



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTABILITY  
STATE CONTRACTING STANDARDS BOARD

Final & Approved  
Minutes

Friday, January 12, 2018 Meeting of the State Contracting Standards Board Privatization  
Committee  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room  
18-20 Trinity Street, Hartford, Connecticut

Members Present

Thomas Ahneman, Acting Chair  
Charles Casella  
Lawrence Fox – via teleconference telephone  
Brenda Sisco – via teleconference telephone

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 11:01 A.M. by Action Chair Ahneman.

2. Approve the minutes of the December 8, 2017 meeting

Before a motion to approve Charles Casella asked the minutes be corrected. The last sentence of paragraph three in section 3 should be changed to “Charles Casella indicated that from the federal government pension unfunded liabilities are reimbursed at a rate exceeding 30%”.

Motion made by Charles Casella and seconded by Brenda Sisco to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2017 meeting as corrected. All voted in favor, with Lawrence Fox abstaining.

3. Department of Transportation (DOT) Bridge Safety Inspection Review

Acting Chair Ahneman reported that he had received responses to questions he had asked of DOT at the last meeting. Chair Ahneman expressed his continued concern with the DOT concerns their indirect costs. Chair Ahneman expressed disbelief it’s carrying the full cost of the building and all the overhead that comes with the building. Mr. Casella expressed that it is in the cost effective evaluation (CEE).

Further noting that Executive Director Guay had a conversation with Bob Dakers, Chief Financial Officer, Office of Policy and Management and he has been asked to attend the next meeting.

Brenda Sisco summarized Acting Chair Ahneman's concerns, that the estimated unfunded liability reported is low.

Acting Chair Ahneman voiced concern that he does not believe DOT has a handle on those costs, noting they return to the same estimate.

Mr. Casella reminded Mr. Ahneman that DOT is using the OPM estimate.

Lawrence Fox offered that he doesn't understand the point Acting Chair Ahneman is making. Concerning the cost of the building, Mr. Fox argued that whether they contract out or not DOT is going to continue to have those costs.

Acting Chair Ahneman expressed that it takes tax payer money to keep the building up a running and that is factored into the cost to the taxpayers to keep engineers working. Private contractors have all those costs factored in.

Mr. Fox led a discussion on costs the state pays regardless of whether it contracts out or not.

Mr. Casella offered that since Mr. Dakers is scheduled to meet with the committee in February, we should ask him to address the issue of indirect costs also.

Acting Chair Ahneman noted that the committee will have to meet with Mr. Dakers in March as Mr. Ahneman will not be attending the February meeting.

#### 4. [Choose Contract and Agency for 2018 Review under C.G.S. Sec. 4e-16\(l\)\(1\)](#)

Acting Chair Ahneman opened discussion by noting the suggestion from the full Board meeting to review an Information Technology contract and construction design and inspection of the Department of Transportation. Acting Chair Ahneman mentioned master contracts.

General discussion held by all attempting to identify a privatization contract to review in 2018.

Mr. Fox offered that a criteria for selection should be money could be saved.

Brenda Sisco stated she would like a better understanding of the universe of things we can and should be looking into. Mr. Fox expressed agreement with Ms. Sisco and suggested the committee should consider looking for where the State can save significant dollars.

Mr. Casella suggested that the committee task Executive Director Guay to look into the CORE-CT contract and see what he can find on the construction inspection and design contracts. Ms. Sisco suggested that the committee task Executive Director Guay to research hot button topics which may lead to a contract to review. The committee agreed to ask Executive Director for a list of privatization contracts and research hot button topics.

By consensus the committee tabled the choice of the next privatization contract to review.

5. [Public Comment](#)

No public comment.

6. [Other Business](#)

No other business raised

7. [Adjournment](#)

Motion made by Charles Casella and second by Brenda Sisco to adjourn. All voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 11:38 A.M.

Respectfully submitted: David Guay