

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

MINUTES OF THE WINTER 2021 MEETING  
OF THE  
REHABILITATION RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICE  
SCIENTIFIC MERIT REVIEW BOARD

**PARTIALLY CLOSED MEETING**

The meeting of the Rehabilitation Research and Development Service (RR&D) Scientific Merit Review Board was convened via Webex videoconference on March 3, 2021, at 01:00 P.M. EST. Dr. Candace Floyd presided as chair.

This meeting was partially closed to the public for the discussion and reference to the scientific evaluation of research applications by subcommittees on October 22, 2020 and February 18-26, 2021. As provided by subsection 10(d) of Public Law 92-463, as amended by Public Law 94-409, closing the meeting was in accordance with Title 5 U.S.C. 552b(c) (6) and (9)(B).

Ms. Tiffany Asqueri, Designated Federal Officer (DFO), conducted roll call and reaffirmed policies regarding the confidentiality of meeting materials, committee discussions and recommendations.

**Open Session:**

Ms. Karen Lohman Siegel, Deputy Director of RR&D, welcomed all participants, expressed appreciation for the time and effort that each member has spent on the scientific review effort, gave a brief presentation of the RR&D Program and emphasized RR&D's on-going efforts to support highly meritorious research to advance scientific knowledge and foster innovations to maximize Veterans' functional independence, quality of life and participation in their lives and community.

**Closed Session:**

Subcommittee Chairs presented the results and subsequent recommendations of their respective subcommittee meeting. The Scientific Review Officer provided the subcommittee report where the Subcommittee Chair was not present. The Chair asked if there were any general questions and then asked each member to vote on the recommendations of the subcommittees to advance all scored applications forward to the agency for further consideration.


PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Proposed by Dr. Floyd

V – 1 That the recommendations of the subcommittees to advance all scored applications to the agency for further consideration be approved.

The next meeting of the RR&D Scientific Merit Review Board will be scheduled for August 25, 2021. The meeting was adjourned at 1:26 PM EST.

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are accurate and complete.

  
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Candace L. Floyd, Ph.D.      03/05/2021  
Chairperson                      (Date)

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Tiffany Asqueri, M.B.A.      (Date)  
Designated Federal Officer

Attachment: Meeting List