



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTABILITY
STATE CONTRACTING STANDARDS BOARD

Final & Approved
Minutes

Friday, July 13, 2018 Meeting of the State Contracting Standards Board
5th Floor Conference Room
18-20 Trinity Street, Hartford, Connecticut

Members Present:

Lawrence Fox, Chair
Thomas Ahneman
Alfred Bertoline
Bruce Buff
Charles Casella, Jr.
Donna Karnes
Stuart Mahler
Robert Rinker

David L. Guay, Executive Director - ex-officio board member

1. Call to order

Meeting called to order by Chair Fox at 10:12 A.M.

2. Approve the Minutes of the June 8, 2018 Meeting

Motion made by Robert Rinker and seconded by Charles Casella to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2018 Board meeting as amended by Stuart Mahler's friendly amendment and Charles Cassella's friendly amendment. All voted in favor.

3. Report from Privatization Contract Committee

Chair Fox reported no report from the Privatization Contract Committee.

4. Report of the Contested Solicitations and Awards Subcommittee

Subcommittee Chair Robert Rinker reported that the subcommittee has no matters pending before it.

5. Work Group Reports

a. Report from Audit Work Group

Chair Thomas Ahneman reported that the work Group approved the compliance reports for the agencies audited and they are ready for Board action. The Audit Work has also begun refinement of the audit questionnaire for 2018. Refinements discussed include providing definitions, collect and provide the standards, detailed explanations on topics such as waivers, BizNet posting requirements, training, transparency and results based performance.

Robert Rinker offered that the Board needs to decide how to take action on the compliance reports approved by the Audit Work Group and also whether to accept the Audit Work Group suggestion of sending the compliance reports to the Governor and to the General Assembly Committee of cognizance for the agency and to the Appropriations Committee.

Motion made by Audit Work Group Chair Thomas Ahneman and seconded by Alfred Bertoline to approve the compliance reports recommended for approval by the Audit Work Group. All voted in favor. The following Audit Compliance Reports were approved.

UCONN Health

UCONN

SDE - State Department of Education

FOIC - Freedom of Information Commission

DSS – Department of Social Services

DOT – Department of Transportation

CSCU – Connecticut State Colleges and Universities

DAS – Department of Administrative Services – Division of Construction Services

DCF – Department of Children and Families

DDS – Department of Developmental Services

DECD – Department of Economic and Community Development

DMHAS – Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services

DOC – Department of Corrections

6. Study of PSA Competitive Bidding Practices Joint Committee

Chair Fox initiated discussion on a new project, the study of PSA Competitive Bidding Practices as a joint committee with the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) and the Department of Administrative Services (DAS). Chair Fox explained the genesis of the joint committee, explaining that after the last meeting, he, Bruce Buff, Donna Karnes, Al Ilg and David Guay met with OPM Secretary Barnes, Deputy Secretary Weisselberg and Section Director Maroney. The discussion at the meeting led to the possibility of setting up a further study committee chaired by the Board with the participation of DAS and OPM. Chair Fox reported that he's already had a conversation with DAS Commissioner Curry. Commissioner Curry has agreed to appoint Carol Wilson and Devin Marquez to the committee. OPM has agreed in principal to participate, but due to summer vacations has not yet appointed someone to the committee.

Chair Fox explained the major area of focus is personal service agreements (PSAs) and waivers of competitive bidding, but not limited to that. Chair Fox hopes that the committee will determine the direction. Chair Fox explained that his one charge to the committee is to try and have recommendations by November, further stating what recommendations we can make for the incoming gubernatorial administration that would improve our procurement process.

Chair Fox explained that since the idea for this next step originally came out of the Data Analysis Work Group he has asked Al Bertoline to chair the group, with Bob Rinker, Bruce Buff and Executive Director Guay also in the group. Chair Fox further explained that he hopes the work that the committee does will become the foundation for Connecticut to be the best state in procurement, that our best practices will be a model for others.

Mr. Bertoline offered that the recent report by the Data Analysis Work Group uncovered areas that need attention in the procurement process, with the next phase bringing in OPM and DAS which are the catalysts for all procurement into a collaborative approach to look at some of the initial issues the Data Analysis Work Group found and delve in a little deeper and get the prospective from OPM and DAS the State's procurement professionals.

7. Other Business

Chair Fox appointed Board member Albert Ilg to fill the vacancy on the Privatization Contract Committee.

Chair Fox informed the Board that he will not be at the August meeting of the Board and asked Donna Karnes to be acting chair at the August meeting.

8. Public Comment

Chair Fox introduced a new rule limiting public comment to three minutes per speaker.

No public comment was heard.

9. Adjournment

Motion made by Robert Rinker and seconded by Alfred Bertoline to adjourn. All voted in favor, the motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 10:52 A.M.

Respectfully submitted: David Guay