024**

Closed agenda items to include:

- Commission Chair’s opening remarks regarding the agenda
- Discussion of Preliminary Recommendations
- Vote for Approval of Preliminary Recommendations
- Commission Chair’s closing remarks

Items in this meeting may properly be closed to the public pursuant to 5 USC § 552b (c) (9)(B), regarding information the premature disclosure of which would be likely to significantly frustrate implementation of a proposed agency action and thereby enable a third party to take action that injures the interests of the federal government.

#### **A&F closed meeting**

**Tuesday, April 30, 2024**

Closed agenda items to include:

- Committee Chair’s Opening Remarks regarding the agenda
- Action Item: National Solar Observatory Operations and Management Award

- Information Item: Planning for Future Major Facilities

Item 1 is to be closed pursuant to all the provisions listed below. Item 2 is to be closed pursuant to 5 USC § 552b (c) (4) (trade secrets/confidential commercial or financial information); Item 3 is to be closed pursuant to 5 USC § 552b (c) (3)(B) and 42 USC § 1863 (k) (budgets prior to the submission of the President's budget to Congress).

#### NSB Plenary closed sessions

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Closed agenda items to include:

- NSB Chair's Remarks
- Approval of February 2024 Closed Minutes
- NSF Director's Remarks
  - o Agency Operating Status
- Committee Reports
  - o Committee on Strategy (CS)
    - Update on FY 2024 Current Plan and implications; Long-term planning and FY 2026 development
  - o Subcommittee on Technology, Innovation, and Partnerships (S-TIP)
    - TIP Roadmap Update
- Vote to move into a Plenary Executive Closed session

Items 1 and 2 to be closed for the reasons listed below. Item 3 to be closed pursuant to (c)(2) (internal personnel rules and practices) and 5 USC § 552b (c) (6) (unwarranted invasion of personal privacy). Item 4 to be closed pursuant to 5 USC § 552b (c) (3)(B) and 42 USC § 1863 (k) (budgets prior to the submission of the President's budget to Congress).

#### Executive Plenary Closed Session (EPC)

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Closed agenda items to include:

- NSB Chair's opening remarks
- Approval of February 2024 EPC Minutes
- NSF Director's Remarks
  - o Organizational Updates
- NSB Elections
  - o Chair, Vice Chair, and EC seat if applicable
- Chair's closing remarks

Items 1, 2 and 5 to be closed for all reasons listed below. Item 3 to be closed pursuant to 5 USC § (c)(2) (internal personnel rules and practices) and 5 USC § 552b (c) (6) (unwarranted invasion of personal privacy). Item 4 to be closed pursuant to and 5 USC § 552b (c) (6) (unwarranted invasion of personal privacy).

#### NSB Plenary closed sessions

Thursday, May 2, 2024

Closed agenda items to include:

- Committee Reports
  - o NSB-NSF Commission on Merit Review

- Discussion of Preliminary policy recommendations.

This item is to be closed pursuant to 5 USC § 552b (c) (9)(B), regarding information the premature disclosure of which would be likely to significantly frustrate implementation of a proposed agency action and thereby enable a third party to take action that injures the interests of the federal government.

- o Committee on Awards and Facilities (A&F)

- Action Item: National Solar Observatory Operations and Maintenance Award; Information Item: Planning for future major facilities

This item is to be closed pursuant to 5 USC § 552b (c) (9)(B), as described above, and 5 USC § 552b (c) (4) (trade secrets/confidential commercial or financial information).

A&F closed committee meeting

Thursday May 2, 2024

Closed agenda items to include:

- Information Item: NSF's decision process for the USELT program

This item is to be closed pursuant to 5 USC § 552b (c) (4) (trade secrets/confidential commercial or financial information).

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Angela R. Williams  
General Counsel  
National Science Foundation