



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTABILITY  
STATE CONTRACTING STANDARDS BOARD

Final & Approved  
Minutes

Friday, October 11, 2019 Meeting of the State Contracting Standards Board Privatization  
Committee

5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room  
18-20 Trinity Street, Hartford, Connecticut

Members Present

Lawrence Fox, Chair,  
Thomas Ahneman  
Charles Casella  
Albert Ilg

1. [Call to order](#)

The meeting was called to order at 11:40 A.M. by Chair Lawrence Fox.

2. [Approve the minutes of the September 13, 2019 meeting](#)

Motion made by Albert Ilg and seconded by Thomas Ahneman to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2019 meeting. All voted in favor.

3. [Department of Correction Pharmacy privatization](#)

Executive Director David Guay explained the origin of the agenda item. The State Contracting Standards Board received a copy of a University Health Professionals Local 3837 letter by William P. Garrity, President to the Commissioner of the Department of Correction. The letter noted that currently the pharmacy services are provided to the Department of Correction by UConn Health another state agency, with pharmacists that are State Employees.

Based upon the letter the State Contracting Standards Board referred the matter to the Privatization Contract Committee. A letter was sent to the Nicole Anker, Esquire Director of Legal Affairs for the Department of Correction inviting Department representatives to today's meeting.

Chair Fox reported receiving a telephone call from Melissa McCaw, Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management about this issue.

Chair Fox noted that the place the Privatization Contracting Committee is at, is trying to understand the facts. Secretary McCaw asked to share the facts, as she does not believe this is a privatization issue.

The facts provided to Chair Fox from Secretary McCaw.

- The function is the delivery of pharmaceutical drugs and medications to Connecticut's inmate population.
- Up until 1997 the Department of Correction was performing the function of delivering drugs and medications in-house.
- In 1997 before the State Contracting Standards Board existed, the Department of Correction privatized the function to a group called Pharmacy America.
- In 2001 at the expiration of the Pharmacy America contract the Department of Correction, accepted the "bid" from the University of Connecticut Health Center to perform the function.
- The University of Connecticut Health Center has been performing the function as a vendor for the Department of Correction since 2001.
- The University of Connecticut Health Center informed the Department of Correction that it no longer wished to provide the function.
- The Department of Correction sought the advice of the Office of Policy and Management.
- The Office of Policy and Management advised conducting a cost-effectiveness-evaluation and competitively bid for the function.
- The Department of Correction has not had the capacity to perform this function for over twenty years.
- The Department of Correction does not view this as a new privatization effort.
- The University of Connecticut Health Center put in a bid but it was not a competitive bid and was not selected.
- The matter is urgent, the inmates need to have their medications.
- Secretary McCaw has offered to provide a formal letter from the Office of Policy and Management to express that the matter is not appropriately before the Privatization Contract Committee.
- Chair Fox expressed to Secretary McCaw that the Privatization Contract Committee has a formal request before it and needs to be disposed of in a formal way.

Motion made by Albert Ilg and seconded Thomas Ahneman to determine that the move by the Department of Correction to re-bid for pharmacy services after conclusion of the relationship with the University of Connecticut Health Center is not privatization and not properly before the State Contracting Standards Board Privatization Contract Committee and should be referred back to the full Board for disposition with the Committee's recommendation that it is not believed to be privatization. The motion also includes a

request be sent to the Office of Policy and Management to provide their rational for believing this is not new privatization.

Following discussion:

Voting in favor:

Lawrence Fox  
Thomas Ahneman  
Albert Ilg

Voting against:

Charles Casella

No abstentions.

Chair Fox volunteered to communicate to the Office of Policy and Management the need for a letter explaining the rational for their understanding that it is not new privatization.

#### 4. [Other Business](#)

Under other business Charles Casella brought to the Committee's attention the information he has learned about the Lexus-Nexus contract and would like the Board to gather and find out more information on the contract. Chair Fox responded that it will have to wait until the return of Executive Director Guay.

#### 5. [Public Comment](#)

No public comment

#### 6. [Adjournment](#)

Motion made by Thomas Ahneman and second by Charles Casella to adjourn. All voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 12:23 P.M.

Respectfully submitted: David Guay