

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20549

Form 10-K

(Mark One)

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934  
For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2022

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934  
For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
Commission file number 000-30415

**Zivo Bioscience, Inc.**

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

**Nevada**

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

**87-0699977**

(IRS Employer Identification No.)

**21 East Long Lake Road, Suite 100 Bloomfield Hills, MI**

(Address of principal executive offices)

**48304**

(Zip Code)

**(248) 452 9866**

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock, \$0.001 par value per share	ZIVO	The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC
Warrants to Purchase Common Stock, \$0.001 par value per share	ZIVOW	The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None.

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes  No

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically every Interactive Data File required to be submitted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit such files). Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company," and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer  Accelerated filer   
Non-accelerated Filer  Smaller reporting company   
Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has filed a report on and attestation to its management's assessment of the effectiveness of its internal control over financial reporting under Section 404(b) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act (15 U.S.C. 7262(b)) by the registered public accounting firm that prepared or issued its audit report.

If securities are registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act, indicate by check mark whether the financial statements of the registrant included in the filing reflect the correction of an error to previously issued financial statements.

Indicate by check mark whether any of those error corrections are restatements that required a recovery analysis of incentive-based compensation received by any of the registrant's executive officers during the relevant recovery period pursuant to § 240.10D-1(b).

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act). Yes  No

As of June 30, 2022, the last business day of the registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter, the aggregate market value of shares of the registrant's common stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant based upon the June 30, 2022 price at which the common equity was last sold was approximately \$28.3 million. The number of outstanding shares of the registrant's common stock as of March 1, 2023 was 9,419,660.

Documents Incorporated by Reference

Portions of the proxy statement for the 2023 annual meeting of shareholders are incorporated by reference into Part III of this Annual Report to the extent described herein.

**FORM 10-K**  
**ZIVO BIOSCIENCE, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES INDEX**

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## CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

*Some of the statements contained in this Annual Report are forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"). These statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which may cause our or our industry's actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to statements regarding:*

- our ability to continue as a going concern and our history of losses;
- our ability to obtain additional financing;
- our relatively new business model and lack of revenues;
- our ability to prosecute, maintain or enforce our intellectual property rights;
- disputes or other developments relating to proprietary rights and claims of infringement;
- the accuracy of our estimates regarding expenses, future revenues and capital requirements;
- the implementation of our business model and strategic plans for our business and technology;
- the successful development of our production capabilities;
- the successful development of our sales and marketing capabilities;
- the potential markets for our products and our ability to serve those markets;
- the rate and degree of market acceptance of our products and any future products;
- our ability to retain key management personnel;
- regulatory developments and our compliance with applicable laws; and
- our liquidity.

In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terms such as "may," "will," "should," "could," "would," "expects," "plans," "anticipates," "believes," "estimates," "projects," "predicts," "potential," "targets," "intends," and similar expressions intended to identify forward looking statements. These statements are only predictions and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties, and other factors that may cause our actual results, levels of activity, performance, or achievements to be materially different from any future results, levels of activity, performance, or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Given these uncertainties, you should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. Also, these forward-looking statements represent our estimates and assumptions only as of the date of this report. Except as otherwise required by law, we expressly disclaim any obligation or undertaking to release publicly any updates or revisions to any forward-looking statement contained in this report to reflect any change in our expectations or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any of our forward-looking statements are based. We qualify all of our forward-looking statements by these cautionary statements.

You should refer to the section entitled "Risk Factors" this Annual Report for a discussion of important factors that may cause our actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by our forward-looking statements. As a result of these factors, we cannot assure you that the forward-looking statements in this Annual Report will prove to be accurate.

## PART I

### Item 1. Business.

*Unless we state otherwise or the context otherwise requires, references in this Annual Report on Form 10-K to “we,” “our,” “us,” “ZIVO,” “the Registrant” or “the Company” refer to Zivo Bioscience, Inc., a Nevada corporation, and its subsidiaries.*

#### Overview

We are a research and development company operating in both the biotech and agtech sectors, with an intellectual property portfolio comprised of proprietary algal and bacterial strains, biologically active molecules and complexes, production techniques, cultivation techniques and patented or patent-pending inventions for applications in human and animal health.

We believe that our proprietary algal culture and materials derived therefrom show promise in benefiting both animal and human health, primarily through inflammation-modulating and immune-boosting properties. Overall, our efforts have been centered around two potential value-creating initiatives; the first being the identification of bioactive extracts or novel bioactive molecules from our proprietary algal culture to treat various diseases, and second, the utilization of our proprietary algal culture in its whole form as a food product to leverage its nutritional value. In the first quarter of 2022, we reformulated our biotech and agtech businesses around these two concepts. We reviewed the market potential (scale and profit) and the technical and business risks associated with each of the opportunities we had been working on and developed a focused strategy for each business.

#### Biotech Business Strategy

We are seeking to partner with established animal health companies and create value through licensing or other commercial arrangements, while accelerating final product development and mitigating market introduction risk.

Review of isolated active materials derived from our proprietary algal culture and their potential treatment applications led us to identify a product candidate for treating coccidiosis in broiler chickens as the best option for most rapidly generating significant revenue because coccidiosis is a global poultry industry issue costing chicken farmers between \$8-13 billion annually, and because the clinical testing cycle for chickens is shorter than for other species. Most of the global animal health companies have products for the coccidiosis market; however, they are mostly antibiotic- or ionophore-based with essentially no new technology having been introduced in the last 60 years.

#### *Coccidiosis Product Candidate*

In numerous prior studies, ZIVO has demonstrated multiple benefits, including:

- Minimized or eliminated the negative effects of coccidiosis on the digestive health in broiler chickens by numerous measures of gut health and overall well-being;
- Reduced the incidence of *Campylobacter*, *Salmonella*, *E. coli*, and *Clostridium perfringens*, all significant sources of food-borne illness, in the digestive tract of broiler chickens in the absence of antibiotics or other antimicrobial compounds; and
- Reduced mortality.

The predominant treatment for coccidiosis in the poultry industry, in-feed anticoccidial drugs, target the *Eimeria* parasite directly and require constant use over the lifespan of the animal for efficacy and can over time result in the development of resistant *Eimeria* strains. Other treatment strategies, such as vaccines, require several weeks for immunity to manifest, which can significantly impact growth potential. Often, several treatment products are used in combination, increasing costs in an industry already facing heavy inflationary pressures. As a result, the poultry industry is actively searching for a novel solution.

Our treatment alternative represents an innovative new product class that aims to strengthen the immune system of chickens through multiple complementary immune pathways to afford a rapid, robust, and effective response to disease-causing pathogens without the adverse effects associated with traditional antimicrobial drugs and chemicals.

## Agtech Business Strategy

For the agtech side of our business, we have developed our proprietary algal culture to be commercially viable as a nutritional product. The powdered form contains approximately 45% protein, is an excellent source of other essential nutrients, and is nearly completely odorless and tasteless unlike other algal products. As we reviewed our agtech business early this year, we were very satisfied with the nature of the product; however, we identified gaps in customer acquisition and in scale-up technology preventing us from growing our proprietary algae in quantities to sufficiently meet the potential demand. We have, therefore, focused our agtech strategy on developing a cost effective, commercial-scale growing technology.

In 2021, we began funding a development agreement with Grupo Alimenta, a well-established Peruvian agriculture company. Our focus is now on scaling up for commercial production. The Alimenta-ZIVO team has been working toward building commercial-scale algae ponds using a ZIVO proprietary design, and we are in the middle of a project to grow our algae in a penultimate scale pond.

Given the Self Affirmed GRAS (Generally Recognized as Safe) status for our dried whole algal biomass product, we intend to work with partners and wholesale buyers with the goal to generate revenue in 2023.

Today's algae industry is artisanal and fragmented. There is no major source that can deliver to national brands and co-packers consistent quality and quantity of dried algae, and we aim to fill that market need with our proprietary algae.

### *Additional Indications*

Pending additional funding, ZIVO may also pursue the following indications:

#### **Biotech:**

- o **Bovine Mastitis:** ZIVO is developing a treatment, for bovine mastitis based on previous successful proof of concept studies and derived from its proprietary algal culture and the bioactive agents contained within.
- o **Canine Joint Health:** Studies have indicated the potential of a chondroprotective property when a compound fraction from ZIVO's algal culture was introduced into *ex vivo* canine joint tissues.
- o **Human Immune Modulation:** Early human immune cell *in vitro* and *in vivo* studies have indicated that one of the isolated and characterized biologically active molecules in the Company's portfolio may serve as an immune modulator with potential application in multiple disease situations.

#### **Agtech:**

- o **Human Food Ingredient:** The self-affirmed GRAS process was completed for ZIVO algal biomass in late 2018 to validate its suitability for human consumption as an ingredient in foods and beverages.
- o **Skin Health:** ZIVO is developing its algal biomass as a skin health ingredient, with topical skin product testing started in the third quarter of 2020, and clinical efficacy claim studies planned for ingestible and topical products.

## **Our Market Opportunity**

### *Biotech*

#### *Livestock and Companion Animal Health*

The annual market sizes for vaccines, phyto-genics and eubiotics in the animal health market as a whole were approximately \$9.2 billion in 2020, \$753.0 million in 2020, and \$3.9 billion in 2019, respectively. During the same time period, the annual market sizes for drugs, vaccines & feed additives and supplements in the companion animal market were approximately \$11.8 billion in 2020 and \$637.6 million in 2019, respectively.

#### *Poultry Gut Health*

Coccidiosis, or the inflammation of the intestinal tract, is one of the largest health and animal welfare problems facing poultry flocks. Consumer and regulatory pressure have created what we believe to be an opportunity to develop and market an alternative to various additives routinely mixed into chicken feed. The Company is developing a product candidate designed to boost immune response, thereby combatting a broad range of infective pathogens, with the goal of simultaneously improving feed conversion and productivity.

### *Bovine Mastitis*

Bovine mastitis, or inflammation of the udder, can halt milk production and may result in unsaleable milk. The U.S. cow herd averaged 9.4 million cows in 2018 and U.S. milk production hit 217.6 billion pounds in 2018. Bovine mastitis affects approximately 1.5 million out of the 9 million dairy cows in the U.S. on an annual basis, and the average loss per cow per year in milk output is 846 pounds. Current treatments are primarily antibiotic, which requires a holding period and disposal of milk during that holding period.

### *Canine Joint Health*

Osteoarthritis (OA) is one of the most common ailments among pet dogs, with prevalence believed to be greater than 20%. The U.S. is expected to hold the largest share of the global market for veterinary pain management due to the vast pet population in the region, increasing animal healthcare expenditure, large number of hospitals and clinics, growing pool of veterinarians, and high prevalence of diseases causing pain. According to IBISWorld, the U.S. veterinary services market showed a solid, steady increase in consumer spending over the past few years.

### *Human Immune Modification*

Immune-related and infectious diseases represent a vast range of health issues affecting millions of humans. New applications in pharma, food and nutraceuticals are continually introduced into this growing market. The annual market sizes for the antibiotics, eubiotics, autoimmune, and the antidiabetic markets were approximately \$40.0 billion in 2020, \$37.9 billion in 2019, \$110.0 billion in 2017 and \$48.8 billion in 2018, respectively. Beyond arthritis, there are more than 80 types of clinically different autoimmune diseases. Many major pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical companies have extensive licensing and development programs focused on autoimmune/anti-inflammatory R&D. The rise in strategic alliances by discovery stage R&D companies like ZIVO is one of the latest trends that may gain traction in the autoimmune and anti-inflammatory therapeutics market in the coming years.

### *Agtech*

#### *Human Functional Food Ingredients*

The market for healthy foods, health foods, vegan and vegetarian food products continues to gain traction in the US and worldwide, especially as consumers look for healthful and nutritional ingredients to improve overall health and immune response. The drive toward plant-based proteins and microbiome-enhancing natural foods and food/beverage ingredients and dietary supplements continues to expand.

### **Clinical Development and Regulatory Pathway**

#### ***Clinical Experience, Future Development and Clinical Trial Plans***

Our product candidates are at different stages of development for different applications. Accordingly, the various regulatory processes required for the various applications are at different stages of completion. With respect to human food and beverage applications, we have completed the FDA's self-affirmed GRAS process for our dried algal biomass which allows for product commercialization with a consumption limit of up to nine grams per day.

Beyond use of the dried algal biomass in human food and beverage in the U.S. with nutritional claims, ZIVO has not yet received the required approvals for commercialization for any product form or application. To date, however, we have performed a number of studies required by regulatory bodies including bench top and pre-clinical tests (which include animal testing, performance, and other tests) for various product forms and applications pertinent to qualified health claims and structure/function claims. As described below, the Company intends to perform additional testing of its products in connection with obtaining the requisite regulatory approvals.

#### *Poultry Gut Health*

We are actively developing a product candidate targeting poultry gut health. We have conducted 21 clinical trials to date, most recently in the first half of 2022. The early studies focused on determining the general effects of various product candidates, while the more recent studies have been focused on optimizing a single lead product candidate including study of dosage levels, interactions with vaccines and various product formulations.

In late 2022, a third party performed a four-month study on behalf of a potential partner company, which included a 42-day coccidiosis trial in broiler chickens. That study evaluating the Company's novel immune-modulating biologic for treating coccidiosis in broiler chickens produced questionable results due to a high disease burden among tested chickens. The Company has already begun the process to conduct a new study that it expects to be completed by mid-2023.

ZIVO’s approach for developing our coccidiosis product candidate as feed additives enables us to generate products that boost the immune response and reduce the effects of disease, while maintaining a single regulatory relationship, which is with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

We recently announced receipt of a letter from the USDA’s Center for Veterinary Biologics (CVB) affirming that the agency has claimed jurisdiction for reviewing our immune-modulating biologic for treating coccidiosis in broiler chickens. This important jurisdictional announcement de-risks our regulatory path and opens the door to further discussions with the CVB on the final product development plan, regulatory strategy, and data requirements for licensure. This was a significant milestone as USDA approval is likely to provide a favorable timeline to approval relative to the alternative involving the FDA.

*Potential Additional Indications*

Following development of our initial product candidate for poultry gut health, the Company intends to continue to pursue the below indications:

**Biotech:**

<b>Product</b>	<b>Stage of Development and/or Regulatory Status to Date</b>	<b>Next Steps</b>
<b>Bovine Mastitis</b>	<p>The Company has conducted multiple <i>in vitro</i> and <i>ex vivo</i> experiments as well as four clinical trials to determine general effects and to evaluate product modalities and methods of administration.</p> <p>These studies include two (2) multianalyte <i>in vivo</i> studies of mastitis-inducing pathogens, most recently <i>staph aureus</i>.</p> <p><i>Discovery Stage, pre-GMP, pre-GLP</i></p>	<p>The Company expects to conduct three or more small studies to validate a product candidate previously validated in poultry, among other similar candidates and to make refinements to same before offering to potential licensees.</p>
<b>Canine Joint Health</b>	<p>The Company has conducted multiple <i>in vitro</i> inflammatory experiments, followed by two <i>in vivo</i> trials with mice, and two <i>ex vivo</i> experiments using canine hip joint tissue.</p> <p><i>Discovery Stage, pre-GMP, pre-GLP</i></p>	<p>Additional <i>ex vivo</i> experiments are necessary to gauge effectiveness of product candidate, to be followed by two <i>in vivo</i> studies to determine dosage and tolerance, likely followed by one or more validation studies on behalf of prospective licensees.</p>
<b>Human Immune Modulation</b>	<p>The Company has conducted six <i>in vitro</i> experiments using human immune cells attenuated by proprietary TLR4 inhibitor.</p>	<p>The Company has additional testing planned, beginning with repeated <i>in vitro</i> testing of different dosages and purities.</p>
<b>Agtech:</b>		
<b>Algal biomass for human consumption</b>	<p>The Company has completed the self-affirmed GRAS status process (November 2018).</p> <p>No clinical testing is required for commercialization.</p>	<p>Commercial launch is in process. Product can be marketed immediately.</p> <p>Additional studies are contemplated to expand the allowable daily intake (ADI) and obtain an FDA No Questions letter.</p>
<b>Biomass for supporting skin health / anti-aging</b>	<p>The Company is planning several investigations to establish definitive support for the mechanism of action associated with skin health / anti-aging. Support for the indication is a prerequisite to the human new dietary ingredient (NDI) application.</p> <p>Topical skin product testing began in 2020.</p>	<p>The Company is planning additional studies to support skin health/anti-aging.</p> <p>Pending the outcome of these tests, we expect to notify the Food and Drug Administration about these ingredients and our intent to market according to Section 413(d) of the FD&amp;C Act, 21 U.S.C. 350b(d).</p>

## Competition and Functional Equivalents

### *Biotech*

Our industries are all very competitive and subject to rapid and significant innovation and change. In addition to companies cultivating and creating homeopathic and natural remedies, our potential competitors and functional equivalents include large pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical companies, specialty pharmaceutical and generic drug companies, academic institutions, government agencies and research institutions. Key competitive factors affecting our products' commercial success will include efficacy, safety, tolerability, reliability and price.

*Poultry Gut Health:* Conventional poultry production typically involves the use of ionophores and other anticoccidial compounds, some of which are produced by HuvePharma, Elanco, Zoetis, and Phibro, among others. No Antibiotics Ever (NAE) poultry production, relies on effective and economically sound alternatives, such as vaccines and antimicrobial chemicals, as well as product candidates offered by ZIVO.

*Bovine Mastitis:* Branded antibiotic solutions include ToDay™ and Masti-Clear; homeopathic solutions include Amoxi-Mast™; topical and salve solutions include Germicidal teat dips, Fight Bac™ teat disinfectant spray, and Sterosol™ Pre/Post Teat Dip. Vaccine and antimicrobial solutions include Lysigin and Spectramast LC™.

*Canine Joint Health:* The global veterinary pain management drugs market is segmented into opioids, agonists, local anesthetics, NSAIDs (Non-steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs), Disease-modifying Osteoarthritis Drugs (DMOAD) and others. The key players of the global veterinary pain management drugs market are Boehringer Ingelheim, Zoetis, Inc., Merck Animal Health, Elanco, Bayer AG, Vetoquinol S.A., Ceva Sante Animale, Virbac Group, Norbrook Laboratories Ltd, and Dechra Pharmaceuticals.

*Human Immune Modulation:* Several companies have TLR4 inhibitors currently in development. Eritoran (Eisai Research Institute of Boston, Andover, MA) and Resatorvid (TAK-242; Takeda Pharmaceutical Company) appear to be the lead candidates. Their mechanism of action (MOA) is cited as inhibition of the production of lipopolysaccharide (LPS)-induced inflammatory mediators by binding to the intracellular domain of TLR4. Eritoran has reached the clinical trial stage.

### *Agtech:*

*Human Food Ingredient:* We believe that our primary competition will come from innovators in food technology such as DSM, Cognis, ConAgra, Cargill and Nestle, each of which has active M&A efforts, a large scientific staff and a generous R&D budget to develop supplements and ingredients for a wide range of applications.

*Skin Health & Anti-Aging:* There are a multitude of topical treatments and dietary supplements marketed for skin health and/or anti-aging applications, including premium multi-collagen peptides capsules such as, Well Roots Biotin Rich Plus Collagen, Heliocare Skin Care Dietary Supplement, CoQ10 Supplement, Vitamin C, Peptan®, Verisol®, and Pure Gold Collagen®.

## Material Agreements

### *Zoetis Collaboration/Option Agreement*

On December 20, 2013, the Company entered into a collaboration, confidentiality and option agreement with Zoetis (as amended from time to time, the "Zoetis Agreement"), formerly Pfizer Animal Health, and the world's largest animal health company, pursuant to which the Company is conducting bovine mastitis research.

Under the Zoetis Agreement, the Company granted Zoetis an exclusive option to negotiate an exclusive license with the Company for Company proprietary technology for bovine mastitis, including its identified and characterized natural molecule and its synthetic fatty acid/polysaccharide complex, and derivatives/homologs/isomers thereof, and production of the same (the "Technology"). The Company is required to execute a study under the supervision of Zoetis, the results of which will be used by Zoetis to evaluate whether or not to exercise its option. Within 90 days of its receipt of results, Zoetis must notify the Company whether or not it wishes to secure an exclusive license, and the negotiation of such license and payment terms will be made at that time.

The Zoetis Agreement has been extended through seven amendments, with the current term set to expire on January 30, 2023.

### ***NutriQuest Collaborative Marketing Agreement***

In April 2017, the Company entered into a limited license agreement with animal nutrition innovator NutriQuest (the “NutriQuest Agreement”), which holds feed formulation contracts with Tyson, Purdue, Smithfield and other large poultry and pork processors around the world. Poultry feed testing has shown that the Company’s proprietary algal strain may be a natural immune modulator that may enter the market as a natural products of phytogetic feed ingredient, providing the No Antibiotics Ever (“NAE”) producers with a non-medicated feed alternative.

Under the NutriQuest Agreement, ZIVO granted to NutriQuest a limited, exclusive license to market, distribute sell and collect the sales proceeds in all ZIVO’s nutrition, feed additive and supplementation applications naturally-derived algal biomass and extraction products (collectively the “Products”) for oral administration in poultry and swine. The Products were to be sold under the NutriQuest brand, with logos and packaging chosen by NutriQuest, with NutriQuest marketing, distributing and collecting revenues from sales of the Products. The parties were to equally share the gross profit.

Additionally, if ZIVO had licensed its intellectual property to another party in the animal nutrition market (a “Competitive Product”), NutriQuest had the right to exercise either of the following two options: Market Adjustment Option: ZIVO would pay NutriQuest a market adjustment that is equal to 15% of the gross profit earned by ZIVO on the Competitive Product; and Put Option: NutriQuest had an option to terminate the NutriQuest Agreement and require ZIVO to pay NutriQuest a termination fee equal to three times NutriQuest’s 50% portion of the highest annualized gross profit achieved by NutriQuest in any 12 consecutive month period from inception of sales pursuant to the NutriQuest Agreement.

On May 1, 2022, the Company acknowledged that the NutriQuest Agreement was terminated pursuant to its terms.

### ***NutriChipz Supply Agreement***

In June 2018, ZIVO entered into an exclusive U.S.-only supply agreement with NutriChipz (the “NutriChipz Agreement”), which provided an exclusive license to NutriChipz to supply our algae as an ingredient in chips and crisps. Under the NutriChipz Agreement, Nutrichipz was to pay ZIVO an amount equal to 130% of the direct cost of ZIVO algal biomass at a US port of entry; provided, however, that such cost were not to exceed \$15,000 per metric ton. The NutriChipz Agreement had a term of five years, subject to up to two additional two-year terms at the election of NutriChipz. However, if at any point after the date that was 12 months following the first delivery by ZIVO of two tons of its product to Nutrichipz at an average price per ton of no more than \$8,000, Nutrichipz failed to purchase at monthly cumulative average of at least 10 tons of product, then ZIVO would be released from the exclusivity obligations. Additionally, either party was able to terminate the NutriChipz Agreement if the other party breached the Nutrichipz Agreement, and did not cure such breach within 90 days, or upon certain insolvency, bankruptcy events of the other party.

On September 28, 2022, the NutriChipz Agreement was terminated by the parties. Upon termination of the NutriChipz Agreement, ZIVO granted NutriChipz a four (4) year right of first refusal (“NutriChipzROFR”) (commencing on September 28, 2022) should ZIVO (or its affiliate or subsidiary) intend to sell its algae biomass to an unrelated party in an arm’s length transaction as an ingredient for human consumption in any of the following:

- (i) A savory snack food in the form of a crisp, flat, or slightly bowl shaped, bite-sized unit that has been either deep fried, baked, or air fried until crunchy; or
- (ii) A fresh, perishable flexible, non-leavened flatbread marketed for use as a sandwich wrap.

NutriChipz must exercise the NutriChipz ROFR within thirty (30) days of receipt of notice of the above. If NutriChipz timely exercises the NutriChipz ROFR, then ZIVO and NutriChipz must, in good faith, negotiate and enter into a licensing agreement for the described use, in the form provided by ZIVO at that time for similar uses of food for human consumption and on terms, quantity, and pricing similar to those provided to the unrelated party.

### **Intellectual Property**

Protection of our intellectual property is a strategic priority for our business. We rely on a combination of patents, trademarks, copyrights, trade secrets as well as nondisclosure and assignment of invention agreements, material transfer agreements, confidentiality agreements and other measures to protect our intellectual property and other proprietary rights.

## Patents and Proprietary Rights

### *ZIVO Algal Products & Derivatives*

We have rights in certain granted patents, patent application publications and trademarks. With respect to patents and trademarks, we have secured patent and federal trademark registrations in the USPTO, including the below:

- U.S. Patent No. 7,807,622 issued October 5, 2010, relates to our proprietary complex algal culture. The title of the patent is: “Composition and use of phyto-percolate for treatment of disease.” This invention relates generally to a method of preparation of a phyto-percolate that is derived from freshwater mixture including algae. The invention further relates to the potential use of the phyto-percolate in a variety of disease states. This patent was filed on November 30, 2006 and has a term of 20 years from the earliest claimed filing date.
- U. S. Patent No. 8,586,053 issued November 19, 2013, relates to our proprietary algal culture. The title of the patent is: “Composition and Use of Phytopercolate for Treatment of Disease.” This invention relates generally to a method of preparation of a phyto-percolate that is derived from fresh water mixture including algae. The invention further relates to the use of the phyto-percolate in a variety of disease states. The phyto-percolate is believed to contain an activity that induces the reduction of soluble and insoluble fibrin. Further, the phyto-percolate is believed to reduce oxidative stress in the body. The patent was filed on April 20, 2006 and has a term of 20 years from the earliest claimed filing date.
- U.S. Patent No. 8,791,060 issued July 29, 2014, relates to our proprietary culture. Title of the patent is the same: “Composition and Use of Phytopercolate for Treatment of disease.” This invention relates generally to a method of preparation of a phyto- percolate that is derived from fresh water mixture including algae. The invention further describes proteolytic activity. The patent was filed on October 4, 2010 and has a term of 20 years from the earliest claimed filing date.
- U.S. Patent No. 9,486,005 issued November 8, 2016, relates to our proprietary culture. Title of the patent is: “Agents and Mechanisms for Treating Hypercholesterolemia.” This invention relates generally to a method of treating hypercholesterolemia in mammals, by administering an effective amount of microbial fermentation product and regulating genes involved in lipoprotein metabolism.
- U.S. Patent No. 10,161,928, issued December 25, 2018, relates to a panel for monitoring levels of biomarkers. Title of the patent is: “Wellness Panel.” This invention relates generally to an assay having at least one inflammation monitoring test, at least one oxidative stress monitoring test, and at least one antioxidant activity monitoring test. A method of monitoring an individual’s health, by collecting a sample from the individual applying the sample to an assay panel performing at least one inflammation monitoring test, at least one oxidative stress monitoring test, and at least one antioxidant activity monitoring test in the panel, and determining levels of biomarkers related to inflammation, oxidative stress, and antioxidant activity and therefore providing information regarding the individual’s relative health and/or risk of developing one or more disease.
- U.S. Patent No. 10,166,270, issued January 1, 2019, relates to disclosing a composition and method for effecting various cytokines and NF-KB. Title of the patent is: Composition and Method for Affecting Cytokines and NF-KB.” This invention relates generally to administering an effective amount of a phyto-percolate composition to an individual. In various exemplary embodiments, the composition is claimed to be useful for the effective treatment of inflammation, cancer, and/or various infections including HIV by regulation of various interleukins, such as IL-10 and IL-2, and of transcription factors including NF-KB.
- U.S. Patent No. 10,232,028, issued March 19, 2019, relates to isolates and fractions from a phyto-percolate and methods for affecting various cytokines by administering an effective amount of one or more of said isolates or fractions to an animal. In various exemplary embodiments, the isolates are useful for the treatment of bovine, canine and swine infection or inflammation, including bovine mastitis, by regulation of TNF-a, lactoferrin, INF-y, IL-B, serum amyloid-A (SAA), IL-6 and/or B-de-fensin associated with infection or an immune response generally.
- U.S. Patent 10,765,732 issued September 8, 2020, title: Compounds and Methods for Affecting Cytokines. relates isolates and fractions from a phyto-percolate and methods for affecting various cytokines by administering an effective amount of one or more of said isolates or fractions to an animal. In various exemplary embodiments, the isolates are useful for the treatment of bovine, canine and swine infection or inflammation, including bovine mastitis.

- U.S. Patent 10,842,179 issued on November 24, 2020, titled: Agents and Mechanisms for Treating Hypercholesterolemia relates to methods of treating hypercholesterolemia in mammals using a microbial fermentation and the regulation of genes involved in lipoprotein metabolism. A related European family member, EP2538951, was also granted on April 22, 2020.
- U.S. Patent 11,065,287 issued on July 20, 2021, titled: Methods of Modulating Immune and Inflammatory Responses Via Administration of an Algal Biomass relates to algal biomass and supernatant derived from at least one species of algae exhibits anti-inflammatory and immune response modulating properties. Methods of reducing the symptoms of or treating a condition or disease in an animal, including bovine mastitis and Bovine Respiratory Disease Complex, and the pain and discomfort caused by osteoarthritis, injury or overexertion or muscle and connective tissue strains, A related Brazilian family member, BR112017017599, was also granted on November 16th, 2021.
- Canadian Patent CA3014897 issued on December 29, 2020, titled: Nutritional Support for Animals Via Administration of an Algal Derived Supplement relates to an algal biomass and supernatant derived from at least one species of algae exhibits the ability to maintain general health in humans and non-human animals and promote a healthy immune system in them. Food, feed and nutritional supplements comprising an algal biomass or supernatant derived from at least one species of algae are described. Methods of maintaining general health or promoting a healthy immune system in humans and non-human animals comprises administering to the animal in need thereof an algal biomass or supernatant derived from at least one species of algae, or an extract, derivative or homeopathic compound derived from the algae species, biomass or supernatant, or a composition thereof.
- Canadian Patent CA2631773 issued on April 26, 2022, titled Composition and Use of Phyto-Percolate for Treatment of Disease relates to generally to a method of preparation of phyto-percolate that is derived from fresh water mixture including algae. The phyto-percolate is believed to contain an enzyme having proteolytic activity. The invention further relates to the use of the phyto-percolate in a variety of disease states.
- European Patent 2538951 issued on April 22, 2020, titled Agents and Mechanisms for Preventing Hypercholesterolemia relates to the extractions from algae. In particular, the present inventor relates to cholesterol-lowering extractions from algae and extractions that have the ability to favorably shift HDL.LDL profile in mammals.

We also have allowed pending trademark applications for “KALGAE,” “ZIVO”, and “ZIVO Bioscience” in several countries. We may have other common law rights in other trademarks, trade names, service marks, and the like which will continue as long as we use those respective marks.

### ***Patents***

The term of individual patents and patent applications will depend upon the legal term of the patents in the countries in which they are obtained. In most countries, the patent term is 20 years from the date of filing of the patent application (or parent application, if applicable). For example, if an international Patent Cooperation Treaty (“PCT”) application is filed, any patent issuing from the PCT application in a specific country expires 20 years from the filing date of the PCT application. In the United States, using the Paris Convention route, if a patent was in force on June 8, 1995, or issued on an application that was filed before June 8, 1995, that patent will have a term that is the greater of 20 years from the filing date, or 17 years from the date of issue.

Under the Hatch-Waxman Act, the term of a patent that covers an FDA-approved drug or biological product may also be eligible for patent term extension (“PTE”). PTE permits restoration of a portion of the patent term of a U.S. patent as compensation for the patent term lost during product development and the FDA regulatory review process if approval of the application for the product is the first permitted commercial marketing of a drug or biological product containing the active ingredient. The patent term restoration period is generally one-half the time between the effective date of an investigational new drug (IND) and the submission date of a biological license application (“BLA”) plus the time between the submission date of a BLA and the approval of that application. The Hatch-Waxman Act permits a PTE for only one patent applicable to an approved drug, and the maximum period of restoration is five years beyond the expiration of the patent. A PTE cannot extend the remaining term of a patent beyond a total of 14 years from the date of product approval, and a patent can only be extended once, and thus, even if a single patent is applicable to multiple products, it can only be extended based on one product. Similar provisions may be available in Europe and certain other foreign jurisdictions to extend the term of a patent that covers an approved drug. When possible, depending upon the length of clinical trials and other factors involved in the filing of a BLA, we expect to apply for PTEs for patents covering our therapeutic candidates and products and their methods of use.

The following patent filings are pertinent to the operation of the ZIVO business:

Application Name	Country	Application No.	Status
Agents and Method for improving Gut Health	US	17/465,457	Under Prosecution; Published April 28, 2022
Algal Feed Ingredient for Controlling Coccidiosis and Necrotic Enteritis in Poultry	US	17/415,221	Under Prosecution; Notice of Publication March 10, 2022
Algal Feed Ingredient for Controlling Coccidiosis and Necrotic Enteritis in Poultry	Brazil	12021012229	Under Prosecution
Algal Feed Ingredient for Controlling Coccidiosis and Necrotic Enteritis in Poultry	Canada	3124190	Under Prosecution
Algal Feed Ingredient for Controlling Coccidiosis and Necrotic Enteritis in Poultry	Europe	901280.08	Under Prosecution
Algal Feed Ingredient for Controlling Coccidiosis and Necrotic Enteritis in Poultry	Hong Kong	62022046143	Under Prosecution
Algal Feed Ingredient for Controlling Coccidiosis and Necrotic Enteritis in Poultry	Mexico	MX/a/a2021/007359	Under Prosecution
Algal Feed Ingredient for Controlling Coccidiosis and Necrotic Enteritis in Poultry	Peru	1048-2021	Under Prosecution
Algal Feed Ingredient for Controlling Coccidiosis and Necrotic Enteritis in Poultry	Thailand	2101003721	Under Prosecution
Algal Feed Ingredient for Controlling Coccidiosis and Necrotic Enteritis in Poultry	US	PCT/US19/67600	Under Prosecution; Published June 25, 2022; National Stage Deadline June 21, 2021
Algoriphagus SP, Bosea SP, Brevundimonas SP, Desulfovibrio SP, Microbacterium SP, Sphingomonas SP, and Variovorax SP for Use in Disease Prevention and Treatment (Complete)	US	17/576,237	Under Prosecution; published July 21, 2022
Algoriphagus SP, Bosea SP, Brevundimonas SP, Desulfovibrio SP, Microbacterium SP, Sphingomonas SP, and Variovorax SP for Use in Disease Prevention and Treatment (Complete)	US	PCT/US2022/012499	Under Prosecution; Published July 28, 2023; National Stage Deadline July 15, 2023;
Algoriphagus SP, Bosea SP, Brevundimonas SP, Desulfovibrio SP, Microbacterium SP, Sphingomonas SP, and Variovorax SP for Use in Disease Prevention and Treatment (Simplified)	US	17/576,444	Under Prosecution; Published July 21, 2022
Composition and Method For Affecting Cytokines and NF-κB	Brazil	BR 11 2012 011678 9	Under Prosecution
Dietary Supplements, Food Ingredients and Foods Comprising High-Protein Algal Biomass	Brazil	BR112019018600	Under Prosecution
Dietary Supplements, Food Ingredients and Foods Comprising High-Protein Algal Biomass	Mexico	MX/a/2019/010670	Under Prosecution
Dietary Supplements, Food Ingredients and Foods Comprising High-Protein Algal Biomass	Peru	1820-2019	Under Prosecution
Dietary Supplements, Food Ingredients and Foods Comprising High-Protein Algal Biomass	Thailand	190105502	Under Prosecution
Dietary Supplements, Food Ingredients and Foods Comprising High-Protein Algal Biomass	China	2.0188E+11	Under Prosecution

Dietary Supplements, Food Ingredients and Foods Comprising High-Protein Algal Biomass	Hong Kong	62020009617	Under Prosecution
Dietary Supplements, Food Ingredients and Foods Comprising High-Protein Algal Biomass	US	PCT/US18/21215	Under Prosecution; Published September 13, 2018; National Stage Deadline March 6, 2018
Dietary Supplements, Food, Ingredients and Foods Comprising High-Protein Algal Biomass	Europe	18763110.5	Under Prosecution
Enhancement of Vaccine Efficacy Via Biomass and/or Related Material in Animal Feed	US	17/367,193	Under Prosecution; Published March 3, 2022; National Stage Deadline December 26, 2022
Enhancement of Vaccine Efficacy Via Biomass and/or Related Material in Animal Feed	Europe	22182898.1	Under Prosecution
Enhancement of Vaccine Efficacy Via Biomass and/or Related Material in Animal Feed	Brazil	BR 102022013331-0	Under Prosecution
Enhancement of Vaccine Efficacy Via Biomass and/or Related Material in Animal Feed	China	2.02211E+11	Under Prosecution
Enhancement of Vaccine Efficacy Via Biomass and/or Related Material in Animal Feed	India	2.02244E+11	Under Prosecution
Immune Priming To Accelerate/Enhance Immune Response Through Administration of Natural Immune Modulator	US	PCT/US21/139180	Under Prosecution; Published December 30, 2021; National Stage Deadline December 26, 2022
Immune Priming To Accelerate/Enhance Immune Response Through Administration of Natural Immune Modulator	US	17/358,878	Under Prosecution; Published January 20, 2022
Immune Priming To Accelerate/Enhance Immune Response Through Administration of Natural Immune Modulator	Austria	2021296916	Under Prosecution
Immune Priming To Accelerate/Enhance Immune Response Through Administration of Natural Immune Modulator	Brazil	112022026479-8	Under Prosecution
Immune Priming To Accelerate/Enhance Immune Response Through Administration of Natural Immune Modulator	Canada	3182630	Under Prosecution
Immune Priming To Accelerate/Enhance Immune Response Through Administration of Natural Immune Modulator	China	TBD	Under Prosecution
Immune Priming To Accelerate/Enhance Immune Response Through Administration of Natural Immune Modulator	Europe	218288421	Under Prosecution
Immune Priming To Accelerate/Enhance Immune Response Through Administration of Natural Immune Modulator	Japan	TBD	Under Prosecution
Immune Priming To Accelerate/Enhance Immune Response Through Administration of Natural Immune Modulator	Mexico	Mx/a/2023/000158	Under Prosecution
Immune Priming To Accelerate/Enhance Immune Response Through Administration of Natural Immune Modulator	New Zealand	795393	Under Prosecution
Immune Priming To Accelerate/Enhance Immune Response Through Administration of Natural Immune Modulator	Peru	00344-2022-DIN	Under Prosecution
Immune Priming To Accelerate/Enhance Immune Response Through Administration of Natural Immune Modulator	Russia	2022133478	Under Prosecution

Immune Priming To Accelerate/Enhance Immune Response Through Administration of Natural Immune Modulator	South Africa	2022-13483	Under Prosecution
Maturation of Immune and Metabolic Processes via Algal Biomass and/or Related Material Administered to Animals	US	PCT/US22/14347	Under Prosecution; Published August 4, 2022; National Stage Deadline July 29, 2023
Maturation of Immune and Metabolic Processes via Algal Biomass and/or Related Material Administered to Animals	US	17/587,582	Under Prosecution; Published August 4, 2022
Method of Modulating Immune Response and Inflammatory Response Via Administration Algal Biomass	Brazil	BR 1120170175991	Under Prosecution
Methods of Modulating Immune Response and Inflammatory Response Via Administration of Algal Biomass	Europe	16752918.9	Under Prosecution
Methods of Modulating Immune Response and Inflammatory Response Via Administration of Algal Biomass	Hong Kong	18108238.5	Under Prosecution
Methods of Modulating Immune Response and Inflammatory Response Via Administration of Algal Biomass	Canada	3,011,687	Under Prosecution
Methods of Modulating Immune Response and Inflammatory Response Via Administration of Algal Biomass	US	PCT/US16/18105	Under Prosecution; Published August 25, 2016; National Stage Deadline August 16, 2017
Natural Feed Composition Derived from Fresh Water Algal Cultures for the Promotion of Animal Growth	US	17/410,016	Under Prosecution; Published July 28, 2022
Natural Feed Composition Derived from Fresh Water Algal Cultures for the Promotion of Animal Growth	US	PCT /US21/50847	Under Prosecution; Published February 3, 2022; National Stage Deadline January 27, 2023
Nutritional Support for Animals Via Administration of an Algal Derived Supplement	Europe	17753729.7	Under Prosecution
Nutritional Support for Animals Via Administration of an Algal Derived Supplement	Mexico	MX/a/2018/009818	Under Prosecution
Nutritional Support for Animals Via Administration of an Algal Derived Supplement	China	201780023561.5	Under Prosecution
Nutritional Support for Animals Via Administration of an Algal Derived Supplement	Hong Kong	19,125,173	Under Prosecution
Nutritional Support for Animals Via Administration of an Algal Derived Supplement	US	PCT/US17/17906	Under Prosecution; Published August 24, 2017; National Stage Deadline August 15, 2018
Nutritional Support for Animals Via Administration of an Algal Derived Supplement	US	15/998,619	Under Prosecution; Published October 22, 2020
Positive Latency Effects on Coccidiosis Prevention and Treatment via Animal Feed	US	PCT/US21/139178	Under Prosecution; Published December 30, 2021; National Stage Deadline December 26, 2022
Positive Latency Effects on Coccidiosis Prevention and Treatment via Animal Feed	US	17/358,953	Under Prosecution; Published February 24, 2022
Positive Latency Effects on Coccidiosis Prevention and Treatment via Animal Feed	Australia	202129453	Under Prosecution

Positive Latency Effects on Coccidiosis Prevention and Treatment via Animal Feed	Brazil	112022026461-5	Under Prosecution
Positive Latency Effects on Coccidiosis Prevention and Treatment via Animal Feed	Canada	TBD	Under Prosecution
Positive Latency Effects on Coccidiosis Prevention and Treatment via Animal Feed	China	417764600	Under Prosecution
Positive Latency Effects on Coccidiosis Prevention and Treatment via Animal Feed	Europe	2182917.9	Under Prosecution
Positive Latency Effects on Coccidiosis Prevention and Treatment via Animal Feed	Japan	TBD	Under Prosecution
Positive Latency Effects on Coccidiosis Prevention and Treatment via Animal Feed	Mexico	Mx/a/2023/000166	Under Prosecution
Positive Latency Effects on Coccidiosis Prevention and Treatment via Animal Feed	New Zealand	795328	Under Prosecution
Positive Latency Effects on Coccidiosis Prevention and Treatment via Animal Feed	Peru	003043-2022-DIN	Under Prosecution
Positive Latency Effects on Coccidiosis Prevention and Treatment via Animal Feed	Russia	2022133470	Under Prosecution
Positive Latency Effects on Coccidiosis Prevention and Treatment via Animal Feed	South Africa	2022/13479	Under Prosecution
The Use of Variovorax Microbes as a Coccidiostat	US	17/400,790	Under Prosecution; Published February 17, 2022
The Use of Variovorax Microbes as a Coccidiostat	US	PCT/US21/45744	Under Prosecution; Published February 17, 2022; National Stage Deadline February 12, 2023
Use of TLR4 Modulator in the Treatment of Coccidiosis	US	17/320,706	Under Prosecution; Published November 18, 2021
Use of TLR4 Modulator in the Treatment of Coccidiosis	US	PCT/US21/32457	Under Prosecution; Published November 18, 2021; National Stage Deadline November 14, 2022
Use of TLR4 Modulator in the Treatment of Coccidiosis	Australia	2021271805	Under Prosecution
Use of TLR4 Modulator in the Treatment of Coccidiosis	Brazil	BR 11 2022 022083 9	Under Prosecution
Use of TLR4 Modulator in the Treatment of Coccidiosis	Canada	3177327	Under Prosecution
Use of TLR4 Modulator in the Treatment of Coccidiosis	China	202180034578.7	Under Prosecution
Use of TLR4 Modulator in the Treatment of Coccidiosis	Europe	21805132.4	Under Prosecution
Use of TLR4 Modulator in the Treatment of Coccidiosis	Japan	2022-560562	Under Prosecution
Use of TLR4 Modulator in the Treatment of Coccidiosis	Mexico	MX/a/2022/04213	Under Prosecution
Use of TLR4 Modulator in the Treatment of Coccidiosis	New Zealand	793737	Under Prosecution
Use of TLR4 Modulator in the Treatment of Coccidiosis	Russia	2022128942	Under Prosecution
Use of TLR4 Modulator in the Treatment of Coccidiosis	South Africa	2022/11691	Under Prosecution

The following trademark filings are pertinent to the operation of ZIVO’s business:

<b>Trademark</b>	<b>Filing Date</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Status</b>
Kalgae	6/13/2018	87/961,009	US	Under Prosecution
ZIVO	7/22/2022	97/516,573	US	Under Prosecution
ZIVO	12/20/2020	48512762 (Class 29)	CN	Issued
ZIVO	12/20/2020	48512762 (Class 5)	CN	Issued
ZIVO	12/20/2020	48512744 (Class 31)	CN	Issued
ZIVO	7/30/2020	TMZC48512763ZCSL01	CN	Issued
ZIVO Bioscience	2/4/2019	88/288,453	US	Under Prosecution
Zivo Bioscience	2/4/2019	88/288,453	US	Notice of Design Search Code issued
ZIVO Bioscience and Device	7/30/2020	48512743 (Class 5)	CN	Issued
ZIVO Bioscience and Device	12/20/2020	48512742 (Class 29)	CN	Issued
ZIVO Bioscience and Device	12/20/2020	48512741 (Class 31)	CN	Issued

### ***Trade Secrets***

We also rely on trade secrets, technical know-how and continuing innovation to develop and maintain our competitive position. We seek to protect such intellectual property and proprietary information by generally requiring our employees, consultants, contractors, scientific collaborators and other advisors to execute non-disclosure and assignment of invention agreements upon the commencement of their employment or engagement as the case may be. Our agreements with our employees prohibit them from providing us with any intellectual property or proprietary information of third parties. We also generally require confidentiality agreements or material transfer agreements with third parties that receive or have access to our confidential information, data or other materials. Notwithstanding the foregoing, there can be no assurance that our employees and third parties that have access to our confidential proprietary information will abide by the terms of their agreements. Despite the measures that we take to protect our intellectual property and confidential information, unauthorized third parties may copy aspects of our products or obtain and use our proprietary information.

### **Government Regulation**

#### ***Overview***

##### ***Biotech***

As a discovery-stage licensor, we do not intend to fund and oversee the final regulatory approvals and commercialization processes of our product candidates, as we expect these to be borne by the licensee in all cases.

##### ***Agtech***

As the licensor of food technology, and producer of culture inoculum for cultivation, ZIVO and its licensed growers must furnish to customers algal biomass that is compliant with all food standards and FDA regulations. In all cases, the compliance efforts involve GRAS affirmation and potentially an FDA “No Objection” or “No Questions” letter for each target specie. ZIVO has already obtained self-affirmed GRAS status for human use.

#### ***Feed Ingredients & Supplements - Companion Animals***

Although state and AAFCO officials regulate companion animal feeds, treats and supplements, the supervision and standards are largely handled by the FDA and the CVM on a national level. We currently do not have approval to sell companion animal feed ingredients since we must first develop the specie-specific safety and health data required to do so. Companion animal products are aimed primarily at dogs and horses. We believe that a single safety/tox study and a separate dose/benefit study per animal applications will be sufficient. As with humans, we would seek to obtain a GRAS affirmation.

To clarify, an “application” is a single ingredient in a single formulation and a single claim for a single animal species. Therefore, a dietary supplement derived from the Company’s algal biomass, intended as a joint health supplement for adult dogs, constitutes a single application. That single application requires its own studies before any dog treat manufacturer would consider licensing or purchasing the Company’s material. Any change to the claims (more energy, shinier coat, etc.) or the target specie requires a new study. This is the current state of regulation, and it holds true for all human and animal applications.

### ***Food Ingredient - Human***

The food ingredient industry is regulated by several federal agencies. Anything that is introduced into food or beverages, whether to prevent spoilage, optimize processing or to enhance its nutritive value, must meet standards set and enforced rigorously by the FDA and USDA.

### ***GRAS (Generally Regarded as Safe)***

The FDA requires that ingredients introduced into human foods and beverages are safe and are manufactured in a consistent manner that guarantees consumer safety. The standard that the Company must meet for food ingredient safety is GRAS. The Company opted to self-affirm GRAS status for its algal biomass, and upon completion in November 2018 of the self-affirmation process, the biomass may be used as a food ingredient. The Company may submit the self-affirmed GRAS report to the FDA in expectation the agency will respond to the Company noting “no questions” concerning our data.

In 2016, ZIVO contracted the Burdock Group to assist the Company in the compliance process, and to help with the process with the FDA. Further, the Company retained the New York law firm of Ullman Shapiro Ullman LLP, now part of Rivkin-Radler LLP, to advise in the compliance process.

### ***Current Good Manufacturing Process***

The other set of standards that must be met before any ingredient can be introduced into foods and beverages are the current Good Manufacturing Practices (“cGMPs”). The Company is required to register as a producer of food and/or dietary supplement ingredients with FDA and will thus be subject to inspection by the agency for compliance with applicable cGMP regulations.

In addition, there are numerous state and local licensing and inspection requirements should the product be produced in the U.S. If produced overseas, the FDA, USDA and U.S. Customs require that each grower is enrolled in the Foreign Supplier Verification Program, a cost to be borne by the grower and ZIVO.

### ***Dietary Supplements***

Dietary supplements, which include vitamins, minerals, nutritive substances, and natural products that are standalone products (“nutraceuticals”) fall under the jurisdiction of the FDA and must comply with the Dietary Supplement Health Education Act (“DSHEA”) legislation passed in 1994 and updated several times since, along with the Food Safety Modernization Act of 2011.

### ***NDI Application***

As human dietary supplement applications are being readied for market launch, the Company is required to file a New Dietary Ingredient (NDI) Notification. The standard applied to NDI Notifications is “reasonable expectation of safety” for intended use as a supplement. As part of the notification process, ZIVO must conduct at least one human study, and possibly two. These studies can run concurrently but should not be conducted by the same clinical research organization. To date, ZIVO has not run these studies. One such study may be the same dose tolerance study planned to increase the maximum allowable consumption limit as discussed above.

### ***Skin Care and Topical Uses***

The US Congress is contemplating implementation of a statute requiring all skin care and cosmetics production to follow cGMP. If this legislation is passed the Company will need to ensure that it and any contract manufacturers are certified to be cGMP compliant.

### ***Structure/Function Claims***

The Company can go to market (once a single study has been completed and GMP protocols are in evidence) with simple structure/function claims regarding the ability to maintain, for example, a healthy immune response or a beneficial anti-inflammatory response. This is the most basic of FDA standards and essentially means that as long as cGMP standards are met, a study has been conducted and that in-process toxicology reports are available, the Company is able to market its product.

The market reality is that nutraceutical and supplement makers won't take on the product unless its chemical makeup is generally described, the plant or animal is properly classified (in this case, algae) and the manufacturing process is free of health hazards and that cGMP protocols are observed, all of which the Company intends to meet or exceed.

### ***USP Certification***

The DSHEA regulations also require that a safe dosage is established for any vitamin, mineral or dietary supplement, whether it is natural or synthetic in composition. The United States Pharmacopeia ("USP") is the official pharmacopeia of the United States. USP establishes written (documentary) and physical (reference) standards for medicines, food ingredients, dietary supplement products and ingredients.

These standards are used by regulatory agencies and manufacturers to help to ensure that these products are of the appropriate identity, as well as strength, quality, purity, and consistency. The Company will endeavor to adhere to the most basic USP standard in order to maintain speed to market. It or its licensees will then consider the USP Verified products designation.

### **Employees**

As of December 31, 2022 we had 8 full-time employees, consisting of clinical development, product development, regulatory, manufacturing, quality, finance, administration and managers. We also regularly use independent contractors across the organization. None of our employees are represented by a labor union or covered by a collective bargaining agreement. We consider our relationship with our employees to be good.

### **Corporate Information**

We were incorporated under the laws of the State of Nevada on March 28, 1983, under the name of "L. Peck Enterprises, Inc." On May 27, 1999, we changed our name to "Western Glory Hole, Inc." From 1990 until October 2003, we had no business operations; we were in the development stage and were seeking profitable business opportunities. On October 30, 2003, we acquired 100% of the outstanding shares of Health Enhancement Corporation ("HEC") in exchange for 112,500 of our shares, making HEC our wholly-owned subsidiary. In connection with this transaction, we changed our name to Health Enhancement Products, Inc. On October 14, 2014, at the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Company, a proposal was passed to change the name of the Company from Health Enhancement Products, Inc. to Zivo Bioscience, Inc. On October 30, 2014, the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority approved the name Zivo Bioscience, Inc. for trading purposes and the symbol change to ZIVO effective November 10, 2014.

### **Item 1A. Risk Factors.**

*An investment in our securities has a high degree of risk. Before you invest you should carefully consider the risks and uncertainties described below and the other information in this Annual Report. Any of the risks and uncertainties set forth herein could materially and adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition, which in turn could materially and adversely affect the trading price or value of our securities. Additional risks not currently known to us or which we consider immaterial based on information currently available to us may also materially adversely affect us. As a result, you could lose all or part of your investment.*

## **Risks Relating to Our Business**

***Worldwide economic and social instability could adversely affect our revenue, financial condition, or results of operations.***

The health of the global economy, and the credit markets and the financial services industry in particular, as well as the stability of the social fabric of our society, affects our business and operating results. For example, the credit and financial markets may be adversely affected by the current conflict between Russia and Ukraine and measures taken in response thereto. If the credit markets are not favorable, we may be unable to raise additional financing when needed or on favorable terms. Our customers may experience financial difficulties or be unable to borrow money to fund their operations, which may adversely impact their ability to purchase our products or to pay for our products on a timely basis, if at all. In addition, adverse economic conditions, such as recent supply chain disruptions and labor shortages and persistent inflation may adversely impact our suppliers' ability to provide our manufacturer with materials and components, which may negatively impact our business. These economic conditions make it more difficult for us to accurately forecast and plan our future business activities.

***The Company is exposed to risks of political instability and changes in government policies, laws and regulations in Peru.***

The Company's algae ponds are located in the Republic of Peru, and may be adversely affected in varying degrees by political instability, government regulations relating to agriculture and foreign investment therein, and the policies of other nations in respect of Peru. Any changes in regulations or shifts in political conditions are beyond the Company's control and may adversely affect the Company's business. New laws, regulations and requirements may be retroactive in their effect and implementation. The Company's operations may be affected in varying degrees by government regulations, including those with respect to restrictions on production, price controls, export controls, income taxes, expropriation of property, employment, land use, water use, and environmental legislation.

Since December 2022, Peru has experienced an increased level of civil unrest and political protests. Civil unrest has led to disruptions in the ability of foreign nationals to travel to and from Peru. The Company continues to closely monitor the situation and its potential impact on Company operations.

***We are not in compliance with Nasdaq's continued listing requirements. If we are unable to comply with Nasdaq's continued listing requirements, our common stock could be delisted, which could affect our common stock's market price and liquidity and reduce our ability to raise capital.***

Our common stock is currently listed on the Nasdaq Capital Market. Nasdaq imposes, among other requirements, continued listing standards including minimum bid, public float and stockholders' equity requirements.

On November 22, 2022, we received written notice from Nasdaq stating that we no longer comply with the minimum stockholders' equity requirement under Nasdaq Listing Rule 5550(b)(1) for continued listing on the Nasdaq Capital Market because our stockholder's equity, as reported in our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended September 30, 2022, had fallen below \$2.5 million. The notice also indicated that we do not meet the alternative compliance standards.

On January 6, 2023, we submitted our compliance plan to Nasdaq. On January 11, 2023, Nasdaq notified us that it had determined to grant us an extension until May 22, 2023 to regain compliance. If we are unable to regain compliance, Nasdaq may make a determination to delist our common stock. Furthermore, if our common stock is delisted, it will trade, if at all, only on an over-the-counter market, and then only if one or more registered broker-dealer market makers comply with quotation requirements. Upon any such delisting, our common stock could become subject to the regulations of the SEC relating to the market for penny stocks. Generally, any equity security not traded on a national securities exchange that has a market price of less than \$5.00 per share may be deemed a penny stock. Any delisting of our common stock could adversely affect the market liquidity of our common stock and the market price of our common stock could decrease. Furthermore, if our common stock were delisted it could adversely affect our ability to obtain financing for the continuation of our operations and our ability to attract and retain employees by means of equity compensation and/or result in the loss of confidence by investors.

***We have incurred, and may continue to incur increased costs and demands upon management as a result of being a public company.***

As a public company in the United States, listed on the Nasdaq Capital Market, we incur significant legal, accounting and other costs. These additional costs could negatively affect our financial results. In addition, changing laws, regulations and standards relating to corporate governance and public disclosure, including regulations implemented by the SEC and Nasdaq, may increase legal and financial compliance costs and make some activities more time-consuming. These laws, regulations and standards are subject to varying interpretations and, as a result, their application in practice may evolve over time as new guidance is provided by regulatory and governing bodies. We intend to invest resources to comply with evolving laws, regulations and standards, and this investment may result in increased general and administrative expenses and a diversion of management's time and attention from revenue-generating activities to compliance activities. If, notwithstanding our efforts to comply with new laws, regulations and standards, we fail to comply, regulatory authorities may initiate legal proceedings against us and our business may be harmed.

Failure to comply with these rules might also make it more difficult for us to obtain some types of insurance, including director and officer liability insurance, and we might be forced to accept reduced policy limits and coverage or incur substantially higher costs to obtain the same or similar coverage. The impact of these events could also make it more difficult for us to attract and retain qualified persons to serve on our Board, on committees of our Board or as members of senior management.

***We have a history of operating losses, and we may not be able to achieve or sustain profitability. In addition, we may be unable to continue as a going concern.***

We have incurred net losses during each of our fiscal years since our inception. Our net loss for the year ended December 31, 2022 was approximately \$8.7 million and our accumulated deficit totaled approximately \$115.8 million as of December 31, 2022. We do not know whether or when we will become profitable, if ever. We currently expect operating losses and negative cash flows to continue for at least the next several years.

Our ability to generate sufficient revenue to achieve profitability depends on our ability, either alone or with strategic collaboration partners, to successfully complete the development of, and obtain the regulatory approvals necessary to commercialize our product candidates.

Our audited consolidated financial statements as of and for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021 have been prepared on the basis that we will continue as a going concern, which contemplates the realization of assets and satisfaction of liabilities in the normal course of business. Our auditor's report for the year ended December 31, 2022 contains an explanatory paragraph that we have incurred significant losses since our inception and we expect that we will continue to incur losses as we aim to successfully execute our business plan and will be dependent on additional public or private financings, collaborations or licensing arrangements with strategic partners, or additional credit lines or other debt financing sources to fund continuing operations. Based on our cash balances, recurring losses since inception and our existing capital resources to fund our planned operations for a twelve-month period, there is substantial doubt about our ability to continue as a going concern. As noted below, we will need to obtain additional funding from equity or debt financings, which may require us to agree to burdensome covenants, grant security interests in our assets, enter into collaboration and licensing arrangements that require us to relinquish commercial rights, or grant licenses on terms that are not favorable. No assurance can be given at this time as to whether we will be able to achieve our fundraising objectives, regardless of the terms. If adequate funds are not available, the Company may be required to reduce operating expenses, delay or reduce the scope of its product development programs, obtain funds through arrangements with others that may require the Company to relinquish rights to certain of its technologies or products that the Company would otherwise seek to develop or commercialize itself, or cease operations.

***We will require substantial additional financing to achieve our goals, and our failure to obtain this necessary capital when needed could force us to delay, limit, reduce or terminate our product development efforts.***

Our operations have consumed substantial amounts of cash since inception. We expect to continue to incur significant expenses and operating losses for the foreseeable future in connection with our planned research, development and product commercialization efforts. In addition, we will require additional financing to achieve our goals and our failure to do so could adversely affect our commercialization efforts. We anticipate that our expenses will increase substantially if and as we:

- continue our development process for our product candidates;
- seek to maintain, protect and expand our intellectual property portfolio; and
- seek to attract and retain skilled personnel.

If we were to experience any delays or encounter issues with any of the above, it could further increase the costs associated with the above. Further, the net operating losses we incur may fluctuate significantly from quarter to quarter and year to year, such that a period-to-period comparison of our results of operations may not be a good indication of our future performance.

***Our production of algae involves an agricultural process, subject to such risks as weather, disease, contamination and water availability.***

The production of our proprietary algae strain involves complex agricultural systems with inherent risks including weather, disease and contamination. These risks are unpredictable, and the efficient and effective cultivation of algae requires consistent light, warm temperatures, low rainfall and proper chemical balance in a very nutrient rich environment.

If the chemical composition of a pond changes from its required balance, unusually high levels of contamination due to the growth of unwanted organisms or other biological problems may occur and would result in a loss of harvestable output. These often arise without warning and sometimes there are few or no clear indicators as to appropriate remediation or corrective measures. However, environmental factors cannot be controlled in an open-air environment, therefore, we cannot, and do not attempt to, provide any form of assurance with regard to our systems, processes, location, or cost-effectiveness. In the event that our growers need to take steps to correct any chemical imbalance or contamination of their ponds, including by re-inoculating the ponds, such measures may not be effective and could interrupt production. To the extent that our production is negatively impacted by environmental factors, we may be unable to fill large orders for one or more months until such time that production improves.

***We rely on third parties to grow our proprietary algae strains and conduct research, and preclinical and clinical testing, and these third parties may not perform satisfactorily.***

We do not currently, and do not expect to in the future, independently conduct any aspects of the growth of our proprietary algae strains, research and monitoring and management of our ongoing preclinical and clinical programs. We currently rely, and expect to continue to rely, on third parties with respect to these items, and control only certain aspects of their activities.

Any of these third parties may terminate their engagements with us at any time unless otherwise stated in contractual agreements. If we need to enter into alternative arrangements, our commercialization activities or our therapeutic candidate development activities may be delayed or suspended. Our reliance on these third parties for research and development activities, reduces our control over these activities but does not relieve us of our responsibility to ensure compliance with all required legal, regulatory and scientific standards and any applicable trial protocols.

Any of these events could lead to delays in the development of our product candidates, including delays in our trials, or failure to obtain regulatory approval for our product candidates, or it could impact our ability to successfully commercialize our current product candidates.

***Because our ZIVO algae is currently produced by only one grower, the loss of this grower would have a material adverse impact on our operating results and cash flows.***

Currently only one facility grows our ZIVO algae. Any termination of a business relationship with, or a significant sustained reduction in business received from this grower could delay our production efforts and could have a material adverse effect on our operating results and cash flows. We must materially increase the number of our growers and if we cannot, it will adversely impact our financial condition and our business.

***If we fail to attract and keep our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, senior management and key scientific personnel, we may be unable to successfully develop our therapeutic candidates, conduct our clinical trials and commercialize our therapeutic candidates.***

We are highly dependent on the members of our executive team, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, the loss of whose services may adversely impact the achievement of our objectives. Any of our executive officers could leave our employment at any time, as all of our employees are "at will" employees. Recruiting and retaining other qualified employees, consultants and advisors for our business, including scientific and technical personnel, will also be critical to our success.

Recruiting and retaining qualified scientific, clinical, manufacturing, sales and marketing personnel will also be critical to our success. We may not be able to attract and retain these personnel on acceptable terms given the competition among numerous pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies for similar personnel. We also experience competition for the hiring of scientific and clinical personnel from universities and research institutions. In addition, we rely on consultants and advisors, including scientific and clinical advisors, to assist us in formulating our research and development and commercialization strategy. Our consultants and advisors may be employed by employers other than us and may have commitments under consulting or advisory contracts with other entities that may limit their availability to us.

***If we are unable to enter into agreements with third parties to market and sell our product candidates, if approved, we may be unable to generate any revenues.***

We currently do not have internal sales, marketing and distribution capability for our products and the cost of establishing and maintaining such an organization may exceed the cost-effectiveness of doing so. In order to market any products that may be eligible for commercialization, we must build our sales, distribution, marketing, managerial and other non-technical capabilities or make arrangements with third parties to perform these services. We have limited prior experience in the marketing, sale or distribution of approved products and there are significant risks involved in building and managing a sales organization, including our ability to hire, retain, and incentivize qualified individuals, generate sufficient sales leads, provide adequate training to sales and marketing personnel, and effectively manage a geographically dispersed sales and marketing team. Any failure or delay in the development of our internal sales, marketing and distribution capabilities would adversely impact the commercialization of our therapeutic candidates.

***Because the results of preclinical studies and clinical trials are not necessarily predictive of future results, we can provide no assurances that our other product candidates will have favorable results in future studies or trials.***

Positive results from preclinical studies or clinical trials should not be relied on as evidence that later or larger-scale studies or trials will succeed. Even if our product candidates achieve positive results in early-stage preclinical studies or clinical trials, there is no guarantee that the efficacy of any product candidate shown in early studies will be replicated or maintained in future studies and/or larger populations. Similarly, favorable safety and tolerability data seen in short-term studies might not be replicated in studies of longer duration and/or larger populations. If any product candidate demonstrates insufficient safety or efficacy in any preclinical study or clinical trial, we would experience potentially significant delays in, or be required to abandon, development of that product candidate.

Further, data obtained from clinical trials are susceptible to varying interpretations. If we delay or abandon our efforts to develop any of our product candidates, we may not be able to generate sufficient revenues to become profitable, and our reputation in the industry and in the investment community would likely be significantly damaged, each of which would cause our stock price to decrease significantly.

***Development of certain of our products involves a lengthy and expensive process, with uncertain outcomes. We may, and our current or future licensees may, incur additional costs or experience delays in completing, or ultimately be unable to complete, the development and commercialization of any product.***

We may, and our current or future licensees may, experience numerous unforeseen events during or as a result of clinical trials that could delay or prevent our ability to receive marketing approval or commercialize our products, including:

- regulators may not authorize us or our investigators to commence a clinical trial or conduct a clinical trial at a prospective trial site;
- the failure to successfully complete pre-clinical testing requirements required by the FDA and international organizations;
- delays may occur in reaching, or fail to reach, agreement on acceptable clinical trial contracts with third parties or clinical trial protocols with prospective trial sites, the terms of which can be subject to extensive negotiation and may vary significantly among different trial sites;
- the cost of clinical trials of our products may be greater than we anticipate;
- delays or difficulties in obtaining an FDA No Objection letter for human consumption of our algal biomass; and

If we are required to conduct additional clinical trials or other testing of our biotech product candidates under development or algal biomass beyond those that we contemplate, if we are unable to successfully complete clinical trials of our product candidates under development or algal biomass or other testing, if the results of these trials or tests are not favorable or if there are safety concerns, we may, or our existing or future licensees may:

- not obtain marketing approval at all;
- be delayed in obtaining marketing approvals in a jurisdiction; or
- be subject to additional post-marketing testing requirements.

***Increased regulatory scrutiny of nutritional supplements as well as new regulations that are being adopted in some of our markets with respect to nutritional supplements could result in more restrictive regulations and harm our results if our supplements or advertising activities are found to violate existing or new regulations or if we are not able to effect necessary changes to our products in a timely and efficient manner to respond to new regulations.***

There has been an increasing movement in the United States and other markets to increase the regulation of dietary supplements, which could impose additional restrictions or requirements on us and increase the cost of doing business. On February 11, 2019, the FDA issued a statement from FDA Commissioner, Dr. Scott Gottlieb, regarding the agency's efforts to strengthen the regulation of dietary supplements. The FDA will be prioritizing and focusing resources on misbranded products bearing unproven claims to treat, cure, or mitigate disease. Commissioner Gottlieb established a Dietary Supplement Working Group tasked with reviewing the agency's organizational structure, process, procedures, and practices to identify opportunities to modernize the oversight of dietary supplements. Additionally, on December 21, 2015, the FDA created the Office of Dietary Supplements ("ODSP"). The creation of this new office elevates the FDA's program from its previous status as a division under the Office of Nutrition and Dietary Supplements. ODSP will continue to monitor the safety of dietary supplements.

In August 2016, the FDA published its revised draft guidance on Dietary Supplements: New Dietary Ingredient Notifications and Related Issues. If a company sells a dietary supplement containing an ingredient that FDA considers either not a dietary ingredient or a new dietary ingredient ("NDI") that needs an NDI notification, the agency may threaten or initiate enforcement against such company. For example, it might send a warning letter that can trigger consumer lawsuits, demand a product recall, or even work with the Department of Justice to bring a criminal action. Our operations could be harmed if new guidance or regulations require us to reformulate products or effect new registrations, if regulatory authorities make determinations that any of our products do not comply with applicable regulatory requirements, if the cost of complying with regulatory requirements increases materially, or if we are not able to effect necessary changes to our products in a timely and efficient manner to respond to new regulations. In addition, our operations could be harmed if governmental laws or regulations are enacted that restrict the ability of companies to market or distribute nutritional supplements or impose additional burdens or requirements on nutritional supplement companies.

***The growth of our agtech sector depends in part on market acceptance of products that contain our algae.***

The success of our agtech business involves the use of our algal biomass in various animal and human products. There can be no assurance regarding the successful distribution and market acceptance of products containing our algae. The expenses or losses associated with lack of market acceptance of our products could harm our ability to find or maintain new licensees for these products.

***If our computer systems are hacked, or we experience any other cybersecurity incident, we may face a disruption to our operations, a compromise or corruption of our confidential information and/or damage to our business relationships, all of which could negatively impact our business, results of operations or financial condition.***

We rely on information technology networks and systems, including the Internet, to process, transmit and store electronic information, and to manage or support a variety of business processes and activities. Additionally, we collect and store certain data, including proprietary business information, and may have access to confidential or personal information in certain of our businesses that is subject to privacy and security laws and regulations. These technology networks and systems may be susceptible to damage, disruptions or shutdowns due to failures during the process of upgrading or replacing software, databases or components; power outages; telecommunications or system failures; terrorist attacks; natural disasters; employee error or malfeasance; server or cloud provider breaches; and computer viruses or cyberattacks. Cybersecurity threats and incidents can range from uncoordinated individual attempts to gain unauthorized access to information technology networks and systems to more sophisticated and targeted measures, known as advanced persistent threats, directed at us, our products, customers and/or our third-party service providers. It is possible a security breach could result in theft of trade secrets or other intellectual property or disclosure of confidential customer, supplier or employee information. Should we be unable to prevent security breaches or other damage to our information technology systems, disruptions could have an adverse effect on our operations, as well as expose us to costly litigation, liability or penalties under privacy laws, increased cybersecurity protection costs, reputational damage and product failure.

***The animal health industry is highly competitive.***

The animal health industry is highly competitive. Our competitors include standalone animal health businesses, the animal health businesses of large pharmaceutical companies, specialty animal health businesses and companies that mainly produce generic products. We believe many of our competitors are conducting R&D activities in areas served by our products and in areas in which we are developing products. Several new start-up companies also compete in the animal health industry. We also face competition from manufacturers of drugs globally, as well as producers of nutritional health products. These competitors may have access to greater financial, marketing, technical and other resources. As a result, they may be able to devote more resources to developing, manufacturing, marketing and selling their products, initiating or withstanding substantial price competition or more readily taking advantage of acquisitions or other opportunities.

Competitive pressure could arise from, among other things, more favorable safety and efficacy product profiles, limited demand growth or a significant number of additional competitive products being introduced into a particular market, price reductions by competitors, the ability of competitors to capitalize on their economies of scale, the ability of competitors to produce or otherwise procure animal health products at lower costs than us and the ability of competitors to access more or newer technology than us.

***Our R&D relies on evaluations of animals, which may become subject to bans, additional restrictive regulations or increased attention from activism movements.***

We are required to evaluate the effect of our product candidates in animals. Animal testing in certain industries has been the subject of controversy and adverse publicity. Some organizations and individuals have attempted to ban animal testing or encourage the adoption of new regulations applicable to animal testing. To the extent that the activities of such organizations and individuals are successful, our R&D, and by extension our business, financial condition and results of operations, could be materially adversely affected. In addition, negative publicity about us or our industry could harm our reputation. For example, farm animal producers may experience decreased demand for their products or reputational harm as a result of evolving consumer views of animal rights, nutrition, health-related or other concerns. Any reputational harm to the farm animal industry may also extend to companies in related industries, including our Company. Adverse consumer views related to the use of one or more of our product candidates in farm animals also may result in a decrease in the use of such products and could have a material adverse effect on our operating results and financial condition.

***Use of social media could give rise to liability or reputational harm.***

We and our employees use social media to communicate externally. There is risk that the use of social media by us or our employees to communicate about our product candidates or business may give rise to liability, lead to the loss of trade secrets or other intellectual property or result in public exposure of personal information of our employees, clinical trial patients, customers, and others. Furthermore, negative posts or comments about us or our product candidates in social media could seriously damage our reputation, brand image, and goodwill. Any of these events could have a material adverse effect on our business, prospects, operating results, and financial condition and could adversely affect the price of our common stock.

## **Risks Relating to Our Intellectual Property**

***We may not be able to protect our proprietary algae cultures and bioactive compounds in the marketplace.***

Our success will depend, in part, on our ability to obtain patents, protect our trade secrets and operate without infringing on the proprietary rights of others. We rely upon a combination of patents, trade secret protection, and confidentiality agreements to protect the intellectual property of our products. Patents might not be issued or granted with respect to our patent applications that are currently pending, and issued or granted patents might later be found to be invalid or unenforceable, be interpreted in a manner that does not adequately protect our products or any future products, or fail to otherwise provide us with any competitive advantage. As such, we do not know the degree of future protection that we will have on our products, if any, and a failure to obtain adequate intellectual property protection with respect to our products could have a material adverse impact on our business.

Patent protection may not be available for some of the therapeutic candidates or products we are developing. If we must spend significant time and money protecting or enforcing our patents, designing around patents held by others or licensing, potentially for large fees, patents or other proprietary rights held by others, our business, results of operations and financial condition may be harmed.

***Claims of intellectual property infringement by or against us could seriously harm our businesses.***

From time to time, we may be forced to respond to or prosecute intellectual property infringement claims to defend or protect our rights. These claims, regardless of merit, may consume valuable management time, result in costly litigation or cause product shipment delays. Any of these factors could seriously harm our business and operating results. We may have to enter into royalty or licensing agreements with third parties who claim infringement. These royalty or licensing agreements, if available, may be costly to us. If we are unable to enter into royalty or licensing agreements with satisfactory terms, our business could suffer.

## **Risks Related to Our Common Stock**

***There can be no assurance that we will be able to comply with Nasdaq's continued listing standards, a failure of which could result in a de-listing of our common stock.***

There is no assurance that we will continue to comply with the applicable Nasdaq listing standards. In order to maintain the listing of our common stock, par value \$0.001 per share (the "common stock") and warrants on Nasdaq, Nasdaq requires that the trading price of a company's listed stock on Nasdaq remain above one dollar in order for such stock to remain listed. If a listed stock trades below one dollar for more than 30 consecutive trading days, then it is subject to delisting from Nasdaq, together with any related warrants listed on Nasdaq. In addition, to maintain a listing on Nasdaq, we must satisfy minimum financial and other continued listing requirements and standards, including those regarding director independence and independent committee requirements, minimum stockholders' equity, and certain corporate governance requirements. If we are unable to satisfy these requirements or standards, we could be subject to delisting, which would have a negative effect on the price of our common stock and warrants and would impair your ability to sell or purchase our common stock and warrants when you wish to do so. In the event of a delisting, we would expect to take actions to restore our compliance with the listing requirements, but we can provide no assurance that any such action taken by us would allow our common stock and/or warrants to become listed again, stabilize the market price or improve the liquidity of our common stock, prevent our common stock from dropping below the minimum bid price requirement, or prevent future non-compliance with the listing requirements.

***The market price and trading volume of our securities may be volatile and may be affected by economic conditions beyond our control.***

The market price of our securities is likely to be volatile. Some specific factors that could negatively affect the price of our securities or result in fluctuations in its price and trading volume include:

- results of trials of our product candidates;
- results of trials of our competitors' products;
- regulatory actions with respect to our therapeutic candidates or products or our competitors' products;
- actual or anticipated fluctuations in our quarterly operating results or those of our competitors;
- our failure or the failure of our competitors to meet analysts' projections or guidance that we or our competitors may give to the market;
- issuances by us of debt or equity securities;
- litigation involving our Company, including stockholder litigation; investigations or audits by regulators into the operations of our company; or proceedings initiated by our competitors or clients;
- strategic decisions by us or our competitors, such as acquisitions, divestitures, spin-offs, joint ventures, strategic investments or changes in business strategy;
- trading volume of our common stock;
- announcement or expectation of additional financing efforts;
- terrorist acts, acts of war or periods of widespread civil unrest;
- natural disasters and other calamities;
- changes in market conditions for biotech or agtech stocks;
- influence of retail investors and/or social media on our common stock, such as a massive short squeeze rally; and
- conditions in the U.S. financial markets or changes in general economic conditions.

***Our principal stockholders and management own a significant percentage of our stock and will be able to exert significant control over matters subject to stockholder approval.***

As of December 31, 2022, our largest shareholder, HEP Investments, LLC ("HEP" or "HEP Investments"), beneficially owns approximately 18% of our common stock. Therefore, HEP Investments will have the ability to influence us through this ownership position. This stockholder may be able to determine all matters requiring stockholder approval, including elections of directors, amendments of our organizational documents, or approval of any merger, sale of assets, or other major corporate transaction. This may prevent or discourage unsolicited acquisition proposals or offers for our common stock that an individual may believe are in the stockholders' best interest.

***Our management has identified certain internal control deficiencies, which management believes constitute material weaknesses. Our failure to establish and maintain an effective system of internal controls could result in material misstatements of our financial statements or cause us to fail to meet our reporting obligations or fail to prevent fraud in which case, our stockholders could lose confidence in our financial reporting, which would harm our business and could negatively impact the price of our common stock.***

We review and update our internal controls, disclosure controls and procedures, and corporate governance policies as our Company continues to evolve. In addition, we are required to comply with the internal control evaluation and certification requirements of Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (“**SOX**”) and management is required to report annually on our internal control over financial reporting. Our independent registered public accounting firm will not be required to formally attest to the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting pursuant to Section 404 of SOX until the date we are no longer a “smaller reporting company” as defined by applicable SEC rules.

Our management’s evaluation of the effectiveness of our internal controls over financial reporting as of December 31, 2022 concluded that our controls were not effective, due to material weaknesses resulting from an ineffective overall control environment. The material weaknesses stem primarily from our small size and include the inability to (i) maintain appropriately designed information technology general controls in the areas of user access, vendor management controls, and segregation of duties, including controls over the recording of journal entries, related to certain information technology systems that support the Company’s financial reporting process; and (ii) design and maintain effective controls over complex accounting areas and related disclosures including income tax , stock-based compensation, and deferred research and development obligations - participation agreements. Specifically, management did not identify controls over the review of the tax provision, including the valuation analysis relating to deferred tax assets, considerations for uncertain tax positions, the preparation of income tax footnote and required disclosures and selecting and applying accounting policies, proper review of the financial statements and the application of GAAP relating to the accounting and classification of deferred research and development obligations - participation agreements. Management did not identify controls over the review of stock-based compensation, including the valuation of options granted under the Company’s equity-based compensation plans.

The effects of the accounting errors related to stock-based compensation and income taxes resulted in a revision of our annual report on Form 10-K for the period ending December 31, 2021. Please see “Note 2 - Revision of Previously Issued Financial Statements” for more information.

Such shortcomings could have an adverse effect on our business and financial results. Any system of internal controls, however well designed and operated, is based in part on certain assumptions and can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurances that the objectives of the system are met. Any failure or circumvention of the controls and procedures or failure to comply with regulation concerning control and procedures could have a material effect on our business, results of operation and financial condition. Any of these events could result in an adverse reaction in the financial marketplace due to a loss of investor confidence in the reliability of our financial statements, which ultimately could negatively affect the market price of our shares, increase the volatility of our stock price and adversely affect our ability to raise additional funding. The effect of these events could also make it more difficult for us to attract and retain qualified persons to serve on our Board and as executive officers.

Subject to limitations on liquidity, the Company is planning to take steps to remediate these material weaknesses. However, we cannot assure you that any of the measures we implement to remedy any such deficiencies will effectively mitigate or remedy such deficiencies.

***As a smaller reporting company, we are subject to scaled disclosure requirements that may make it more challenging for investors to analyze our results of operations and financial prospects.***

Currently, we are a “smaller reporting company,” as defined by Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. As a “smaller reporting company,” we are able to provide simplified executive compensation disclosures in our filings and have certain other decreased disclosure obligations in our filings with the SEC, including being required to provide only two years of audited financial statements in annual reports. Consequently, it may be more challenging for investors to analyze our results of operations and financial prospects.

Furthermore, we are a non-accelerated filer as defined by Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act, and, as such, are not required to provide an auditor attestation of management’s assessment of internal control over financial reporting, which is generally required for SEC reporting companies under Section 404(b) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. Because we are not required to, and have not, had our auditor’s provide an attestation of our management’s assessment of internal control over financial reporting, a material weakness in internal controls may remain undetected for a longer period.

***Our annual and quarterly operating results may fluctuate significantly or may fall below the expectations of investors or securities analysts, each of which may cause our stock price to fluctuate or decline.***

We expect our operating results to be subject to annual and quarterly fluctuations. Our net loss and other operating results will be affected by numerous factors, including:

- variations in the level of expenses related to our product candidates, products or future development programs;
- if any of our product candidates receives regulatory approval, the level of underlying demand for these product candidates and wholesalers' buying patterns;
- addition or termination of trials or funding support;
- our execution of any collaborative, licensing or similar arrangements, and the timing of payments we may make or receive under these arrangements;
- any intellectual property infringement lawsuit in which we may become involved;
- regulatory developments affecting our products or those of our competitors;
- the timing and cost of, and level of investment in, research and development activities relating to our product candidates, which may change from time to time;
- our ability to attract, hire and retain qualified personnel;
- expenditures that we will or may incur to acquire or develop additional product candidates and technologies;
- future accounting pronouncements or changes in our accounting policies; and
- the timing and success or failure of clinical studies for our therapeutic candidates or competing product candidates, or any other change in the competitive landscape of our industry, including consolidation among our competitors or partners.

If our annual or quarterly operating results fall below the expectations of investors or securities analysts, the price of our securities could decline substantially. Furthermore, any annual or quarterly fluctuations in our operating results may, in turn, cause the price of our stock to fluctuate substantially. We believe that annual and quarterly comparisons of our financial results are not necessarily meaningful and should not be relied upon as an indication of our future performance.

***Raising additional funds through debt or equity financing could be dilutive and may cause the market price of our common stock to decline.***

To the extent that we raise additional capital through the sale of equity or convertible debt securities, your ownership interest may be diluted, and the terms of these securities may include liquidation or other preferences that adversely affect your rights as a stockholder. Debt financing, if available, may involve agreements that include covenants limiting or restricting our ability to take certain actions, such as incurring debt, making capital expenditures or declaring dividends. If we raise additional funds through collaborations, strategic collaborations or partnerships, or marketing, distribution or licensing arrangements with third parties, we may be required to limit valuable rights to our intellectual property, technologies, therapeutic candidates or future revenue streams, or grant licenses or other rights on terms that are not favorable to us. Furthermore, any additional fundraising efforts may divert our management from their day-to-day activities, which may adversely affect our ability to develop and commercialize our therapeutic candidates.

***Sales of a substantial number of shares of our common stock in the public market could cause our stock price to fall.***

Sales of a substantial number of shares of our common stock in the public market or the perception that these sales might occur, could depress the market price of our common stock and could impair our ability to raise capital through the sale of additional equity securities. We are unable to predict the effect that sales may have on the prevailing market price of our common stock.

***Future sales and issuances of our common stock or rights to purchase our common stock, including pursuant to our equity incentive plans, could result in additional dilution of the percentage ownership of our stockholders and could cause our stock price to fall.***

We expect that significant additional capital will be needed in the future to continue our planned operations. To the extent we raise additional capital by issuing equity securities, our stockholders may experience substantial dilution. We may sell our common stock, convertible securities or other equity securities in one or more transactions at prices and in a manner we determine from time to time. If we sell our common stock, convertible securities or other equity securities in more than one transaction, investors may be materially diluted by subsequent sales. These sales may also result in material dilution to our existing stockholders, and new investors could gain rights superior to our existing stockholders.

***We are at risk of litigation.***

As described in “Item 3 - Legal Proceedings,” we are party to an arbitration dispute with AEGLE Partners, 2 LLC. Additionally, in the past, securities class action litigation has often been brought against a company following a decline in the market price of its securities. This risk is especially relevant for us because biotechnology companies have experienced significant stock price volatility in recent years. If we face such litigation, it could result in substantial costs and a diversion of management’s attention and resources, which could harm our business.

Additionally, on January 1, 2022 we terminated our former Chief Executive Officer for cause, and do not believe that we owe him any severance payments. However, we have not yet reached an agreement with him related to his departure.

Even if we successfully defend against these claims, litigation could result in substantial costs place a significant strain on our financial resources, divert the attention of management from our core business and harm our reputation.

***We do not intend to pay dividends on our common stock so any returns will be limited to the value of our stock.***

We have never declared or paid any cash dividends on our common stock. We currently anticipate that we will retain future earnings for the development, operation and expansion of our business and do not anticipate declaring or paying any cash dividends for the foreseeable future. Any return to stockholders will therefore be limited to the appreciation of their stock.

#### **Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments.**

Not required for smaller reporting companies.

#### **Item 2. Properties.**

The Company’s principal executive office is located at 21 East Long Lake Road, Suite 100, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304 to a facility where we lease roughly 4,800 square feet. We believe that our existing facilities are adequate for our current needs. If we determine that additional or new facilities are needed in the future, we believe that sufficient options would be available to us on commercially reasonable terms. We also lease a laboratory and office (roughly 2,700 square feet) at 608 Danley Drive, Unit #1, Fort Myers, FL 33907.

#### **Item 3. Legal Proceedings.**

On April 13, 2022, AEGLE Partners, 2 LLC (“AEGLE”) initiated an arbitration in Michigan against the Company with the American Arbitration Association. AEGLE asserted claims related to a certain Supply Chain Consulting Agreement entered into between AEGLE and the Company in 2019 (as amended from time to time, the “Agreement”), and a disagreement between AEGLE and the Company regarding whether AEGLE is entitled to payment of certain fees and warrants pursuant to the Agreement. AEGLE’s complaint seeks, among other things, three times the payment of such alleged fees and warrants and recovery of AEGLE’s costs and expenses. We believe that the claims made by AEGLE in its complaint are without merit and we intend to vigorously defend ourselves against them. Arbitration is presently scheduled to begin in April 2023.

Additionally, the Company may be subject to various claims, complaints, and legal actions that arise from time to time in the normal course of business. There can be no assurance that existing or future legal proceedings arising in the ordinary course of business or otherwise will not have a material adverse effect on the Company’s business, financial position, results of operations, or cash flows.

#### **Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures.**

Not applicable.

## PART II

### **Item 5. Market for Registrant’s Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities.**

#### **Market Information**

Our shares of common stock and our warrants trade on the Nasdaq Capital Market under the symbol “ZIVO” and “ZIVOW”, respectively.

#### **Holders**

As of March 1, 2023, there were approximately 224 holders of record of our common stock. The number of holders of record is based on the actual number of holders registered on the books of our transfer agent and does not reflect holders of shares in “street name” or persons, partnerships, associations, corporations, or other entities identified in security position listings maintained by depository trust companies.

#### **Dividend Policy**

We have not paid any cash dividends on our common stock since our inception and do not anticipate paying any cash dividends in the foreseeable future. We plan to retain our earnings, if any, to provide funds for the expansion of our business.

#### **Item 6. [Reserved]**

### **Item 7. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.**

*The following discussion of our financial condition and results of operations should be read in conjunction with our financial statements and related notes included elsewhere in this Annual Report on Form 10-K. This discussion contains certain forward-looking statements that involve risk and uncertainties. Our actual results may differ materially from those discussed below. Factors that could cause or contribute to such differences include, but are not limited to, those identified below and those set forth under the section titled “Risk Factors,” and other documents we file with the SEC. Historical results are not necessarily indicative of future results.*

#### **Overview**

We have put in place a business model in which we may derive future income from licensing and selling natural bioactive ingredients including algal biomass and products that may be derived from or are initially based on the algal biomass. We expect that these planned new products will likely be sold or licensed to much larger, better-financed human and animal pharma companies, and to food, dietary supplement, and skin care manufacturers. The anticipated income streams are to be generated from a) sales of algal biomass or extracts thereof, and b) license payments in the form of royalties and / or other contractual payments for licensed natural bioactive ingredients. Our manufacturing strategy is to create contract manufacturers for our non-licensed products which products will be sold by us to animal food, dietary supplement, and medical food processors and/or name-brand marketers. Further, we expect to license our bioactive molecules as lead compounds or templates for synthetic variants intended for therapeutic applications.

For our Wellmetrix, subsidiary, the Company’s board of directors (the “Board”) and management agreed to halt active product development and instead focus on prospective out-licensing of the existing IP, consisting of a patent and several patents pending. An ongoing commitment to patent prosecution and maintenance of the existing patent portfolio has been approved by the Board.

#### **Financial Overview**

##### ***General and Administrative Expenses***

General and administrative expenses consist primarily of personnel-related costs for personnel in functions not directly associated with research and development activities, professional fees and consultant expenses, and other overhead spending. Personnel related costs include cash compensation, benefits, and stock-based compensation expenses. Professional fees and consultant expenses consist primarily of legal fees relating to corporate matters, intellectual property costs, professional fees for consultants assisting with regulatory, and financial matters. Other overhead spending includes cost to support information technology, rent, insurances, public company listing, and supplies.

We anticipate that our general and administrative expenses will significantly increase in the future to support our continued research and development activities, potential commercialization of our product candidates, hiring of additional personnel, legal and professional services, and other public company related costs.

### ***Research and Development***

Research and development expenses are incurred in developing our product candidates, compensation and benefits for research and development employees, including stock-based compensation, research related overhead expenses, cost of laboratory supplies, clinical trial and related clinical manufacturing expenses, costs related to regulatory operations, fees paid to research consultants and other outside expenses. Research and development costs are expensed as incurred and costs incurred by third parties are expensed as the contracted work is performed.

We expect our research and development expenses to significantly increase over the next several years as we continue to develop product candidates targeting additional pharma and algal biomass applications. These additional activities will increase the need to conduct preclinical testing and clinical trials and will depend on the duration, costs and timing to complete our preclinical programs and clinical trials.

### ***Interest Expense***

Interest expense primarily consists of interest costs related to our convertible notes and for interest on short term debt, as discussed in detail below.

### ***Other Income***

Other income consists of proceeds derived from activity outside of normal operating activity, including the forgiveness of the paycheck protection program loan in 2021.

## **Results of Operations**

### *Comparison of Year Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021*

The following table summarizes our results of operations for the year ended December 31, 2022 and 2021:

	<b>Year ended December 31,</b>	
	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Revenue: .....	\$ -	\$ -
Total revenue .....	\$ -	\$ -
Costs and expenses:		
General and administrative .....	6,491,704	6,694,619
Research and development .....	2,240,270	1,950,500
Total costs and expenses .....	\$ 8,731,974	\$ 8,645,119
Loss from operations .....	\$ (8,731,974)	\$ (8,645,119)
Other income (expense):		
Interest (expense) .....	(13,319)	(233,282)
Gain on forgiveness of debt and accrued interest .....	-	122,520
Total other (expense), net .....	\$ (13,319)	\$ (110,762)
Net loss .....	\$ (8,745,293)	\$ (8,755,881)

### ***General and Administrative Expenses***

General and administrative expenses were \$6.5 million for the 12 months ended December 31, 2022, which is about \$200,000 lower than the approximately \$6.7 million for the comparable prior period, explained by the following changes: a decrease of \$1.4 million in salary expense (\$900,000 non-cash decrease due to stock options issued to employees and roughly \$500,000 decrease in cash compensation), and an increase in overhead expense of \$1.2 million (including \$460,000 increase in insurance, \$660,000 increase in legal and accounting fees, and \$450,000 increase in board of directors fees; these increases were partially offset by a reduction in travel and other expenses of \$120,000).

### ***Research and Development Expenses***

For the 12 months ended December 31, 2022, we incurred \$2.2 million in net R&D expenses, as compared to \$2.0 million for the comparable period in 2021.

Of these expenses, all \$2.2 million for 2022 and \$2.0 million for 2021 are costs associated with research relating to our biotech and agtech businesses. Of these costs in 2022, \$1.5 million is for salary and other internal costs, an increase of approximately \$700,000 from the prior year. The increase is fully explained by higher stock related compensation costs. Third party research and development spending of \$1.4 million was \$250,000 lower than the prior year due to fewer third-party research studies. For the year ending December 31, 2022, the Company recognized a reduction in gross research and development spending of roughly \$775,000 to account for the amortization of the spending obligation created through the complete funding of the Participation Agreements, roughly \$220,000 higher than the amount research and development was reduced in 2021. (See *Note 9: Deferred R&D Obligations - Participation Agreements*)

	<b>December 31, 2022</b>	<b>December 31, 2021</b>
Labor and other internal expenses .....	\$ 1,582,628	\$ 832,221
External research expenses .....	1,431,667	1,674,025
Total gross R&D expenses .....	\$ 3,014,295	\$ 2,506,246
Less contra-expense for amortization of deferred R&D obligation - Participation Agreements	(774,025)	(555,746)
Net R&D expenses .....	\$ 2,240,270	\$ 1,950,500

Subject to the availability of funding, we expect our R&D costs to grow as we work to complete the research in the development of natural bioactive compounds for use as dietary supplements and food ingredients, as well as biologics for medicinal and pharmaceutical applications in humans and animals. The Company's scientific efforts presently are focused on the licensing products for healthy immune response in livestock and growing of our proprietary algal culture in commercial scale facilities.

## **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

### ***Historical Capital Resources***

As of December 31, 2022, our principal source of liquidity consisted of cash deposits of \$1.8 million. We expect to continue to incur significant expenses and increasing operating and net losses for the foreseeable future until and unless we generate an adequate level of revenue from potential commercial sales to cover expenses.

We anticipate that our expenses will increase substantially as we develop and seek to commercialize our product candidates and continue to pursue pre-clinical and clinical trials, seek regulatory approvals, manufacture product candidates, hire additional staff, add operational, financial and management systems and continue to operate as a public company.

Our source of cash to date has been proceeds from the issuances of notes, common stock with and without warrants and unsecured loans, and the entry into Participation Agreements, the terms of which are further described below. See also "*Funding Requirements and Outlook*" below.

### ***June 2021 Underwritten Public Offering***

On May 27, 2021, we entered into an Underwriting Agreement relating to the issuance and sale of 2,760,000 Units, at a price to the public of \$5.00 per Unit. In addition, under the terms of the Underwriting Agreement, we granted the Underwriter an option, exercisable for 45 days, to purchase up to an additional 414,000 shares of common stock and/or 414,000 2021 Warrants, in any combination thereof, on the same terms. The base offering closed on June 2, 2021, and the sale of 150,000 shares of common stock subject to the Underwriter's overallotment option closed on July 2, 2021. The gross proceeds from this offering were approximately \$14.5 million prior to deducting underwriting discounts and other offering expenses payable by us.

### ***Convertible Notes***

On June 2, 2021, pursuant to the terms of several Debt Extension and Conversion Agreements with holders of our 11% convertible debt, a total of \$7,538,556 comprised of outstanding principal of \$4,940,342 and interest of \$2,598,214 of our convertible notes were automatically converted into 942,322 shares of common stock at \$8.00 per share.

### *Deferred R&D Obligations - Participation Agreements*

From April 13, 2020, through May 14, 2021, the Company entered into twenty-one License Co-Development - Participation Agreements (the “Participation Agreements”) with certain accredited investors (“Participants”) for an aggregate of \$2,985,000. The Participation Agreements provide for the issuance of warrants to such Participants and allows the Participants to participate in the fees (the “Fees”) from licensing or selling bioactive ingredients or molecules derived from ZIVO’s algae cultures. Specifically, ZIVO has agreed to provide to the Participants a 44.775% “Revenue Share” of all license fees generated by ZIVO from any licensee.

The Participation Agreements allow the Company the option to buy back the right, title and interest in the Revenue Share for an amount equal to the amount funded plus a forty percent (40%) premium, if the option is exercised less than 18 months following execution, and for either forty (40%) or fifty percent (50%) if the option is exercised more than 18 months following execution. Pursuant to the terms of twelve of the Participation Agreements, the Company may not exercise its option until it has paid the Participants a revenue share equal to a minimum of thirty percent (30%) of the amount such Participant’s total payment amount. Pursuant to the terms of the one of the Participation Agreements, the Company may not exercise its option until it has paid the Participant a revenue share equal to a minimum of one hundred forty percent (140%) of the amount such Participant’s total payment amount. Five of the Participation Agreements have no minimum threshold payment. Once this minimum threshold is met, the Company may exercise its option by delivering written notice to a Participant of its intent to exercise the option, along with repayment terms of the amount funded, which may be paid, in the Company’s sole discretion, in one lump sum or in four (4) equal quarterly payments. If the Company does not make such quarterly payments timely for any quarter, then the Company shall pay the prorate Revenue Share amount, retroactive on the entire remaining balance owed, that would have been earned during such quarter until the default payments have been made and the payment schedule is no longer in default.

### *Unsecured Loans*

From January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2022, the Company received gross proceeds of \$819,100 in unsecured loans. As of December 31, 2022, no principal and accrued interest remained outstanding under such loans.

### *Private Placements*

Between January 1, 2021 and December 31, 2022, we entered into Subscription Agreements with accredited investors pursuant to which we, in private placements, issued and sold an aggregate of 144,128 shares of common stock for gross proceeds in the amount of \$1,564,969.

### *Paycheck Protection Program Loan*

In connection with the 2020 Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (“CARES Act”), the Company received loan funding of approximately \$121,700 under the Paycheck Protection Program (“PPP”), which was forgiven by the U.S. Small Business Administration on September 9, 2021.

## **Funding Requirements and Outlook**

At December 31, 2022, we had approximately \$1.8 million in cash deposits.

Management has noted the existence of substantial doubt about our ability to continue as a going concern. Additionally, our independent registered public accounting firm included explanatory paragraphs in the reports on our financial statements as of and for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively, noting the existence of substantial doubt about our ability to continue as a going concern. Our existing cash may not be sufficient to fund our operating expenses through at least twelve months from the date of this filing. To continue to fund operations, we will need to secure additional funding through public or private equity or debt financings, through collaborations or partnerships with other companies or other sources. We may not be able to raise additional capital on terms acceptable to us, or at all. Any failure to raise capital when needed could compromise our ability to execute on our business plan. If we are unable to raise additional funds, or if our anticipated operating results are not achieved, we believe planned expenditures may need to be reduced in order to extend the time period that existing resources can fund our operations. If we are unable to obtain the necessary capital, it may have a material adverse effect on our operations and the development of our technology, or we may have to cease operations altogether.

Our material cash requirements relate to the funding of our ongoing product development. See “*Item 1-Business-Clinical Development and Regulatory Pathway-Clinical Experience, Future Development and Clinical Trial Plans*” in this Report for a discussion of design, development, pre-clinical and clinical activities that we may conduct in the future, including expected cash expenditures required for some of those activities, to the extent we are able to estimate such costs.

The development of our product candidates is subject to numerous uncertainties, and we could use our cash resources sooner than we expect. Additionally, the process of development is costly, and the timing of progress in pre-clinical tests and clinical trials is uncertain. Our ability to successfully transition to profitability will be dependent upon achieving further regulatory approvals and achieving a level of product sales adequate to support our cost structure. We cannot assure you that we will ever be profitable or generate positive cash flow from operating activities.

## Cash Flows

*Cash Flows from Operating Activities.* During the 12 months ended December 31, 2022, our operating activities used \$7.1 million in cash, an increase of cash used of roughly \$300,000 from the comparable prior period. The approximate \$300,000 increase in cash used by operating activities was primarily attributable to the following (all of which are approximated): a \$10,000 decrease in net loss, a decrease in non-cash expenses of \$350,000 (a decrease of stock issued for services of \$310,000, an increase in of gain on forgiveness of debt of \$123,000, and an increase in amortization of lease liability of \$60,000), and \$100,000 lower use of cash for changes in assets and liabilities (\$85,000 less cash from issuance of deferred R&D obligations, \$220,000 of amortization of deferred R&D obligations, a net increase in accounts payable and accrued liabilities of \$190,000, and lower lease related liabilities and prepaid expenses of \$70,000).

*Cash Flows from Investing Activities.* During the 12 months ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, there were no investing activities.

*Cash Flows from Financing Activities.* During the 12 months ended December 31, 2022, we generated no cash from financing activities, compared to \$15.6 million provided in the prior year.

We estimate that we would require approximately \$5 million in cash over the next 12 months in order to fund our basic operations, excluding our R&D initiatives. Based on this cash requirement, we have a near term need for additional funding to continue to develop our products and intellectual property. Historically, we have had substantial difficulty raising funds from external sources. If we are unable to raise the required capital, we will be forced to curtail our business operations, including our R&D activities. The following table shows a summary of our cash flows for the periods indicated:

	<b>Twelve months ended</b>	
	<b>December 31,</b>	
	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Net cash provided by (used in):		
Operating activities	\$(7,102,612)	\$(6,803,333)
Investing activities .....	-	-
Financing activities .....	-	15,567,346
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents .....	\$(7,102,612)	\$ 8,764,013

## Critical Accounting Estimates

Our management's discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations is based on our financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, or GAAP. The preparation of these financial statements requires us to make estimates, judgments and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities as of the dates of the balance sheets and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting periods. In accordance with GAAP, we base our estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions that we believe are reasonable under the circumstances at the time such estimates are made. Actual results may differ materially from our estimates and judgments under different assumptions or conditions. We periodically review our estimates in light of changes in circumstances, facts and experience. The effects of material revisions in estimates are reflected in our financial statements prospectively from the date of the change in estimate.

While our significant accounting policies are more fully described in the notes to our financial statements appearing elsewhere in this Report, we believe the following are the critical accounting policies used in the preparation of our financial statements that require significant estimates and judgments.

### ***Fair Value of Financial Instruments***

We account for fair value measurements of assets and liabilities that are recognized or disclosed at fair value in the financial statements on a recurring or nonrecurring basis adhering to the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to measurements involving significant unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are as follows:

- Level 1 Inputs: Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities accessible to the Company at the measurement date.
- Level 2 Inputs: Other than quoted prices included in Level 1 inputs that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly, for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.
- Level 3 Inputs: Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability used to measure fair value to the extent that observable inputs are not available, thereby allowing for situations in which there is little, if any, market activity for the asset or liability at measurement date.

As of December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021, fair values of cash, prepaid, other assets, accounts payable and accrued expenses approximated their carrying values because of the short-term nature of these assets or liabilities. We elected to account for the convertible notes while they were outstanding on a fair value basis under ASC 825 to comprehensively value and streamline the accounting for the embedded conversion options. The fair value of these convertible notes were based on both the fair value of our common stock, discount associated with the embedded redemption features, and cash flow models discounted at current implied market rates evidenced in recent arms-length transactions representing expected returns by market participants for similar instruments and are based on Level 3 inputs.

### ***Premium Conversion Derivatives***

We evaluate all conversion and redemption features contained in a debt instrument to determine if there are any embedded derivatives that require separation from the host debt instrument. An embedded derivative that requires separation is bifurcated from its host debt instrument and a corresponding discount to the host debt instrument is recorded. The discount is amortized and recorded to interest expense over the term of the host debt instrument using the straight-line method which approximates the effective interest method. The separated embedded derivative is accounted for separately on a fair market value basis. We record the fair value changes of a separated embedded derivative at each reporting period in the consolidated statements of comprehensive loss as a fair value change in derivative and warrant liabilities.

### ***Stock-Based Compensation***

We account for share-based compensation in accordance with the provisions of the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Codification (ASC 718), Compensation - Stock Compensation. Accordingly, compensation costs related to equity instruments granted are recognized at the grant-date fair value. The Company records forfeitures when they occur. Share-based compensation arrangements to non-employees are accounted for in accordance with the applicable provisions of ASC 718.

### **Recent Accounting Pronouncements**

See “*Note 4 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies*” in this Report regarding the impact of certain recent accounting pronouncements on our financial statements.

### **Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk.**

Not required for smaller reporting companies.

### **Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data.**

Reference is made to the Consolidated Financial Statements, the Reports thereon, and the Notes thereto, commencing on page F-1 of this report, which Consolidated Financial Statements, Reports, Notes and data are incorporated herein by reference.

### **Item 9. Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure.**

Incorporated by reference to “*Proposal No. 2 - Ratification of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm*” in the Registrant’s 2023 Proxy Statement to be filed within 120 days after the Registrant’s fiscal year end.

## **Item 9A. Controls and Procedures.**

### ***Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures***

Our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) or 15d-15(e) under the Exchange Act) are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the reports that we file or submit under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized, and reported within the time periods specified in the rules and forms of the Securities and Exchange Commission and to ensure that information required to be disclosed is accumulated and communicated to management, including our principal executive and financial officers, to allow timely decisions regarding disclosure. The Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer, as our principal financial and accounting officer, have reviewed the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the period covered by this Annual Report on Form 10-K and, based on their evaluation, have concluded that the disclosure controls and procedures were not effective as of such date due to material weaknesses in internal control over financial reporting, described below.

### ***Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting***

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting, as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) of the Exchange Act. Our internal control over financial reporting is a process designed under the supervision of our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not detect or prevent misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of the effectiveness to future periods are subject to risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

Management utilized the criteria established in the Internal Control - Integrated Framework (2013) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) to conduct an assessment of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2022. As previously reported, we identified material weaknesses that continued to exist at December 31, 2022. In addition, in connection with the audit of our consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2022, we identified additional material weaknesses in internal control over financial reporting, as described below.

A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over financial reporting, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of our annual or interim financial statements will not be prevented or detected on a timely basis.

### **Material Weaknesses in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

Management has determined that the Company had the following material weaknesses in its internal control over financial reporting:

#### ***Control Environment, Risk Assessment, and Monitoring***

Management did not design and maintain appropriate entity-level controls impacting the control environment, risk assessment procedures, and monitoring activities to prevent or detect material misstatements to the consolidated financial statements. These deficiencies were attributed to: (i) lack of structure and responsibility, insufficient number of qualified resources, and inadequate oversight and accountability over the performance of controls, (ii) ineffective identification and assessment of risks impacting internal control over financial reporting, and (iii) ineffective evaluation and determination as to whether the components of internal control were present and functioning.

#### ***Control Activities and Information and Communication***

These material weaknesses contributed to the following additional material weaknesses within certain business processes and the information technology environment:

- Management did not design and maintain appropriate information technology general controls in the areas of user access, vendor management controls, and segregation of duties, including controls over the recording and review of journal entries, related to certain information technology systems that support the Company's financial reporting process.
- Management did not design, implement, and retain appropriate documentation of formal accounting policies, procedures, and controls across substantially all of the company's business processes over; (i) the financial reporting process, including management review controls over key disclosures and financial statement support schedules, (ii) the monthly financial close process, including journal entries and account reconciliations and (iii) the completeness and accuracy of information used by control owners in the operation of certain controls, to achieve timely, complete, accurate financial accounting, reporting.

- Management did not design and implement controls over the accounting, classification, and application of United States Generally Accounting Principles (“US GAAP”) relating to income taxes, stock-based compensation, and deferred research and development obligations - participation agreements accounting. Specifically:
  - Management did not identify controls over the review of the tax provision, including the valuation analysis related to deferred tax assets, considerations for uncertain tax positions, the preparation of the income tax footnote and required disclosures and selecting and applying accounting policies;
  - Management did not identify controls over the accounting and classification of deferred research and development obligations - participation agreements; and
  - Management did not identify controls over the valuation of stock-based compensation for option awards to employees and members of the board of directors.

Based on the assessment and identification of the material weaknesses described above, management has concluded that, as of December 31, 2022, our internal control over financial reporting was not effective and could lead to a material misstatement of account balances or disclosures. Accordingly, management has concluded that these control deficiencies constitute material weaknesses.

However, after giving full consideration to these material weaknesses, and the additional analyses and other procedures that we performed to ensure that our consolidated financial statements included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K were prepared in accordance with U.S. GAAP, our management has concluded that our consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, our financial position, results of operations and cash flows for the periods disclosed in conformity with U.S. GAAP.

#### *Remediation*

Management has been implementing and continues to implement measures designed to ensure that control deficiencies contributing to the material weaknesses are remediated, such that these controls are designed, implemented, and operating effectively. The remediation actions include:

- Developing a training program and educating control owners concerning the principles of the Internal Control - Integrated Framework (2013) issued by COSO;
- Implementing a risk assessment process by which management identifies risks of misstatement related to all account balances;
- Developing internal controls documentation, including comprehensive accounting policies and procedures over financial processes and related disclosures;
- Enhancing policies and procedures to retain adequate documentary evidence for certain management review controls over certain business processes including precision of review and evidence of review procedures performed to demonstrate effective operation of such controls;
- Engaging outside resources for complex accounting matters and drafting and retaining position papers for all complex, non-recurring transactions;
- Developing monitoring activities and protocols that will allow us to timely assess the design and the operating effectiveness of controls over financial reporting and make necessary changes to the design of controls, if any
- Segregating key functions within our financial and information technology processes supporting our internal controls over financial reporting;
- Reassessing and formalizing the design of certain accounting and information technology policies relating to security and change management controls, including user access reviews, including assessing the need for implementing a more robust information technology system;
- Continuing to enhance and formalize our accounting, business operations, and information technology policies, procedures, and controls to achieve complete, accurate, and timely financial accounting, reporting and disclosures.

#### *Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting*

Except for the material weaknesses discussed above, there was no other change in our internal control over financial reporting identified in connection with the evaluation required by Rule 13a-15(d) and 15d-15(d) of the Exchange Act that occurred during the quarter, that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

#### **Item 9B. Other Information.**

None.

#### **Item 9C. Disclosure Regarding Foreign Jurisdictions that Prevent Inspections.**

Not applicable.

### PART III

#### Item 10. Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance.

Incorporated by reference to “*Proposal No. 1 - Election of Directors - Management*,” “*Information with Respect to the Board of Directors*,” and “*Management*” in the Registrant’s 2023 Proxy Statement to be filed within 120 days after the Registrant’s fiscal year end.

#### Item 11. Executive Compensation

Incorporated by reference to “*Executive Compensation*” in the Registrant’s 2023 Proxy Statement to be filed within 120 days after the Registrant’s fiscal year end.

#### Item 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters.

Incorporated by reference to “*Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Shareholder Matters*” in the Registrant’s 2023 Proxy Statement to be filed within 120 days after the Registrant’s fiscal year end.

#### Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence.

Incorporated by reference to “*Certain Relationships and Related Transactions*” and “*Proposal No. 1 - Election of Directors*” in the Registrant’s 2023 Proxy Statement to be filed within 120 days after the Registrant’s fiscal year end.

#### Item 14. Principal Accountant Fees and Services

Incorporated by reference to “*Proposal No. 2 - Ratification of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm*” in the Registrant’s 2023 Proxy Statement to be filed within 120 days after the Registrant’s fiscal year end. Information about aggregate fees billed to us by our principal accountant, BDO USA, LLP (PCAOB ID No. 243) will be included under the caption “*Independent Auditor Fees*” in the 2023 Proxy Statement, and that information is incorporated by reference herein.

### PART IV

#### Item 15. Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules.

(a) (1) (2) Financial Statements.

Financial Statements begin on page F-1 of this report.

All schedules have been omitted because they are not applicable or the required information is included in the Consolidated Financial Statements or Notes thereto.

(3) Exhibits.

#### EXHIBIT

#### NUMBER DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT

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- |     |   |
|-----|---|
| 3.1 | Articles of Incorporation of the Registrant as amended (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Registrant’s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed on August 22, 2011)                          |
| 3.2 | Certificate of Amendment to Articles of Incorporation dated October 16, 2014 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.12 to the Registrant’s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed on November 14, 2014) |
| 3.3 | Certificate to Amendment dated May 28, 2021 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Registrant’s Quarterly Report on Form 8-K filed on June 2, 2021)   |
| 3.4 | Amended and Restated By-laws of the Registrant (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to the Registrant’s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed on May 17, 2010)                                     |
| 3.5 | Second Amended and Restated By-laws of the Registrant (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Registrant’s Current Report on Form 8-K filed on July 7, 2022)                                 |

- 4.2\* Form of Warrant (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K filed on April 22, 2022)
- 4.3 Form of Representative's Warrant (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 2, 2021)
- 4.4 Form of Common Stock Purchase Warrant by and between the Registrant and Direct Transfer LLC (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on June 2, 2021)
- 4.5 Warrant Agency Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.3 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1/A filed on May 26, 2021)
- 10.1+ 2019 Omnibus Long-Term Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.34 of the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K filed on March 26, 2020)
- 10.1.1+ Stock Option Grant Notice for 2019 Omnibus Long-Term Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.37 of the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K filed on March 26, 2020)
- 10.2+ 2021 Equity Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 of the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on February 16, 2022)
- 10.3 Supply Chain Agreement with Aegle Partners 2 LLC, dated February 27, 2019 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.38 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1/A filed on May 26, 2021)
- 10.3.1 First Amendment to Supply Chain Agreement with Aegle Partners 2 LLC, dated September 14, 2019 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.39 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1/A filed on May 26, 2021)
- 10.3.2 Second Amendment to Supply Chain Agreement with Aegle Partners 2 LLC, dated November 24, 2020 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.40 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1/A filed on May 26, 2021)
- 10.4+ Employment Agreement, dated as of February 15, 2022, by and between John Payne and the Company (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on February 16, 2022)
- 10.5+ Letter Agreement between Keith Marchiando and Zivo Bioscience, Inc., dated January 1, 2021 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on January 7, 2021)
- 10.6 Form of Paulson Convertible Note (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.45 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1/A filed on May 26, 2021)
- 10.7 Form of Shapiro Convertible Note (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.46 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1/A filed on May 26, 2021)
- 10.8\* Zivo Bioscience, Inc. Non-Employee Director Compensation Policy (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Registrant's Form 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 15, 2021)
- 10.9 Stock Option Grant Notice and Agreement to Zivo Bioscience, Inc. 2021 Equity Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 15, 2021)
- 21.1\* Subsidiaries of the Registrant
- 23.1\* Consent of BDO USA, LLP
- 31.1\* Certification of the Principal Executive Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) or Rule 15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended
- 31.2\* Certification of the Principal Financial Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) or Rule 15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended

32.1\* Certification of the Principal Executive Officer pursuant to U.S.C. Section 1350 as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

32.2\* Certification of the Principal Financial Officer pursuant to U.S.C. Section 1350 as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

101.INS\* Inline XBRL Instance Document

101.SCH\* Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document

101.CAL\* Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document

101.LAB\* Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document

101.PRE\* Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document

101.DEF\* Inline XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document

104\* Cover Page Interactive Data File (formatted as Inline XBRL and contained in Exhibit 101)

\* Filed herewith.

\*\* Furnished herewith.

+ Indicates a management contract or compensatory plan.

† Certain schedules and exhibits have been omitted pursuant to Item 601(a)(5) of Regulation S-K. A copy of any omitted schedule and/or exhibit will be furnished to the SEC upon request.

**Item 16. Form 10-K Summary.**

None.

## SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

### ZIVO BIOSCIENCE, INC.

Date: March 14, 2023

By: /s/ Keith R. Marchiando  
Keith R. Marchiando  
Chief Financial Officer, and Secretary

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

By: /s/ John B. Payne  
John B. Payne,  
Chief Executive Officer, President and Director  
March 14, 2023

By: /s/ Keith R. Marchiando  
Keith R. Marchiando  
Chief Financial Officer, and Secretary  
March 14, 2023

By: /s/ Christopher D. Maggiore  
Christopher D. Maggiore,  
Director  
March 14, 2023

By: /s/ Nola E. Masterson  
Nola E. Masterson,  
Director  
March 14, 2023

By: /s/ Alison A. Cornell  
Alison A. Cornell,  
Director  
March 14, 2023

## REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

Shareholders and Board of Directors  
Zivo Bioscience, Inc.  
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan

### Opinion on the Consolidated Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Zivo Bioscience, Inc. and subsidiaries (the “Company”) as of December 31, 2022 and 2021, and the related consolidated statements of operations, stockholders’ equity (deficit), and cash flows for each of the years then ended, and the related notes (collectively referred to as the “consolidated financial statements”). In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company at December 31, 2022 and 2021, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

### Going Concern Uncertainty

The accompanying consolidated financial statements have been prepared assuming that the Company will continue as a going concern. As discussed in Note 3 to the consolidated financial statements, the Company has suffered recurring losses and negative cash flows from operations that raise substantial doubt about its ability to continue as a going concern. The consolidated financial statements do not include any adjustments that might result from the outcome of this uncertainty.

### Basis for Opinion

These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company’s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company’s consolidated financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (“PCAOB”) and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. The Company is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. As part of our audits we are required to obtain an understanding of internal control over financial reporting but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company’s internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion.

Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

### Critical Audit Matter

The critical audit matter communicated below is a matter arising from the current period audit of the consolidated financial statements that was communicated or required to be communicated to the audit committee and that: (1) relates to accounts or disclosures that are material to the consolidated financial statements and (2) involved our especially challenging, subjective, or complex judgments. The communication of the critical audit matter does not alter in any way our opinion on the consolidated financial statements, taken as a whole, and we are not, by communicating the critical audit matter below, providing separate opinions on the critical audit matter or on the accounts or disclosures to which it relates.

#### *Stock-Based Compensation*

As discussed in Notes 2, 4 and 10 to the Company’s consolidated financial statements, the Company accounts for stock-based compensation in accordance with ASC 718, which requires compensation to be measured based on the grant-date fair value of the equity-based award and recognized as an expense over the requisite service period. The Company determines the fair value of common stock option awards using the Black Scholes option pricing model. As a result of these awards, the Company recorded expenses of \$2.7 million during the year ended December 31, 2022.

We identified the Company’s estimated grant date fair value of common stock option awards as a critical audit matter. The Company identified certain errors, constituting a material weakness, in the determination of the estimated grant date fair value of common stock option awards. Auditing the Company’s revised estimated grant date fair value of these awards was especially challenging due to the increased auditor effort required.

The primary procedures we performed to address this critical audit matter included:

- Testing the accuracy of the contractual terms utilized in the revised Black Scholes option pricing model by inspecting the underlying agreements.
- Utilizing personnel with specialized knowledge and skills in valuation to assist with evaluating the methodology and the reasonableness of key assumptions utilized in the revised Black Scholes option pricing model.
- Recalculating the revised estimated grant date fair value of each stock option award.

/s/ BDO USA, LLP

We have served as the Company's auditor since 2022.

Troy, Michigan

March 14, 2023

ZIVO BIOSCIENCE, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

	<u>December 31,</u> <u>2022</u>	<u>December 31,</u> <u>2021</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT ASSETS:</b>		
Cash .....	\$ 1,799,263	\$ 8,901,875
Prepaid expenses .....	102,416	58,078
Total current assets .....	<u>\$ 1,901,679</u>	<u>\$ 8,959,953</u>
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, NET	-	-
<b>OTHER ASSETS:</b>		
Operating lease - right of use asset	189,282	27,225
Security deposit .....	32,058	3,000
Total other assets .....	<u>221,340</u>	<u>30,225</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 2,123,019</b>	<b>\$ 8,990,178</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY (DEFICIT):</b>		
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES:</b>		
Accounts payable .....	\$ 490,670	\$ 654,333
Current portion of long-term operating lease .....	99,259	15,178
Convertible debentures payable .....	240,000	240,000
Deferred R&D obligations - participation agreements .....	525,904	1,106,320
Deferred R&D obligations - participation agreements related parties .....	175,427	369,037
Accrued interest .....	98,286	95,886
Accrued liabilities - payroll and directors fees .....	398,176	467,215
Total current liabilities .....	<u>\$ 2,027,722</u>	<u>\$ 2,947,969</u>
<b>LONG TERM LIABILITIES:</b>		
Long-term operating lease, net of current portion	105,919	-
Total long-term liabilities .....	<u>105,919</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b> .....	<b>\$ 2,133,641</b>	<b>\$ 2,947,969</b>
<b>COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES</b>		
<b>STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY (DEFICIT):</b>		
Common stock, \$0.001 par value, 150,000,000 and 150,000,000 shares authorized as of December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021; 9,419,660 and 9,419,660 issued and outstanding at December 31, 2022, and December 31, 2021, respectively .....	\$ 9,420	\$ 9,420
Additional paid-in capital .....	115,784,488	113,092,026
Accumulated deficit .....	<u>(115,804,530)</u>	<u>(107,059,237)</u>
Total stockholders' equity (deficit) .....	<u>\$ (10,622)</u>	<u>\$ 6,042,209</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY (DEFICIT)</b> .....	<b>\$ 2,123,019</b>	<b>\$ 8,990,178</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

ZIVO BIOSCIENCE, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

	<b>For the year ended December 31, 2022</b>	<b>For the year ended December 31, 2021</b>
<b>REVENUE:</b>		
Service Revenue .....	\$ -	\$ -
Total Revenues .....	\$ -	\$ -
<b>COSTS AND EXPENSES:</b>		
General and administrative .....	6,491,704	6,694,619
Research and development .....	2,240,270	1,950,500
Total Costs and Expenses .....	<u>\$ 8,731,974</u>	<u>\$ 8,645,119</u>
LOSS FROM OPERATIONS .....	\$ (8,731,974)	\$ (8,645,119)
<b>OTHER INCOME (EXPENSE):</b>		
Gain of forgiveness of debt and accrued interest .....	-	122,520
Interest expense - related parties .....	-	(188,605)
Interest expense .....	<u>(13,319)</u>	<u>(44,677)</u>
Total Other Expense .....	\$ (13,319)	\$ (110,762)
NET LOSS .....	\$ (8,745,293)	\$ (8,755,881)
BASIC AND DILUTED LOSS PER SHARE .....	\$ (0.93)	\$ (1.15)
<b>WEIGHTED AVERAGE</b>		
BASIC AND DILUTED SHARES OUTSTANDING .....	9,419,660	7,629,069

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.



ZIVO BIOSCIENCE, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

	<b>For the Year Ended December 31, 2022</b>	<b>For the Year Ended December 31, 2021</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>		
Net Loss.....	\$ (8,745,293)	\$ (8,755,881)
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash used in operating activities:		
Stock issued for services rendered.....	-	32,775
Gain on forgiveness of debt and accrued interest .....	-	(122,520)
Employee and director equity-based compensation expense.....	2,692,462	2,970,027
Non-cash lease expense.....	79,637	22,138
Amortization of deferred R&D obligations - participation agreements .....	(774,025)	(555,745)
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Prepaid expenses.....	(44,338)	(28,125)
Security deposits.....	(29,058)	-
Accounts payable.....	(163,663)	(905,295)
Advanced payments for R&D obligations - participation agreements .....	-	85,304
Lease liabilities .....	(51,695)	(29,171)
Accrued liabilities.....	(66,639)	483,160
Net cash (used) in operating activities.....	<u>\$ (7,102,612)</u>	<u>\$ (6,803,333)</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>		
Net cash (used) in investing activities .....	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Cash Flow from Financing Activities:</b>		
Proceeds of loans payable, other.....	\$ 628,600	\$ 190,500
Payment of loans payable, other .....	(628,600)	(190,500)
Proceeds from sale of common stock warrants - participation agreements .....	-	55,697
Proceeds from public sale of common stock .....	-	15,644,507
Expenses related to public offering.....	-	(1,697,828)
Proceeds from sale of common stock, related party .....	-	50,000
Proceeds from sales of common stock.....	-	1,514,970
Net cash provided by financing activities.....	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 15,567,346</u>
Increase (decrease) in cash .....	\$ (7,102,612)	\$ 8,764,013
Cash at beginning of period.....	8,901,875	137,862
Cash at end of period .....	<u>\$ 1,799,263</u>	<u>\$ 8,901,875</u>
Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information:		
Cash paid during the period for:		
Interest .....	\$ 10,920	\$ 3,084
Income taxes .....	\$ -	\$ -

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

**Supplemental Schedule of Non-Cash Investing and Financing Activities:**

**For the Year Ended December 31, 2022:**

During the year ended December 31, 2022, the Company had no non-cash financing transactions.

During the year ended December 31, 2022, the Company had non-cash investing activities in the amount of \$241,694 related to ROU assets obtained in exchange for ROU liabilities.

**For the Year Ended December 31, 2021:**

During the year ended December 31, 2021, a related party applied the proceeds of a Loan Payable in the principal amount of \$9,000, against an investment in a Participation Agreement.

During the year ended December 31, 2021, warrants to purchase 139,100 shares of the Company's common stock were exercised on a "cashless" basis resulting in the issuance of 54,361 shares of common stock.

On June 2, 2021, pursuant to the terms of several Debt Extension and Conversion Agreements with holders of our 11% convertible debt, a total of \$7,538,557 comprised of outstanding principal of \$4,940,342 and interest of \$2,598,215 of our convertible notes were automatically converted into 942,322 shares of common stock at \$8.00 per share. See "*Note 7 - Convertible Debt*" for additional information.

On September 9, 2021, the Company received a Notification of Paycheck Protection Program Forgiveness Payment letter from the SBA confirming that the full amount of the principal, \$121,700, and accrued interest, \$1,653, were forgiven by the SBA. The Company recognized the forgiveness of debt principal of \$121,700 and the 2020 accrued interest of \$820 as an Other Income of \$122,520.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

ZIVO BIOSCIENCE, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES  
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF BUSINESS**

The business model of Zivo Bioscience, Inc. and its subsidiaries (Health Enhancement Corporation, HEPI Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Zivo Bioscience, LLC, Wellmetrix, LLC, WellMetris, LLC, Zivo Biologic, Inc., ZIVOLife, LLC, and Zivo Zoologic, Inc. (collectively the “Company”)) is to derive future income from licensing and selling natural bioactive ingredients derived from their proprietary algae cultures to animal, human and dietary supplement and medical food manufacturers.

**NOTE 2 - REVISION OF PREVIOUSLY ISSUED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**Equity-Based Compensation**

Errors were identified in the historical financial statements related to the valuation and expense of equity-based compensation for management and the members of the Company’s board of directors. The Company accounts for stock-based compensation in accordance with ASC 718. Under the provisions of ASC 718, stock-based compensation cost is estimated at the grant date based on the award’s fair value and is recognized as expense over the requisite service period. At the date of grant, the Company determines the fair value of the stock option award using the Black Scholes option pricing model.

The Company made errors in the application of the Black Scholes option valuation model by applying an inappropriate methodology in determining the expected term of granted options. Based on the limited history relating to exercises of options, the Company determined that the best method for determining the expected life of an option grant is the simplified method. After recalculating the valuations and reviewing the periodic reported expense for all the options issued as equity-based compensation, the Company concluded that, in aggregate, it had overstated the equity-based compensation. In accordance with SEC Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 99, Materiality, and SEC Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 108, Considering the Effects of Prior Year Misstatements when Quantifying Misstatements in Current Year Financial Statements; the Company evaluated the change and has determined that the related impact was not material to any previously presented financial statements. As such the Company corrected the error in the consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2021.

The impact of the revision on the Company’s previously released financial statements that are referenced in this form 10-K are reflected in the following tables.

**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET as of December 31, 2021**

	<u>As Previously Reported</u>	<u>Adjustment</u>	<u>As Revised</u>
Additional paid-in capital .....	\$ 114,259,830	\$ (1,167,804)	\$ 113,092,026
Accumulated deficit.....	(108,227,041)	1,167,804	(107,059,237)

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS for the Year Ended December 31, 2021**

	<u>As Previously Reported</u>	<u>Adjustment</u>	<u>As Revised</u>
General and Administrative .....	\$ 6,932,921	\$ (238,302)	\$ 6,694,619
Research and Development .....	2,119,684	(169,184)	1,950,500
Total costs and expenses.....	9,052,605	(407,486)	8,645,119
LOSS FROM OPERATIONS .....	(9,052,605)	407,486	(8,645,119)
NET LOSS	(9,163,366)	407,485	(8,775,881)
BASIC AND DILUTED LOSS PER SHARE.....	\$ (1.20)	\$ 0.05	\$ (1.15)

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN STOCKHOLDERS’ EQUITY (DEFICIT) For the Year Ended December 31, 2021**

	<u>As Previously Reported</u>	<u>Adjustment</u>	<u>As Revised</u>
Balance, December 30, 2020 - Additional Paid in Capital .....	\$ 87,747,898	\$ (760,319)	\$ 86,987,579
Balance, December 30, 2020 - Accumulated Deficit.....	(99,063,675)	760,319	(98,303,356)
Employee and director equity-based compensation - Additional Paid in Capital	3,377,512	(407,485)	2,970,027
Employee and director equity-based compensation - Total	3,377,512	(407,485)	2,970,027
Net loss for the year ended December 31, 2021 - Accumulated Deficit.....	(9,163,366)	407,485	(8,775,881)
Net loss for the year ended December 31, 2021 – Total.....	(9,163,366)	407,485	(8,775,881)
Balance, December 31, 2021 - Additional Paid in Capital	114,259,830	(1,167,804)	113,092,026
Balance, December 31, 2021 - Accumulated Deficit	\$ (108,227,041)	\$ 1,167,804	\$(107,059,237)

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS for the Year Ended December 31, 2021

	<u>As Previously Reported</u>	<u>Adjustment</u>	<u>As Revised</u>
Net Loss.....	\$ (9,163,366)	\$ 407,485	\$ (8,775,881)
Employee and director equity compensation.....	3,377,512	(407,485)	2,970,027

### NOTE 3 - GOING CONCERN

The Company has incurred net losses since inception, experienced negative cash flows from operations for the year ended December 31, 2022 and has an accumulated deficit of \$115.8 million. The Company has historically financed its operations primarily through the issuance of common stock, warrants, and debt.

The Company expects to continue to incur operating losses and net cash outflows until such time as it generates a level of revenue to support its cost structure. There can be no assurance that the Company will achieve profitable operations, and, if achieved, whether it will be sustained on a continued basis.

The Company intends to fund ongoing activities by utilizing its current cash on hand and by raising additional capital through equity or debt financings. There can be no assurance that the Company will be successful in raising that additional capital or that such capital, if available, will be on terms that are acceptable to the Company. If the Company is unable to raise sufficient additional capital, the Company may be compelled to reduce the scope of its operations and planned capital expenditures.

These factors raise substantial doubt about the Company's ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date the financial statements are issued. The Company's consolidated financial statements have been prepared on the basis of continuity of operations, realization of assets and satisfaction of liabilities in the ordinary course of business; no adjustments have been made relating to the recoverability and classification of recorded asset amounts and classification of liabilities that might be necessary should the Company not continue as a going concern.

### NOTE 4 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### Principles of Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Zivo Bioscience, Inc. and its wholly-owned subsidiaries, Health Enhancement Corporation, HEPI Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Wellmetrix, LLC, Wellmetris, LLC, Zivo Bioscience, LLC, Zivo Biologic, Inc., ZIVOLife, LLC, and Zivo Zoologic, Inc. All significant intercompany transactions and accounts have been eliminated in consolidation.

#### Accounting Estimates

The Company's consolidated financial statements have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America, which require management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities, at the date of the financial statements and reported amount of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Due to the inherent uncertainty involved in making estimates, actual results could differ from those estimates. Management uses its best judgment in valuing these estimates and may, as warranted, solicit external professional advice and other assumptions believed to be reasonable.

#### Cash

For the purpose of the statements of cash flows, cash equivalents include time deposits, certificates of deposit and all highly liquid debt instruments with original maturities of three months or less. The Company maintains cash and cash equivalents balances at financial institutions and are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC") up to \$250,000. At times, balances in certain bank accounts may exceed the FDIC insured limits. At December 31, 2022 and 2021, the Company did not have any cash equivalents.

#### Property and Equipment

Property and equipment consist of furniture and office equipment and are carried at cost less allowances for depreciation and amortization. Depreciation and amortization are determined by using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the related assets. Repair and maintenance costs that do not improve service potential or extend the economic life of an existing fixed asset are expensed as incurred.

## Leases

ASC 842, *Leases*, requires the recognition of a right-of-use (“ROU”) and a corresponding lease liability on the balance sheet. ROU assets represent the right to use an underlying asset over the lease term and lease liabilities represent the obligation to make lease payments resulting from the lease agreement. ROU assets and lease liabilities are recognized on commencement of the lease agreement.

ROU assets are included within operating lease right-of-use assets, and the corresponding operating lease liabilities are recorded as current portion of long-term operating lease, and within long-term liabilities as long-term operating lease, net of current portion on the Company’s Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021.

Lease assets and lease liabilities are recognized based on the present value of lease payments over the lease term at commencement date. Generally, we do not consider any additional renewal periods to be reasonably certain of being exercised, as comparable locations could generally be identified within the same trade areas for comparable lease rates. Because the Company’s leases do not provide an implicit rate of return, the Company used its incremental borrowing rate in determining the present value of lease payments. We have elected the practical expedient not to separate lease and nonlease components for all of our building leases.

## Revenue Recognition

Revenue is recognized in accordance with ASC 606, which utilizes five steps to determine whether revenue can be recognized and to what extent: (i) identify the contract with a customer; (ii) identify the performance obligation(s); (iii) determine the transaction price; (iv) allocate the transaction price to the performance obligations in the contract; and (v) determine the recognition period. The Company only applies the five-step model to contracts when it is probable that the Company will collect the consideration it is entitled to in exchange for the goods or services it transfers to the customer. At contract inception, once the contract is determined to be within the scope of ASC 606, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers*, the Company assesses the goods or services promised within each contract and determines those that are performance obligations and assesses whether each promised good or service is distinct. The Company then recognizes as revenue the amount of the transaction price that is allocated to the respective performance obligation when (or as) the performance obligation is satisfied.

Significant judgments exercised by management include the identification of performance obligations, and whether such promised goods or services are considered distinct. The Company evaluates promised goods or services on a contract-by-contract basis to determine whether each promise represents a good or service that is distinct or has the same pattern of transfer as other promises. A promised good or service is considered distinct if the customer can benefit from the good or service independently of other goods/services either in the contract or that can be obtained elsewhere, without regard to contract exclusivity, and the entity’s promise to transfer the good or service to the customer is separately identifiable from other promises in the contract. If the good or service is not considered distinct, the Company combines such promises and accounts for them as a single combined performance obligation.

## Research and Development

Research and development (“R&D”) costs are expensed as incurred. The Company’s R&D costs, including internal expenses, consist of clinical study expenses as it relates to the biotech business and the development and growing of algae as it relates to the agtech business. External clinical studies expenses were approximately \$1.4 million and \$1.6 million for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively. Internal expenses, composed of staff salaries compose approximately \$1.5 million and \$800,000 for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively. These costs were offset by the amortization of the R&D obligation of \$774,025 and \$555,745 for the years ending December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively; \$193,610 of the year ended December 31, 2022 and \$150,805 for the year ended December 31, 2021 of the amortization amount was attributable to related parties (see “*Note 9 - Deferred R&D Obligations - Participation Agreements*”).

## Income Taxes

The Company follows the authoritative guidance for accounting for income taxes. Deferred income taxes are determined using the asset and liability method. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the future tax consequences attributable to differences between the financial statement carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases and operating loss and tax credit carry-forwards. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates expected to apply to taxable income in the years in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. The effect on deferred tax assets and liabilities of a change in tax rates is recognized in income in the period that includes the enactment date.

The tax effects of temporary differences that gave rise to the deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities at December 31, 2022 and 2021 were primarily attributable to net operating loss carry forwards. Since the Company has a history of losses, and it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred tax assets will not be realized, a full valuation allowance has been established. In addition, utilization of net operating loss carry-forwards is subject to a substantial annual limitation due to the “change in ownership” provisions of the Internal Revenue Code. The annual limitation may result in the expiration of net operating loss carry-forwards before utilization.

### Stock Based Compensation

The Company accounts for stock-based compensation in accordance with FASB ASC 718, *Compensation - Stock Compensation*. Under the provisions of FASB ASC 718, stock-based compensation cost is estimated at the grant date based on the award’s fair value and is recognized as expense over the requisite service period. The Company, from time to time, issues common stock or grants common stock options to its employees, consultants and board members. At the date of grant, the Company determines the fair value of the stock option award and recognizes compensation expense over the requisite service period. Issuances of common stock are valued at the closing market price on the date of issuance and the fair value of any stock option or warrant awards is calculated using the Black Scholes option pricing model and employing the simplified term method as the Company does not have a historical basis to determine the term. The Company records forfeiture of options when they occur.

During 2022 and 2021, options were granted to employees, directors and consultants of the Company. As a result of these grants, the Company recorded expenses of \$2.7 million during the year ended December 31, 2022, approximately \$500,000 of this expense was for R&D and \$2.2 million was attributed to G&A. During the year ending December 31, 2021 the Company recorded expenses of \$3.0 million, approximately \$300,000 of this expense was for R&D and \$2.7 million was attributed to G&A.

The fair value of options and warrants were estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model based on the following weighted average assumptions:

Year Ended December 31,

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Expected volatility .....	116.42% to 130.18%	123.40% to 143.97%
Expected dividends .....	0%	0%
Expected term .....	5 to 5.75 years	3.25 to 5.87 years
Risk free rate .....	1.88 to 3.70%	0.24% to 1.34%

The Black-Scholes option-pricing model was developed for use in estimating the fair value of traded options that have no vesting restrictions and are fully transferable. In addition, option-pricing models require the input of highly subjective assumptions, including the expected stock price volatility. In considering the expected term of the options, the Company employs the simplified method. The Company uses this method as it does not have a history of option exercises to establish a robust estimated term based on experience. The simplified term is used for the determination of expected volatility as well as the identification of the risk free rate.

### Income (Loss) Per Share

Basic loss per share is computed by dividing the Company’s net loss by the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding during the period presented. Diluted loss per share is based on the treasury stock method and includes the effect from potential issuance of common stock such as shares issuable pursuant to the exercise of options and warrants and conversions of debentures. Potentially dilutive securities as of December 31, 2022, consisted of 53,546 shares of common stock from convertible debentures and related accrued interest and 6,267,602 shares of common stock underlying outstanding options and warrants. Potentially dilutive securities as of December 31, 2021, consisted of 53,076 shares of common stock from convertible debentures and related accrued interest and 7,250,206 shares of common stock underlying outstanding options and warrants. For 2022 and 2021, diluted and basic weighted average shares were the same, as potentially dilutive shares are anti-dilutive.

### Segment Reporting

The Company’s Chief Executive Officer, who is considered to be the chief operating decision maker (CODM), reviews financial information presented on a consolidated basis, accompanied by information about operating segments for purposes of making operating decisions and assessing financial performance. Operating segments are defined as components of an enterprise about which separate financial information is available that is evaluated regularly by the CODM in deciding how to allocate resources and in assessing performance. The Company operates solely in the United States.

## **Fair Value of Financial Instruments**

We account for fair value measurements of assets and liabilities that are recognized or disclosed at fair value in the financial statements on a recurring or nonrecurring basis adhering to the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to measurements involving significant unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are as follows:

- Level 1 Inputs: Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities accessible to the Company at the measurement date.
- Level 2 Inputs: Other than quoted prices included in Level 1 inputs that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly, for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.
- Level 3 Inputs: Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability used to measure fair value to the extent that observable inputs are not available, thereby allowing for situations in which there is little, if any, market activity for the asset or liability at measurement date.

As of December 31, 2022 and 2021, fair values of cash, prepaid, other assets, accounts payable and accrued expenses approximated their carrying values because of the short-term nature of these assets or liabilities. As of December 31, 2022 and 2021 the fair value of the convertible notes approximated their carrying value.

## **Concentrations of Credit Risk**

Financial instruments that potentially subject the Company to significant concentrations of credit risk consist principally of cash and cash equivalents. The Company has historically maintained cash balances at financial institutions which exceed the current FDIC limit of \$250,000 at times during the year.

The Company has not experienced losses on these accounts and management believes the Company is not exposed to significant risks on such account.

## Recently Adopted Accounting Standards

In June 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-13, Measurement of Credit Losses on Financial Instruments (Topic 326): Measurement of Credit Losses on Financial Instruments, which requires companies to measure credit losses utilizing a methodology that reflects expected credit losses and requires a consideration of a broader range of reasonable and supportable information to inform credit loss estimates. The standard is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2022, with early adoption permitted. The Company adopted this ASU beginning January 1, 2023. The Company has determined there is no impact of this standard on its financial statements.

In May 2021, the FASB issued ASU No. 2021-04, Earnings Per Share (Topic 260), Debt-Modifications and Extinguishments (Subtopic 470-50), Compensation-Stock Compensation (Topic 718), and Derivatives and Hedging-Contracts in Entity’s Own Equity (Subtopic 815-40): Issuer’s Accounting for Certain Modifications or Exchanges of Freestanding Equity-Classified Written Call Options. This update provides guidance for a modification or an exchange of a freestanding equity-classified written call option that is not within the scope of another Topic. This update is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2021. The Company has determined there is no impact of this standard on its financial statements.

## Recent Accounting Pronouncements Not Yet Adopted

In August 2020, the FASB issued ASU No. 2020-06 (“ASU 2020-06”), Debt - Debt with Conversion and Other Options (Subtopic 470-20) and Derivatives and Hedging - Contracts in Entity’s Own Equity (Subtopic 815-40) (“ASU 2020-06”). ASU 2020-06 eliminates the beneficial conversion and cash conversion accounting models for convertible instruments. It also amends the accounting for certain contracts in an entity’s own equity that are currently accounted for as derivatives because of specific settlement provisions. In addition, ASU 2020-06 modifies how particular convertible instruments and certain contracts that may be settled in cash or shares impact the diluted EPS computation. The amendments in this update are effective for public business entities for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2021 (or December 15, 2023 for companies who meet the SEC definition of Smaller Reporting Companies), and interim periods within those fiscal years. The amendment is to be adopted through either a fully retrospective or modified retrospective method of transition. Early adoption is permitted. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of this standard on its financial statements and related disclosures.

**NOTE 5 - LEASES**

On December 17, 2020, the Company entered into a 25 ½ month lease agreement for a facility that contains office, warehouse, lab and R&D space in Ft. Myer, Florida. The lease agreement commenced on December 17, 2020 and ends on January 31, 2023. The lease agreement provided for a total rent of \$54,993 over the period. Occupancy of the property commenced on December 17, 2020, and there was a 6-week rent holiday and a commencement date of February 1, 2021. Lease expense for operating lease payments is recognized on a straight-line basis over the lease term. Rent is \$3,291 per month from January 15, 2021 to January 31, 2022 and \$1,154 from February 1, 2022 to January 31, 2023. On June 5, 2022, the Company exercised an option to extend the lease through December 31, 2024. The lease extension rent is \$2,261 per month for calendar year 2023, and \$2,300 per month for calendar year 2024, and totals an additional rent obligation of \$54,743 of rent over the extension period.

On January 14, 2022, the Company entered into a 34-month sublease agreement for a 4,843 square-foot office in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. The Company moved its headquarters to this location. The agreement commenced on January 29, 2022 and ends on November 30, 2024. The agreement provided for a total rent of \$232,464. Occupancy of the property commenced on January 29, 2022, there was a three-month rent holiday with a rent commencement date of April 29, 2022. Lease expense for operating lease payments is recognized on a straight-line basis over the lease term. Rent is \$7,265 per month from commencement to November 30, 2022, \$7,466 from November 30, 2022 to November 30, 2023, and \$7,668 from November 30, 2023 to the lease end date.

The balances for our operating lease where we are the lessee are presented as follows within our consolidated balance sheet:

Operating leases:

	<b>December 31, 2022</b>	<b>December 31, 2021</b>
<b>Assets:</b>		
Operating lease right-of-use asset.....	\$ 189,282	\$ 27,225
<b>Liabilities:</b>		
Current portion of long-term operating lease.....	\$ 99,259	\$ 15,178
Long-term operating lease, net of current portion .....	105,918	-
	<u>\$ 205,177</u>	<u>\$ 15,178</u>

The components of lease expense are as follows within our consolidated statement of operations:

	<b>For the Year ended</b>	
	<b>December 31, 2022</b>	<b>December 31, 2021</b>
Operating lease expense .....	\$ 102,249	\$ 25,879

Other information related to leases where we are the lessee is as follows:

	<b>For the Year ended</b>	
	<b>December 31, 2022</b>	<b>December 31, 2021</b>
Weighted-average remaining lease term:		
Operating leases.....	1.94 Years	1.08 Years
Discount rate:		
Operating leases.....	11.00%	11.00%

Supplemental cash flow information related to leases where we are the lessee is as follows:

	<b>For the Year ended</b>	
	<b>December 31, 2022</b>	<b>December 31, 2021</b>
Cash paid for amounts included in the measurement of lease liabilities: .....	\$ 74,307	\$ 32,913
Non-cash investment in ROU asset .....	241,694	-

As of December 31, 2022, the maturities of our operating lease liability are as follows:

	<b>Operating Lease</b>
Year Ended:	
December 31, 2023 .....	\$ 116,933
December 31, 2024 .....	111,956
Total minimum lease payments	\$ 228,889
Less: Interest .....	(23,711)
Present value of lease obligations .....	\$ 205,178
Less: Current portion .....	99,259
Long-term portion of lease obligations .....	\$ 105,919

## **NOTE 6 - LOAN PAYABLE, RELATED PARTIES**

### **HEP Investments, LLC**

During the year ended December 31, 2021, the Company and HEP Investments, LLC (“HEP”, or “HEP Investments”) agreed to exchange the \$9,000 in related party debt into an equal investment of \$9,000 in the Participation Agreements (see “*Note 9 - Deferred R&D Obligations - Participation Agreements*”). This agreement eliminated any remaining third-party debt with HEP Investments. As of December 31, 2021, there were no Loans Payable to related parties.

## **NOTE 7 - CONVERTIBLE DEBT**

### **HEP Investments, LLC - Related Party**

On December 2, 2011, the Company and HEP Investments entered into the following documents, effective as of December 1, 2011, as amended through May 16, 2018: (i) a Loan Agreement under which the HEP Investments agreed to advance up to \$20,000,000 to the Company, subject to certain conditions, (ii) an 11% Convertible Secured Promissory Note in the principal amount of \$20,000,000 (“Convertible Note”) (of which a total of \$18,470,640 was funded, with a total of \$14,380,298 converted into 1,796,287 shares of common stock, leaving a balance advanced of \$4,090,342 as of December 31, 2020), (iii) a Security Agreement, under which the Company granted HEP Investments a security interest in all of its assets, (iv) warrants issued to HEP Investments to purchase 20,833 shares of common stock at an exercise price of \$9.60 per share (including a cashless exercise provision) which expired September 30, 2016, (v) a Registration Rights Agreement with respect to all the shares of common stock issuable to HEP Investments in connection with the Loan Agreement, in each case subject to completion of funding of the full \$20,000,000 called for by the Loan Agreement, and (vi) an Intellectual Property security agreement under which the Company and its subsidiaries granted HEP Investments a security interest in all their respective intellectual properties, including patents, in order to secure their respective obligations to HEP Investments under the Convertible Note and related documents. The Convertible Note was originally convertible into the Company’s common stock at \$8.00 per share. In addition, the Company’s subsidiaries guaranteed the Company’s obligations under the Convertible Note. On March 31, 2021, HEP Investments entered into a “Debt Extension and Conversion Agreement” with the Company providing that the Convertible Notes, including principal and accrued interest, would automatically convert into shares of common stock upon consummation of an underwritten public offering of the Company’s common stock.

On June 2, 2021, in accordance with the Debt Extension and Conversion Agreement, all of the outstanding debt and accrued interest for the Convertible Notes was automatically converted into common stock of the Company. The principal amount of \$4,090,342 and the accrued interest to June 2, 2021, of \$2,161,845 totaled \$6,252,187; this total amount was converted into 781,524 shares of common stock (calculated at \$8.00 per share). As of December 31, 2022, the Company had no further remaining financial obligations to the HEP Investments under the terms of the Loan Agreement, the Convertible Note or the Registration Rights Agreement. Additionally, as of the conversion of the total outstanding principal and accrued interest balance, HEP Investments no longer retains a security interest in the Company’s intellectual property or other assets.

In January 2019, and in connection with the Convertible Note, HEP Investments entered into a life insurance policy for Andrew Dahl, our former Chief Executive Officer. On February 23, 2021, the Company and HEP Investments entered into a Letter Agreement in which the Company agreed to pay certain premiums of \$2,565 per month under the life insurance policy while payments under the Convertible Note remained outstanding. Upon conversion of the Convertible Notes on June 2, 2021, the Company immediately stopped paying the premiums under the life insurance policy.

## **Paulson Investment Company, LLC - Related Debt**

The Company previously entered into a Placement Agent Agreement with Paulson Investment Company, LLC (“Paulson”). The Placement Agent Agreement provided that Paulson could provide up to \$2 million in financings to “accredited investors”. The Company received gross proceeds of \$1,250,000 in connection with loans received from the “New Lenders”. Each loan included (i) a Loan Agreement, (ii) a Convertible Secured Promissory Note (“New Lenders Notes”) in the principal amount of the loan, (iii) a Security Agreement under which the Company granted the New Lenders a security interest in all of its assets and (iv) an Intercreditor Agreement with HEP Investments whereby HEP Investments and the New Lenders agree to participate in all collateral on a pari passu basis. The New Lender Notes had a two-year term and matured September 2018 (\$600,000) and October 2018 (\$650,000). Paulson received a 10% cash finance fee for monies invested in the Company in the form of convertible debt, along with 5-year warrants, exercisable at \$8.00 per share, all the warrants have expired as of December 31, 2021. The New Lenders Notes were convertible into the Company’s common stock at \$8.00 per share.

In May 2021, each of the remaining New Lenders entered into a Debt Extension and Conversion Agreement with the Company. These agreements provided that the New Lender Notes, including principal and accrued interest, would automatically convert into shares of common stock upon consummation of an underwritten public offering of the Company’s common stock.

On June 2, 2021, in accordance with the Debt Extension and Conversion Agreement between the remaining New Lenders and the Company, all of the remaining outstanding debt and accrued interest for the New Lenders Notes were automatically converted to common stock. The remaining principal amount of \$850,000 and the accrued interest to June 2, 2021, of \$436,369 totaled \$1,286,369; this total amount was converted into 160,798 shares of common stock at \$8.00 per share. As of December 31, 2021, the Company had no further remaining financial obligations to the New Lenders under the terms of the New Lenders Notes. All security interests of the New Lenders in the Company’s assets have been terminated.

### **Other Debt**

The Company’s 1% convertible debentures allow for rolling 30-day extensions until notice is given by the lender to the Company to the contrary. As of December 31, 2022, that agreement is still in place.

## **NOTE 8 - NOTE PAYABLE**

### **Paycheck Protection Program Loan**

On May 7, 2020, the Company received \$121,700 in loan funding from the Paycheck Protection Program (the “PPP”) established pursuant to the recently enacted Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act of 2020 (the “CARES Act”) and administered by the U.S. Small Business Administration (“SBA”). The unsecured loan (the “PPP Loan”) is evidenced by a promissory note of the Company, dated April 29, 2020 (the “Note”) in the principal amount of \$121,700 with Comerica Bank (the “Bank”), the lender.

Under the terms of the Note and the PPP Loan, interest accrues on the outstanding principal at the rate of 1.0% per annum. The term of the Note was two years, though it could have been payable sooner in connection with an event of default under the Note.

The CARES Act and the PPP provide a mechanism for forgiveness of up to the full amount borrowed. Under the PPP, the Company was eligible to apply for forgiveness for all or a part of the PPP Loan. The amount of loan proceeds eligible for forgiveness, as amended, was based on a formula that takes into account a number of factors, including: (i) the amount of loan proceeds that are used by the Company during the covered period after the loan origination date for certain specified purposes including payroll costs, interest on certain mortgage obligations, rent payments on certain leases, and certain qualified utility payments, provided that at least 60% of the loan amount is used for eligible payroll costs; (ii) the Company maintaining or rehiring employees, and maintaining salaries at certain levels; and (iii) other factors established by the SBA. Subject to the other requirements and limitations on loan forgiveness, only that portion of the loan proceeds spent on payroll and other eligible costs during the covered period will qualify for forgiveness.

In August 2021, the Company applied to the SBA for forgiveness of the outstanding loan principal and accrued interest under the CARES Act. On September 9, 2021, the Company received a Notification of Paycheck Protection Program Forgiveness Payment letter from the SBA confirming that the full amount of the principal, \$121,700, and accrued interest, \$1,653, were forgiven by the SBA. The Company recognized the forgiveness of debt principal of \$121,700 and the 2020 accrued interest of \$820 as an Other Income of \$122,520, the remaining interest due for the PPP Loan in 2021 through the forgiveness date of \$833 was booked to offset the 2021 interest expense. The Company’s PPP loan and application for forgiveness of loan amounts remain subject to review and audit by SBA for compliance with program requirements.

### **Short Term Loan**

On February 21, 2022, the Company entered into a short-term, unsecured loan agreement to finance a portion of the Company’s directors’ and officers’ insurance premiums. The note in the amount of \$628,600 carried a 4.15% annual percentage rate and was paid down in nine equal payments of \$71,058 beginning in March 2022. The loan was fully paid off, and there was no remaining principal balance as of December 31, 2022.

## NOTE 9 - DEFERRED R&D OBLIGATIONS - PARTICIPATION AGREEMENTS

The Company entered into twenty-one (21) License Co-Development Participation Agreements (the “Participation Agreements”) with certain investors (“Participants”) for aggregate proceeds of \$2,985,000. The Participation Agreements provide for the issuance of warrants to such Participants and allows the Participants to participate in the fees (the “Fees”) from licensing or selling bioactive ingredients or molecules derived from ZIVO’s algae cultures. Specifically, ZIVO has agreed to provide to the Participants a 44.78% “Revenue Share” of all license fees generated by ZIVO from any licensee (See the Table below).

According to the terms of the Agreements, and pursuant to ASC 730-20-25 the Company has bifurcated the proceeds of \$2,985,000 as follows: 1) the 106,315 warrants sold were attributed a value of \$953,897 based on the Black Scholes pricing model using the following assumptions: volatilities ranging from 129.13% to 154.26%; annual rate of dividends 0%; discount rates ranging from 0.26% to 0.87%, and recorded as Additional Paid In Capital; 2) the remaining \$2,031,103 was recorded as Deferred R&D Obligation - Participation Agreements. Since the Company believes there is an obligation to perform pursuant to ASC 730-20-25, the Deferred R&D Obligation will be amortized ratably based on expenses incurred as the Company develops the technology for bioactive ingredients or molecules (including its TLR4 Inhibitor molecule) derived from the Company’s algae cultures. In the year ending December 31, 2022, the Company recognized \$774,025 as a contra R&D expense related to personnel and third-party expenses to develop the subject technology. \$193,610 of this total contra R&D expense was attributed to deferred R&D obligations funded by a related party. As of December 31, 2022, the remaining R&D obligation was \$701,331, of which \$175,427 was attributed to a related party. In the prior year ending December 31, 2021, the Company recognized \$555,745 as a contra R&D expense related to personnel and third-party expenses to develop the subject technology. \$150,805 of this total contra R&D expense was attributed to deferred R&D obligations funded by a related party. As of December 31, 2021, the remaining R&D obligation was \$1,475,357, of which \$369,037 was attributed to a related party.

The Participation Agreements allow the Company the option to buy back the right, title and interest in the Revenue Share for an amount equal to the amount funded plus a forty percent (40%) premium, if the option is exercised less than 18 months following execution, and for either forty (40%) or fifty percent (50%) if the option is exercised more than 18 months following execution. Pursuant to the terms of twelve of the Participation Agreements, the Company may not exercise its option until it has paid the Participants a revenue share equal to a minimum of thirty percent (30%) of the amount such Participant’s total payment amount. Pursuant to the terms of one of the Participation Agreements, the Company may not exercise its option until it has paid the Participant a revenue share equal to a minimum of one hundred forty percent (140%) of such Participant’s total payment amount. Five of the Participation Agreements have no minimum threshold payment. Once this minimum threshold is met, the Company may exercise its option by delivering written notice to a Participant of its intent to exercise the option, along with repayment terms of the amount funded, which may be paid, in the Company’s sole discretion, in one lump sum or in four (4) equal quarterly payments. If the Company does not make such quarterly payments timely for any quarter, then the Company shall pay the prorated Revenue Share amount, retroactive on the entire remaining balance owed, that would have been earned during such quarter until the default payments have been made and the payment schedule is no longer in default. See below a summary of the Participation Agreements:

Agreement #	Date of Funding	Amount Funded	Warrants	Term	Exercise Price	Revenue Share	Minimum Payment Threshold	Buy-back Premium % pre-18 mos.	Buy-back Premium % post 18 mos.
1	April 13, 2020	\$ 100,000	3,750	5 Years	\$ 9.60	1.500%	-	40%	40%
2	April 13, 2020	150,000	5,625	5 Years	9.60	2.250%	-	40%	40%
3	April 13, 2020	150,000	5,625	5 Years	9.60	2.250%	-	40%	40%
4	May 7, 2020	250,000	9,375	5 Years	9.60	3.750%	-	40%	40%
5	June 1, 2020	275,000	10,313	5 Years	8.80	4.125%	82,500	40%	50%
6	June 3, 2020	225,000	8,438	5 Years	8.80	3.375%	67,500	40%	50%
7	July 8, 2020	100,000	3,750	5 Years	9.60	1.500%	30,000	40%	50%
8	Aug. 24, 2020	125,000	4,688	5 Years	9.60	1.875%	37,500	40%	50%
9	Sept. 14, 2020	150,000	5,625	5 Years	9.60	2.250%	45,000	40%	50%
10	Sept.15, 2020	50,000	1,875	5 Years	9.60	0.750%	15,000	40%	50%
11	Sept.15, 2020	50,000	1,875	5 Years	9.60	0.750%	15,000	40%	50%
12	Sept.25, 2020	300,000	5,625	5 Years	9.60	4.500%	420,000	40%	50%
13	Oct. 8, 2020	500,000	18,750	5 Years	9.60	7.500%	150,000	40%	40%
14	Oct. 4, 2020	100,000	3,750	5 Years	9.60	1.500%	40,000	40%	50%
15	Oct. 4, 2020	250,000	9,375	5 Years	9.60	3.750%	-	40%	40%
16	Oct. 9, 2020	50,000	1,875	5 Years	9.60	0.750%	15,000	40%	40%
17	Dec. 16, 2020	10,000	375	5 Years	9.60	0.150%	17,000	40%	50%
18	Jan. 22, 2021	40,000	1,500	5 Years	11.20	0.600%	12,000	40%	50%
19	Jan. 25, 2021	40,000	1,500	5 Years	11.20	0.600%	12,000	40%	50%
20	Jan. 27, 2021	25,000	938	5 Years	11.20	0.375%	12,000	40%	50%
21	May 14,2021	45,000	1,688	5 Years	10.40	0.675%	13,500	40%	50%
		<u>\$ 2,985,000</u>	<u>106,315</u>			<u>44.775%</u>	<u>\$ 984,000</u>		

Certain of the Participation Agreements are owned by related parties. Participation Agreements numbers 8, 14, and 19 totaling \$265,000 are owned by HEP Investments, Participation Agreement 21 in the amount of \$45,000 is owned by MKY MTS LLC an entity controlled by the owners of HEP Investments, and Participation Agreement 13 in the amount of \$500,000 is owned by an investment company owned by a significant shareholder Mark Strome (“Strome”).

## **NOTE 10 - STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY (DEFICIT)**

### **Recapitalization - Reverse Stock Split**

On May 27, 2021, the Company filed a certificate of amendment to its articles of incorporation with the Secretary of State of the State of Nevada (the "Certificate of Amendment") to (i) effectuate a reverse stock split (the "Reverse Stock Split") of its issued and outstanding shares of common stock and treasury shares on a 1-for-80 basis and (ii) decrease the number of total authorized shares of common stock of the Company from 1,200,000,000 to 150,000,000 shares.

As of the Effective Time, every 80 shares of issued and outstanding common stock were converted into one share of common stock. No fractional shares were issued in connection with the Reverse Stock Split. Instead, a holder of record of old common stock as of immediately prior to the Effective Time who would otherwise have been entitled to a fraction of a share was entitled to receive cash in lieu thereof.

The Company's transfer agent, Issuer Direct Corporation acted as the exchange agent for the Reverse Stock Split. The Reverse Stock Split did not alter the par value of the Company's common stock or modify any voting rights or other terms of the common Stock. In addition, pursuant to their terms, a proportionate adjustment was made to the per share exercise price and number of shares issuable under all of the Company's outstanding stock options and warrants to purchase shares of common Stock, and the number of shares authorized and reserved for issuance pursuant to the Company's equity incentive plan will be reduced proportionately.

All issued and outstanding common stock and per share amounts contained in the financial statements have been retroactively adjusted to reflect this Reverse Stock Split for all periods presented. In addition, a proportionate adjustment was made to the per share exercise price and the number of shares issuable upon the exercise of all outstanding stock options, restricted stock units and warrants to purchase shares of common stock. A proportionate adjustment was also made to the number of shares reserved for issuance pursuant to the Company's equity incentive compensation plans to reflect the Reverse Stock Split.

### **Board of Directors Fees**

On October 12, 2021, our Board of Directors approved the Non-Employee Director Compensation Policy. Pursuant to that policy, the Board granted to each of the four non-employee directors \$50,000 in value of common stock options. The Company used the Black Scholes option pricing model to determine the number of shares that would derive a value of \$50,000 for each non-employee director. The Black Scholes pricing model use the following assumptions: term of 10 years; volatility 142.54%; annual rate of dividends 0%; discount rate 1.59%. The model yielded an award grant of 45,664 total options, 11,416 for each of the four non-employee directors. In addition, the Board granted Ms. Cornell a pro rata number of options for her tenure from February 2, 2021, through October 11, 2021; a grant of 7,660 shares valued at \$33,549 using the same Black Scholes assumptions.

On July 28, 2022, our Board of Directors awarded options pursuant to the Non-Employee Director Compensation Policy. The Board granted to each of the three non-employee directors \$50,000 in value of common stock options. The Company used the Black Scholes option pricing model to determine the number of shares that would derive a value of \$50,000 for each non-employee director. The Black Scholes pricing model used the following assumptions: term of 5.31 years; volatility 120.99%; annual rate of dividends 0%; discount rate 2.69%. The model yielded an award grant of 47,391 total options, 15,797 for each of the three non-employee directors.

On December 16, 2022, our Board of Directors awarded options to each of the three non-employee directors of \$10,000 in value of common stock options. The Company used the Black Scholes option pricing model to determine the number of shares that would derive a value of \$10,000 for each non-employee director. The Black Scholes pricing model used the following assumptions: term of 5 years; volatility 116.42%; annual rate of dividends 0%; discount rate 3.61%. The model yielded an award grant of 12,732 total options, 4,244 for each of the three non-employee directors.

On December 19, 2022, our Board of Directors appointed Ms. Alison Cornell as lead independent director. In recognition of that appointment the Board of Directors awarded to Ms. Cornell \$300,000 in value of common stock options. The Company used the Black Scholes option pricing model to determine the number of shares that would derive a value of \$300,000 for the lead independent director. The Black Scholes pricing model used the following assumptions: term of 5 years; volatility 116.47%; annual rate of dividends 0%; discount rate 3.70%. The model yielded an award grant of 139,444 total options.

The Company recorded directors' fees of \$1,155,722 and \$710,481 (as adjusted) for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively, representing the cash fees paid or accrued and the expense associated with the common stock options described above.

## **Stock Based Compensation**

On January 1, 2021, in connection with his appointment as the Company's Chief Financial Officer, Mr. Marchiando received a stock option award issued pursuant to the 2019 Plan to purchase 162,500 shares of the Company's common stock, with an exercise price of \$11.20 per share. Vesting of these options shall be as follows: 37,500 shares vested immediately upon grant of the option award, and 15,625 shares will vest on each 6 month anniversary of January 1, 2021.

The Company, on June 15, 2021, issued 5,000 shares of unregistered common stock to CorProminence, LLC (d/b/a COREir) for services in accordance with the consulting agreement between COREir and the Company (See "Note 11 - Commitments and Contingencies"). The shares were valued at the market price on June 15, 2021, \$4.48 per share for a total expense of \$22,400. On October 15, 2021, the Company, per its consulting agreement with CorProminence, LLC (dba COREir), issued an additional 2,500 shares of common stock to CorProminence, LLC. The shares were valued on October 15, 2021, at \$4.15 per share for a total expense in the aggregate of \$10,375.

On October 21, 2021, the Board of directors granted options under its 2021 equity incentive plan (the "2021 Plan") to purchase 924,000 shares of common stock to several directors and officers of the Company. The options have a term of ten years and 260,000 shares granted to board members vest over one year, and the 664,000 shares granted to the officers vest over three years. The options were valued at \$3,476,392 using the Black Scholes pricing model relying on the following assumptions: volatility 141.38%; annual rate of dividends 0%; discount rate 1.68%.

On February 22, 2022, the Board of directors granted options under its 2021 equity incentive plan (the "2021 Plan") to purchase 172,500 shares of common stock to certain employees of the Company. The options have a term of ten years and vest over three years. The options were valued at \$493,536 using the Black Scholes pricing model relying on the following assumptions: simplified term of 5.75 years; volatility 130.18%; annual rate of dividends 0%; discount rate 1.88%.

On August 29, 2022, the Board of directors granted options under its 2021 equity incentive plan (the "2021 Plan") to purchase 173,000 shares of common stock to certain employees of the Company. The options have a term of ten years and vest over three years. The options were valued at \$590,896 using the Black Scholes pricing model relying on the following assumptions: simplified term of 5.75 years; volatility 121.19%; annual rate of dividends 0%; discount rate 3.25%.

## **Stock Issuances**

During the year ended December 31, 2021, the Company issued 139,664 shares for proceeds of \$1,514,969 to investors in private placements. In addition, during this same period, a related party purchased 4,464 shares of the Company's common stock at \$11.20 per share for proceeds of \$50,000.

On June 2, 2021, the Company completed its public offering of common stock and common stock warrants. The Company issued 2,760,000 units at \$5.00 (each unit consisting of one share of the Company's common stock and one warrant ("registered warrant") with an exercise price \$5.50 per share) for gross proceeds of \$13,804,240, and net proceeds of \$12,181,602 after related underwriting and other costs of \$1,622,638.

On July 2, 2021, the underwriter of the June 2021 Offering exercised its overallotment option and purchased an additional 150,000 shares of the Company's common stock at \$4.99 per share for gross proceeds of \$748,500, and net proceeds of \$673,159 after related underwriting and other costs of \$75,191.

## **Stock Warrants Exercised**

During the twelve months ended December 31, 2021, warrants to purchase 139,100 shares of the Company's common stock were exercised on a "cashless" basis resulting in the issuance of 54,361 shares of common stock.

In September 2021, two groups of the Company's registered warrants were exercised resulting in the Company issuing 198,503 shares of common stock. The exercise price of the registered warrants was \$5.50 per share, resulting in gross cash proceeds to the Company of \$1,091,767.

## Sale of Common Stock Warrants

During the twelve months ending December 31, 2021, and in connection with the Participation Agreements (see “*Note 9 - Deferred R&D Obligation - Participation Agreements*”), the Company sold warrants to purchase 5,626 shares of common stock for \$55,697. The warrants were valued based on the Black Scholes pricing model relying on the following assumptions: volatility 129.13% to 140.20%; annual rate of dividends 0%; discount rate 0.41% to 0.87%.

On June 2, 2021, the Company completed its public offering of common stock and warrants. As part of the transaction, the Company sold 414,000 warrants (“registered warrants”) with an exercise price of \$5.50 per share, from the overallotment option that was exercised by the underwriter for \$4,140. Additionally, the Company issued the underwriter 8% of the number of shares of common stock in the offering in 220,800 unregistered warrants for shares of common stock, for an aggregate price to the Company of \$100. These warrants are exercisable 180 days after the offering date and expire five years after the first day they are exercisable. The warrants were valued at \$946,675 based on the Black Scholes pricing model relying on the following assumptions: volatility 132.46%; annual rate of dividends 0%; discount rate 0.80%. This was recognized by the company as an underwriting cost and was accounted for as an offset to funds raised.

## 2021 Equity Incentive Plan

On October 12, 2021, after approval from the stockholders at the Company’s 2021 annual meeting of stockholders, the Company adopted the 2021 Plan for the purpose of enhancing the Company’s ability to attract and retain highly qualified directors, officers, key employees and other persons and to motivate such persons to improve the business results and earnings of the Company by providing an opportunity to acquire or increase a direct proprietary interest in the operations and future success of the Company. The 2021 Plan is administered by the compensation committee of the Board who will, amongst other duties, have full power and authority to take all actions and to make all determinations required or provided for under the 2021 Plan. Pursuant to the 2021 Plan, the Company may grant options, share appreciation rights, restricted shares, restricted share units, unrestricted shares and dividend equivalent rights. The 2021 Plan has a duration of 10 years.

Subject to adjustment as described in the 2021 Plan, the aggregate number of shares of common stock available for issuance under the 2021 Plan is initially set at 1,000,000 shares; this number is automatically increased each January 1st by an amount equal to 5% of the number of common stock shares outstanding at that date. As of December 31, 2022, 1,327,407 options have been issued under the 2021 Plan, and 143,576 shares remained available for issuance.

## 2019 Omnibus Long-Term Incentive Plan

Prior to the adoption of the 2021 Equity Incentive Plan, the Company maintained a 2019 Omnibus Long-Term Incentive Plan (the “2019 Plan”). Following the approval by the shareholders of the 2021 Equity Incentive Plan, no additional awards have been or will be made under the 2019 Plan. As of December 31, 2022, 781,250 stock options had been issued under the 2019 Plan with terms between 5 years and 10 years, of which 362,500 remained outstanding.

## Common Stock Options

A summary of the status of the Company’s options issued under the Company’s equity incentive plans is presented below. As of December 31, 2022 there is no intrinsic value in any of the Company’s outstanding options as the market price of the Company’s common stock is in all cases lower than the exercise price of options.

	<u>December 31, 2022</u>		<u>December 31, 2021</u>	
	<u>Number of Options</u>	<u>Weighted Average Exercise Price</u>	<u>Number of Options</u>	<u>Weighted Average Exercise Price</u>
Outstanding, beginning of year	1,721,074	\$ 7.38	606,250	\$ 9.67
Forfeited.....	(767,250)	6.81	(37,500)	11.84
Issued.....	736,083	3.73	1,152,324	6.32
Outstanding, end of period.....	1,689,907	\$ 6.05	1,721,074	\$ 7.38

Options outstanding and exercisable by price range as of December 31, 2022 were as follows:

Outstanding Options			Exercisable Options		
Range of Exercise Price	Number	Average Weighted Remaining Contractual Life in Years	Range of Exercise Price	Number	Weighted Average Exercise Price
\$ 2.00-2.99	343,192	9.97	\$ 2.00-2.99	343,192	\$ 2.76
3.00-3.99	220,391	9.65	3.00-3.99	54,850	3.87
\$ 4.00-4.99	53,324	8.78	\$ 4.00-4.99	53,324	\$ 4.48
5.00-5.99	710,500	8.89	5.00-5.99	443,062	5.50
8.00-8.99	6,250	2.54	8.00-8.99	7,813	8.80
9.00-9.99	25,000	2.63	9.00-9.99	25,000	9.60
11.00-11.99	162,500	7.80	11.00-11.99	84,375	11.20
12.00-12.99	168,750	2.14	12.00-12.99	168,750	12.80
	1,689,907	8.31		1,180,366	\$ 6.14

As of December 31, 2022, total compensation cost related to non-vested awards not yet recognized is \$1,061,925; and the weighted-average period over which it is expected to be recognized is 0.79 years.

#### Common Stock Warrants - Unregistered

A summary of the status of the Company's unregistered warrants is presented below.

	December 31, 2022		December 31, 2021	
	Number of Warrants	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Number of Warrants	Weighted Average Exercise Price
Outstanding, beginning of year.....	2,553,635	\$ 7.57	2,502,291	\$ 7.67
Issued.....	-	-	226,426	5.64
Exercised.....	-	-	(139,099)	6.41
Cancelled.....	-	-	-	-
Expired.....	(951,437)	7.10	(35,983)	6.52
Outstanding, end of period.....	1,602,198	\$ 7.85	2,553,635	\$ 7.57

Unregistered warrants outstanding and exercisable by price range as of December 31, 2022 were as follows:

Outstanding Warrants			Exercisable Warrants		
Range of	Number	Average Weighted Remaining Contractual Life in Years	Exercise Price	Number	Weighted Average Exercise Price
\$ 5.00-5.99	220,800	3.42	\$ 5.00-5.99	220,800	5.50
6.00-6.99	156,875	2.50	6.00-6.99	156,875	6.40
8.00-8.99	950,084	0.79	8.00-8.99	950,084	8.04
9.00-9.99	231,938	2.69	9.00-9.99	231,938	9.60
10.00-10.99	1,688	3.37	10.00-10.99	1,688	10.40
11.00-11.99	35,813	1.00	11.00-11.99	35,813	11.20
14.00-14.99	5,000	1.99	14.00-14.99	5,000	14.40
	1,602,198	1.61		1,602,198	\$ 7.85

## Common Stock Warrants - Registered

A summary of the status of the Company's registered warrants is presented below:

	December 31, 2022		December 31, 2021	
	Number of Registered Warrants	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Number of Registered Warrants	Weighted Average Exercise Price
Outstanding, beginning of year.....	2,975,497	\$ 5.50	-	\$ -
Issued.....	-	-	3,174,000	5.50
Exercised.....	-	-	(198,503)	5.50
Cancelled.....	-	-	-	-
Expired.....	-	-	-	-
Outstanding, end of period.....	2,975,497	\$ 5.50	2,975,497	\$ 5.50

Registered warrants outstanding and exercisable by price range as of December 31, 2022, were as follows:

Outstanding Registered Warrants			Exercisable Registered Warrants		
Exercise Price	Number	Average Weighted Remaining Contractual Life in Years	Exercise Price	Number	Weighted Average Exercise Price
\$ 5.50	2,975,497	1.5	\$ 5.50	2,975,497	5.50

## NOTE 11 - COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

### Employment Agreements

At December 31, 2022, the Company had compensation agreements with its President / Chief Executive Officer, and Chief Financial Officer.

### Corporate Advisory Agreement

In August 2021, the Company entered into an agreement with an Investment Opportunity Provider (IOP). The IOP has been engaged as an exclusive financial advisor in connection with a proposed transaction involving the creation of a ZIVO Photobioreactor Facility ("Phase 1") and additional Photobioreactor Facilities ("Phase 3"). The Company has agreed to pay the IOP, upon the completion of Phase 1, a fee of 6% of the aggregate value of the transaction (50% in cash, and 50% in equity) and upon the completion of Phase 3, a fee of 3% of the aggregate value of the transaction in cash. As of December 31, 2022, in connection with this agreement, no successful transactions have taken place.

### Investor / Public Relations

On February 15, 2021, the Company signed a consulting agreement with CorProminence, LLC (dba COREir) to provide us with investor relations and public relations services. The COREir agreement includes a provision to issue to COREir on the four (4) month anniversary of the effective date, or as soon thereafter as is practically possible, 10,000 authorized restricted shares of common stock of the Company, of which 5,000 shares shall vest immediately upon receipt, 2,500 shall vest on the eight (8) month anniversary of the contract effective date and 2,500 shares shall vest on the twelve (12) month anniversary of the effective date of the COREir agreement. In addition, the agreement requires the Company to pay COREir \$15,000 per month, plus out of pocket expenses, for their consulting services.

On October 15, 2021, the Company, per its consulting agreement with CorProminence, LLC (dba COREir), issued 2,500 shares of common stock to CorProminence, LLC. The shares were valued on October 15, 2021, at \$4.15 per share for a total expense in the aggregate of \$10,375. On October 31, 2021, the Company informed CorProminence LLC that it was immediately terminating the consulting agreement. Under the termination clause of the agreement, the Company may be liable for an additional 2,500 shares to be issued to CorProminence.

## Legal Contingencies

On April 13, 2022, AEGLE Partners, 2 LLC (“AEGLE”) initiated an arbitration in Michigan against the Company with the American Arbitration Association. AEGLE asserted claims related to a certain Supply Chain Consulting Agreement entered into between AEGLE and the Company in 2019 (as amended from time to time, the “Agreement”), and a disagreement between AEGLE and the Company regarding whether AEGLE is entitled to payment of certain fees and warrants pursuant to the Agreement. AEGLE’s complaint seeks, among other things, three times the payment of such alleged fees and warrants and recovery of AEGLE’s costs and expenses. We believe that the claims made by AEGLE in its complaint are without merit and we intend to vigorously defend ourselves against them. Arbitration in this matter is scheduled to begin in April 2023.

We may become a party to litigation in the normal course of business. In the opinion of management, there are no legal matters involving us that would have a material adverse effect upon our financial condition, results of operation or cash flows.

## NOTE 12 - RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

### Loan Payable - Related Party

See “*Note 6 - Loan Payable, Related Parties*” for disclosure of loans payable to related parties.

### Employment Agreement

See “*Note 11 - Commitments and Contingencies*” for disclosure of the employment agreements with the Chief Executive Officer and current and Chief Financial Officer.

### Building Lease

In January 2022 the Company terminated its agreement for the rental of its office space from M&M Keego Center LLC, an entity controlled by an immediate family member of a principal shareholder.

### Stock Issuances

On June 2, 2021, the Company completed its public offering of units consisting of common stock and warrants. Two of the Company’s directors participated in the offering; Chris Maggiore purchased 100,000 units, and Alison Cornell purchased 15,000 units.

## NOTE 13 - INCOME TAXES

The following table presents the components of net loss before income taxes:

	<u>Years Ended December 31,</u>	
	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Domestic	\$ (8,745,293)	\$ (8,755,881)
(Loss) before provision for income taxes .....	(8,745,293)	(8,755,881)

There was no income tax for the years ended December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021. The Company’s tax expense differs from the “statutory” tax expense for the years ended December 31, 2022, and 2021 as noted below:

	<u>For the Years Ended December 31,</u>			
	<u>2022</u>		<u>2021</u>	
Income tax (benefit) / Expense at federal statutory rate.....	<u>\$(1,836,512)</u>	<u>21.0%</u>	<u>\$(1,838,735)</u>	<u>21.0%</u>
Apportioned state income taxes .....	(131,407)	1.5%	-	0.0%
Stock based compensation .....	297,653	(3.3)%	(104,601)	1.2%
Rate change.....	(31,180)	0.3%	(138,284)	1.6%
Return to provision adjustments .....	(1,515)	0.0%	-	0.0%
Other non-deductible items.....	-	0.0%	(21,692)	0.2%
Change in valuation allowance .....	<u>1,702,961</u>	<u>(19.5)%</u>	<u>2,103,312</u>	<u>(24.0)%</u>
Total income tax provision .....	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>0.0%</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>0.0%</u>

Deferred income taxes reflect the net tax effects of (a) temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for income tax purposes, and (b) operating losses and tax credit carryforwards. The tax effects of significant items comprising the Company's deferred taxes were as follows:

	<b>For the Years Ended</b>	
	<b>December 31,</b>	
	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
Deferred tax assets/(liabilities)		
Federal net operating loss carryforwards .....	\$ 7,606,833	\$ 6,661,795
State net operating loss carryforwards .....	74,353	-
Stock based compensation	2,738,159	2,502,856
Section 174 research and experimental expenditures .....	374,926	(73,521)
Other deferred tax assets (liabilities) .....	(180)	-
Total deferred tax assets .....	<u>\$ 10,794,091</u>	<u>\$ 9,091,130</u>
Valuation allowance .....	<u>(10,794,091)</u>	<u>(9,091,130)</u>
Total deferred income taxes	\$ -	\$ -

During 2022, immaterial errors were identified in deferred taxes related to certain federal and state net operating losses (NOLs). The 2021 amounts in the tables above have been adjusted which resulted in the reduction of the federal net operating loss carryforwards, the state net operating loss carryforwards, stock-based compensation, and Section 174 research and experimental expenditures as of December 31, 2021 within gross deferred tax assets as previously disclosed by approximately \$11.0 million, \$3.1 million, \$400,000, and \$100,000, respectively, with a corresponding decrease in the valuation allowance of \$14.6 million. Corresponding adjustments were made to the rate reconciliation table including an adjustment to the apportioned state income taxes by approximately \$(400,000) for the year ended December 31, 2021.

ASC 740 *Income Taxes* requires that the tax benefit of net operating losses ("NOLs"), temporary differences and credit carryforwards be recorded as an asset to the extent that management assesses that realization is "more likely than not." Realization of the future tax benefits is dependent on the Company's ability to generate sufficient taxable income within the carryforward period. Management believes that realization of the deferred tax assets arising from the above-mentioned future tax benefits from operating loss carryforwards is currently not more likely than not and, accordingly, has provided a valuation allowance. The valuation allowance increased by \$1.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2022 and increased by \$2.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2021.

As of December 31, 2022 and 2021 the Company's deferred tax asset contains the tax effect of approximately \$36.2 million and \$31.7 million of Federal NOLs, respectively. The Federal NOLs' generated prior to December 31, 2017 were written off of the deferred tax asset, while NOLs generated subsequent to this date remain. Under the new Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, all Federal NOLs incurred after December 31, 2017 are carried forward indefinitely for Federal tax purposes.

	<b>Net Operating Losses recorded as Federal deferred tax asset</b>	<b>Net Operating Losses recorded as State deferred tax asset</b>
2023 through 2037 .....	\$ -	\$ -
Total expiring operating losses (incurred prior to December 31, 2017) .....	-	-
Non-expiring operating losses (incurred after December 31, 2017) .....	36,223,016	1,351,870
Total Operating Loss .....	<u>\$ 36,223,016</u>	<u>\$ 1,351,870</u>

In the ordinary course of its business the Company incurs costs that, for tax purposes, may be qualified research expenditures within the meaning of IRC Code Sec. 41 and are, therefore, may be eligible for the Increasing Research Activities credit under IRC Code Sec. 41. The Company has not claimed a credit pursuant to IRC Code Sec. 41 on its federal returns, i.e. no deferred tax asset on the books.

As of December 31, 2022, the Company has no uncertain tax positions. It is the Company's policy to account for interest and penalties related to uncertain tax positions as interest expense and general and administrative expense, respectively in its statements of operations. No interest or penalties have been recorded related to the uncertain tax positions.

It is not expected that there will be a significant change in uncertain tax positions in the next 12 months. The Company is subject to U.S. federal and state income tax as well as to income tax in multiple state jurisdictions. In the normal course of business, the Company is subject to examination by tax authorities. As of the date of the financial statements, there are no tax examinations in progress. The statute of limitations for tax years ended after December 31, 2018, are open for federal and state tax purposes.

The 2017 Tax Act amended Section 174 of the Internal Revenue Code which affects the Federal tax treatment of research and experimental (R&E) expenditures. Preceding this law change, R&E expenditures were expensed as incurred for Federal Income Tax purposes. In taxable years beginning after December 31, 2021, R&E expenditures must be capitalized and amortized over 5 years for expenditures incurred in the United States, or 15 years for expenditures incurred outside the United States. Due to the nature of the Company's operations, R&E expenditures are a significant portion of total expenditures. The Company calculated an estimated amount for income tax provision purposes based on guidance available to determine the capitalized amount.

## **NOTE 14 - SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

### **2021 Plan Evergreen Provision**

Under the 2021 Plan, the shares reserved automatically increase on January 1st of each year, for a period of not more than ten years from the date the 2020 Plan is approved by the stockholders of the Company, commencing on January 1, 2022, and ending on (and including) January 1, 2029, by an amount equal to 5% of the shares of common stock outstanding as of December 31st of the preceding calendar year. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board of Directors may act prior to January 1st of a given year to provide that there will be no January 1st increase in the share reserve for such year or that the increase in the share reserve for such year will be a lesser number of shares of common stock than would otherwise occur pursuant to the preceding sentence. On January 1, 2023, 470,983 shares were added to the 2021 Plan as a result of the evergreen provision.

### **Nasdaq Compliance**

On November 22, 2022, the Company received written notice from Nasdaq stating that the Company no longer complied with the minimum stockholders' equity requirement under Nasdaq Listing Rule 5550(b)(1) for continued listing on The Nasdaq Capital Market. On January 6, 2023, the Company submitted its compliance plan to Nasdaq.

On January 11, 2023, Nasdaq notified the Company that it had determined to grant the Company an extension until May 22, 2023 to regain compliance. There can be no assurance that the Company will be successful in implementing its plan to regain compliance with the minimum stockholders' equity requirement.

### **Short Term Loan**

On February 14, 2023, the Company entered into a short unsecured loan agreement to finance a portion of the Company's directors' and officers', and employment practices liability insurance premiums. The note in the amount of \$605,600 carries a 8.4% annual percentage rate and will be paid down in nine equal monthly payments of \$69,666 beginning on March 10, 2023.