

Basis for Closing Meetings and Closure Vote Notice

NSB-NSF Commission on Merit Review – 7/23/2024

Committee on Awards and Facilities – 7/23/2024

Committee on Strategy – 7/24/24 and 7/25/24

National Science Board – 7/24–25/2024

On July 16, 2024, the Executive Committee of the National Science Board (NSB, Board) voted to close portions of the July 23-25, 2024, meetings of the NSB, NSB-NSF Commission on Merit Review (MRX), the Committee on Awards and Facilities (A&F), and the Committee on Strategy. All Executive Committee members, Panchanathan, Gil, McCrary, 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, July 23, 2024

Closed agenda items to include:

- Commission Chair’s opening remarks regarding the agenda
- Discussion with NSF Executive Leadership Team
- Discussion of Preliminary Accountability Recommendations
- Discussion of Revised Implementation Suggestions
- Discussion of Next Steps for report preparation
- 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, July 23, 2024

Closed agenda items to include:

- Committee Chair's Opening Remarks regarding the agenda
- Information Item: Antarctic Infrastructure Update

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) and 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, July 24, 2024

Closed agenda items to include:

- NSB Chair's Remarks
- NSF Director's Remarks
 - Agency Operating Status
- Approval of May 2024 Closed Minutes
- Committee Reports
 - Committee on Awards and Facilities
 - Antarctic Infrastructure Update
 - Committee on Strategy (CS)
 - Long-term planning and FY 2026 Budget Development

Items 1, 2 and 3 to be closed for the reasons listed below. Item 2 also 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 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) and 5 USC § 552b (c) (3)(B) and 42 USC § 1863 (k) (budgets prior to the submission of the President's budget to Congress). Item 5 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).

CS closed committee meeting

Wednesday, July 24, 2024

Closed agenda items to include:

- Chair's opening remarks on the agenda
- FY 2025 budget update
- FY 2026 Presentation and initial budget development

Items 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). Item 1 also 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.

NSB Plenary closed sessions

Thursday, July 25, 2024

Closed agenda items to include:

- NSB Chair's welcome
- Committee Report

- NSB-NSF Commission on Merit Review
 - Discussion of preliminary policy recommendations, and preliminary implementation and accountability suggestions.

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.

- Vote to move into a Plenary Executive Closed session

Executive Plenary Closed Session (EPC)

Thursday July 25, 2024

Closed agenda items to include:

- NSB Chair's opening remarks
- Approval of May 2024 EPC Minutes
- NSF Director's Remarks
 - Organizational Updates
- NSB Elections
 - Executive Committee seat
- 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 5 USC § 552b (c) (6) (unwarranted invasion of personal privacy).

CS closed committee meeting

Thursday, July 25, 2024

Closed agenda items to include:

- Chair's opening remarks on the agenda
- Presentation and discussion of updated FY 2026 performance measures

This item 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).

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Angela R. Williams
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National Science Foundation