



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTABILITY
STATE CONTRACTING STANDARDS BOARD

Draft
Minutes

Friday, December 10, 2021 - 10:00 A.M. Meeting of the State Contracting Standards Board
Via Microsoft Teams

Members Present:

Lawrence Fox, Chair
Stuart Mahler
Daniel Rovero
Donna Karnes
Lauren Gauthier
Bruce Buff
Robert Rinker
Brenda Sisco
Albert Ilg

David L. Guay, Executive Director - ex-officio Board member
Ryan Chester, Staff – 2021-2022 UConn Graduate Intern

1. Call to order

Chair Lawrence Fox called the meeting to order at 10:07 A.M.

2. Approve the Minutes of the November 12, 2021 Meeting

Motion made by Daniel Rovero and seconded by Donna Karnes to approve the minutes. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

3. Sec. 4e-36 Contested Solicitations and Awards Subcommittee Report

Robert Rinker reported the Subcommittee has no pending matters.

4. Privatization Contract Committee Report

Robert Rinker reported the Privatization committee sent a letter to the commissioner of DMHAS. The commissioner responded late yesterday. The committee is scheduled to meet today after the regular board meeting.

5. Audit Work Group

Robert Rinker stated the audit committee met this morning. We have about 30 agencies left to audit in our audit of state contracting agencies. Many of these agencies are small. The agencies will be assigned to committee members for review. The format of the compliance report has been agreed on. We are auditing fiscal year 2020. We still have outstanding the Department of Public Health, and because of COVID we are not pressing them for a response.

6. Update from Connecticut Port Authority Review

David Guay reported that John Henshaw, CPA Executive Director, has asked for a follow-up meeting.

Chair Fox reported that we reviewed a few topics. We want to meet with OPM to understand what role they are playing with the CPA regarding procurement. We want to know to what extent OPM is involved in their procurement policies. We want to know whether OPM procurement guidelines are directives or suggestions. We want to discuss the use of MOUs and MOAs. We have a meeting scheduled with OPM Secretary Melissa McCaw.

Lauren Gauthier reported that we received another complaint from the public to which we will look into. The report is being drafted and is going to be ready by the end of the year to give to CPA and subsequently to the legislature for review.

David Guay stated that we have not received any redacted information that we requested which will be addressed at the meeting with John Henshaw.

7. Update on possible disqualification of contractor action

David Guay stated that he is working on documentation and scheduling. We do not have the use of an attorney from the Attorney General's office or staff attorney which slows down progress. David Guay is planning a hearing for January 2022.

Chair Fox stated that this is yet another example of how this Board severely requires proper staffing like a staff attorney to effectively complete this Board's mission.

8. Other business

David Guay reported that we have been asked to continue participating in UConn's Department of Public Policy's Graduate Internship Program. With Executive Director Guay retiring next year and without a clear path forward for the Board's funding, the Board as of this meeting will not be continuing to participate in the internship program out of fairness to the graduate students. We do not want to have a graduate student commit to interning with us and then face cancellation due to funding issues on our end.

9. Public Comment

Kevin Blacker addressed the Board.

10. 10. Adjournment

Daniel Rovero motioned and seconded by Donna Karnes to adjourn. All voted in favor. Meeting adjourned at 10:42 AM.

Respectfully submitted: Ryan Chester