



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTABILITY
STATE CONTRACTING STANDARDS BOARD

Final & Approved
Minutes

Friday, March 9, 2018 Meeting of the State Contracting Standards Board
Data Analysis Work Group
Fifth Floor Conference Room, 18-20 Trinity Street, Hartford, Connecticut

Members Present:

Alfred Bertoline, Chair
Bruce Buff
Donna Karnes – via conference phone
Albert Ilg

1. Call to order

Meeting called to order by Chair Bertoline at 11:47 A.M.

2. Approve the minutes of the February 9, 2018 meeting

Motion made by Bruce Buff and seconded by Albert Ilg to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2018 meeting of the State Contracting Standards Board Data Analysis Work Group. All voted in favor.

3. Report on meetings and responses to Findings and Recommendations – Study of Competitive Bidding Practices

Chair Bertoline initiated discussion by reporting on the meeting with the House Leadership; asked how the Data Analysis Work Group could quantify saving by coming up with a sample demonstrating indicated savings. The Work Group discussed how accurate this would be.

If we have expiring contracts rebid, a comparison with the existing contract may not be valid bade on changes which occurred since the last contract was placed.

To achieve immediate cost savings, the strategy of demanding a 10% reduction from contracts would probably run into some pushback from state procurement personnel.

4. [Begin next Data Analysis Work Group study](#)

Suggested by Albert Ilg and Alfred Bertoline – benchmark competitive bidding procedures in place in Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, etc. Mr. Ilg has a relationship with procurement management in Massachusetts, he will contact them to share their competitive bid procedures and if they have conducted a review of the benefits of seeking competition versus not. Bruce Buff will contact New York State.

Talking points for discussion with other States. Connecticut has a commission which identified that \$1 billion could be saved. We are exploring how the State of Connecticut can improve our spending and are having difficulty convincing our State Legislators that a better process is attainable. Does the contacted state procurement have experience in effecting change to a more competitive bid process?

Another action to be explored: Identify to Agencies cost reduction opportunities to be achieved by ensuring adequate reviews are conducted of waiver requests from seeking competitive proposals and bids, initiate reviews of all State contracts with terms greater than five years, and immediately charge State employees with the responsibility to contain expenditures for services and materials being as high a priority as providing services. Mr. Buff agreed to explore how to pursue this.

5. [Other Business](#)

No other business raised.

6. [Adjournment](#)

Motion made by Alfred Bertoline and seconded by Albert Ilg to adjourn. All voted in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 12:38 P.M.

Respectfully submitted: Bruce Buff