



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTABILITY
STATE CONTRACTING STANDARDS BOARD

Final & Approved
Minutes

Friday, October 9, 2020 Meeting of the State Contracting Standards Board
Via Microsoft Teams Video Conference

Members Present:

Lawrence Fox, Chair – Via Microsoft Teams Video Conference
Alfred Bertoline – Via Microsoft Teams Video Conference
Bruce Buff – Via Microsoft Teams Video Conference
Lauren Gauthier – Via Microsoft Teams Video Conference
Albert Ilg. – Via Microsoft Teams Video Conference
Donna Karnes – Via Microsoft Teams Video Conference
Salvatore Luciano – Via Microsoft Teams Video Conference
Stuart Mahler – Via Microsoft Teams Video Conference
Jean Morningstar – Via Microsoft Teams Video Conference
Robert Rinker – Via Microsoft Teams Video Conference

David L. Guay, Executive Director - ex-officio board member – Via Microsoft Teams Video Conference

Xholina Nano, Staff – 2020-2021 UConn Graduate Intern – Via Microsoft Teams Video Conference

Call to order

Meeting called to order by Chair Lawrence Fox at 10:04 A.M.

1. Approve the Minutes of the September 11, 2020 Meeting

Motion made by Alfred Bertoline and seconded by Albert Ilg to approve the minutes of the September 11, 2020 Board meeting. All voted in favor, with Stuart Mahler abstaining due to his absence from the September 11, 2020 meeting.

2. Report from the Sec. 4e-36 Contested Solicitations and Awards Subcommittee

Subcommittee Chair Robert Rinker reported that no matters were pending before the Subcommittee.

3. Privatization Contract Committee Report

Privatization Contract Committee Chair Lawrence Fox reported that no matters were pending before the Committee.

An issue of possible privatization was brought to the Board's attention by way of a copy of a letter from the Officers of the State AFL-CIO to the Governor concerning two contracts at the Department of Labor. Chair Fox noted that the Board has not been asked to review the matter, though, on the Board's own Statutory authority it could be reviewed. Chair Fox reported that he asked Executive Director Guay to reach out to Paul Mounds, Chief of Staff to the Governor and Josh Geballe, DAS Commissioner and Chief Operating Officer for the Governor, to ask for a meeting to find out more and understand the contracts. Executive Director Guay has not received a reply and will reach out again.

4. Work Group Reports

a. Report from Audit Work Group

With the absence of Audit Work Group Chair Thomas Ahneman, Acting Chair Robert Rinker reported in Chair Ahneman's absence. Mr. Rinker reported that the Work Group met at 9:30 A.M. this morning, October 9, 2020. The Work Group is expecting to receive Fiscal Year 2019 audit responses from the thirteen audit agencies on October 13, 2020.

Acting Chair Rinker asked Executive Director Guay to report on the Work Group's backlog. Executive Director Guay reported that due to his recent medical leaves and the pandemic several items have been backlogged.

Executive Director Guay reported on the items from the Fiscal Year 2018 Audit that need to be completed.

- Wrap-up sending the compliance reports to the Office of Early Childhood and the Department of Motor Vehicles
- Send copies of the Fiscal Year 2018 Audit Compliance reports to the Legislative Committees of cognizance, the Government Administration and Elections Committee and the Committee on Appropriations.
- Send a communication to the Fiscal Year 2017 and Fiscal Year 2018 audited agencies for a response on the Board's recommendations contained within the Agency Compliance Report.

Executive Director Guay reported that with the assistance and effort of Xholina Nano, the Board's University of Connecticut Graduate Intern, these backlogged items are finally beginning to be addressed. He reported that they are being addressed as an immediate need, but also setting up long-term processes and procedures.

Executive Director Guay highlighted the need to create a new compliance report based upon the new audit questionnaire created by Lauren Gauthier.

Executive Director Guay explained that the agencies that were originally assigned to former Board member Bob Sember need to be reassigned.

Chair Fox appointed Lauren Gauthier to the Audit Work Group. Ms. Gauthier will also cover the agencies formally assigned to Bob Sember.

b. Data Analysis Work Group

Data Analysis Work Group Chair Alfred Bertoline stated that they have been quite busy.

Noting that as he reported last month, Albert Ilg has facilitated an introduction and meeting on September 1, 2020 with Professor Mohamed Alkadry, Department Head of the UConn Department of Public Policy. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss his national benchmarking study of contracting and procurement and the applicability of applying a similar study to Connecticut's contracting and procurement data.

Through Executive Director Guay, the Work Group obtained sample Core-CT data on contracting and procurement. The Work Group will be meeting with Professor Alkadry on October 19, 2020 to understand the Core-CT data collected and to see what kind of analysis is appropriate for a benchmarking study.

The next meeting of the Data Analysis Work Group will be on October 14, 2020 to narrow the focus of what to do with the Core-CT and BizNet data, provided by Carol Wilson of the Department of Administrative Services, in order to have the most impact in helping the citizens of Connecticut.

5. Report of Special Committee on Dillon Stadium contracts

Chair Fox provided a quick update. We have a draft report, with a lot of work by Bob, David, Xholina and Lauren. The draft report will be shared with the Capital Region Development Authority (CRDA), the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) and the Auditors of Public

Accounts (APA) and the Attorney General (AG) for comment prior to submission to the full Board for consideration at the November 13, 2020 meeting.

6. Other Business

No other business raised.

7. Public Comment

No public comment.

8. Adjournment

Motion made by Robert Rinker and seconded by Donna Karnes to adjourn. All voted in favor, the motion passed, and the meeting adjourned at 10:38 A.M.

Respectfully submitted: David Guay