



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTABILITY  
STATE CONTRACTING STANDARDS BOARD

Final & Approved  
Minutes  
Friday, April 12, 2019 Meeting of the State Contracting Standards Board  
Audit Work Group  
Fifth Floor Conference Room  
18-20 Trinity Street, Hartford, Connecticut

Members Present:

Thomas Ahneman, Chair  
Alfred Bertoline  
Stuart Mahler  
Robert Rinker  
David L. Guay, Executive Director - ex-officio Board member

1. [Call to order](#)

Meeting called to order by Chair Thomas Ahneman at 9:00 A.M.

2. [Approve minutes of February 8, 2019](#)

Motion made by Alfred Bertoline and seconded by Robert Rinker to approve the minutes of February 8, 2019 Audit Work Group meeting. All voted in favor.

3. [2018-2019 Audit Status and Update](#)

Audit Work Group Chair Thomas Ahneman opened discussion on the status of the current audit. Executive Director Guay reported eight of the eleven have been received. The three agencies that have not responded are the Department of Motor Vehicles, The Office of Early Childhood, and the Department of Veterans Affairs. Executive Director Guay reported draft second request letters have been created with copies in the meeting material.

4. [Review 2018-2019 Audit Responses](#)

Chair Ahneman quickly reviewed with the Work Group the responses received from the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP).

Robert Rinker reported on the response from the Teachers Retirement Board. In their first email they asked for any previous audits and in the second email responded that they don't have any contracts. Mr. Rinker provided the following information to the Work Group members.

#### Teachers Retirement Board Preliminary Findings April 12, 2019, Robert D. Rinker

1. The Teachers Retirement Board (TRB) reported that they had no contracts. A review of the BizNet showed that TRB had issued a RFP for health care consultant(s) in 2019.
2. This prompted my review of TRB's minutes for FY2018. The following are my findings:

##### September 6, 2017

- Joe Fields is listed as the TRB's Health Insurance Consultant
- Brian Giantorio is listed as the TRB attorney
- Joseph Centofanti of PKF O'Connor Davies, LLP
- James Stirling from Stirling Benefits is a third party administrator for the Teachers' Retiree Health Insurance
- Agenda item 1-was a discussion about a Medicare Advantage Plan from Joe Fields
- Mr. Centofanti discussed GASB Report 68 (Pension)
- Mr. Giantorio - discussed regulations

##### November 1, 2017

- Joe Fields is listed as the TRB's Health Insurance Consultant
- John Garrett, Actuary from Cavanaugh, Macdonald Consulting, LLC
- James Stirling from Stirling Benefits is a third party administrator for the Teachers' Retiree Health Insurance
- Garrett reported on GASB 67 and 74
- Fields discussed the RFP on the Medicare Advantage Plan November 15, 2017 - Conference Call
- Approved Actuarial Valuation provided by John Garrett, Actuary from Cavanaugh, Macdonald Consulting, LLC

##### January 11, 2018

- Joseph Fields is listed as Bargained Plans, LLC
- John Garrett, Actuary from Cavanaugh, Macdonald Consulting, LLC
- James Stirling from Stirling Benefits is a third party administrator for the Teachers' Retiree Health Insurance
- Discussion on TRB contract for Medicare Advantage Program

February 7, 2018

- John Garrett, Actuary from Cavanaugh, Macdonald Consulting, LLC
- James Stirling from Stirling Benefits is a third party administrator for the Teachers' Retiree Health Insurance
- Discussion on TRB contract for Medicare Advantage Program from Joe Fields
- Discussion with Garrett on Viability Commission

Chair Ahneman suggested they should still fill out the audit form. Mr. Rinker expressed a strong desire to see whatever contractual arrangement may exist. Executive Director Guay will send a second request and also have a telephone conversation with the administrator and schedule them for one of the interviews for interview at the May 10, 2019 meeting.

Alfred Bertoline reviewed the response from the Office of State Ethics (OSE). Of the thirteen contracts, none were by competitive bid. No waivers, and the contracts were not listed on BizNet. The training was from CORE-CT. Mr. Bertoline made note of notations indicating the use of contracts off of the portal. Executive Director Guay suggested they be scheduled for an interview on May 10, 2019. Mr. Bertoline upon conclusion of his review led a discussion the interview process and how to best optimize the process. Chair Ahneman suggested doing three for the next couple of meetings, starting a half hour earlier at 8:30 A.M. Chair Ahneman didn't think the Department of Consumer Protection was required or needed for an interview. Chair Ahneman will call and conduct a telephone interview and report back.

Chair Ahneman asked if there was a third agency that should be invited in for an interview in May. Executive Director Guay suggested the State Elections Enforcement Commission (SEEC). Chair Ahneman performed a quick review of their response. Sixteen contracts, none by competitive bid, no cost effectiveness evaluations.

Mr. Bertoline asked if the four non-responsive agencies could be asked to respond in time for the May meeting and the members agreed by consensus.

Stuart Mahler reviewed quickly with the Work Group the Department of Agriculture (DoAg), noting that the response was incomplete. Executive Director was directed to communicate the need for the completion of the response to the Department of Agriculture.

## 5. Other Business

No other business raised.

## 6. Adjournment

Motion made by Alfred Bertoline and seconded by Robert Rinker to adjourn. All voted in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 9:58 A.M.

Respectfully submitted: David Guay