



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTABILITY
STATE CONTRACTING STANDARDS BOARD

Final & Approved
Minutes

Friday, February 14, 2020 Meeting of the State Contracting Standards Board
Fifth Floor Conference Room
18-20 Trinity Street, Hartford, Connecticut

Members Present:

Lawrence Fox, Chair
Thomas Ahneman
Alfred Bertoline
Bruce Buff
Charles Casella, Jr.
Albert Ilg
Donna Karnes
Salvatore Luciano
Stuart Mahler
Robert Rinker
Robert Sember
Brenda Sisco

David L. Guay, Executive Director - ex-officio board member
Lauren Gauthier, UConn Graduate Intern

1. Call to order

Meeting called to order by Chair Lawrence Fox at 10:15 A.M.

Chair Fox welcomed the Board's newest member; Robert Sember, a long term procurement and contracts specialist.

2. Approve the Minutes of the January 10, 2020 Meeting

Motion made by Alfred Bertoline and seconded by Salvatore Luciano to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2020 Board meeting. All voted in favor.

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

The first contest Subcommittee Chair Rinker spoke about is the second contest filed by Oxford Health Plans, LLC and the Office of the State Comptroller. On January 6th, the Subcommittee received a second contest from Oxford regarding the medical insurance carrier to the administer the State's healthcare plan for active State employees, non-Medicare state retirees and municipal and school board employees under the State's Partnership Plan.

Chair Rinker reported Oxford filed the contest out of an abundance of caution regarding the timeline for filing a contest. Oxford received a notice of non-award on December 23, 2019. Through the efforts of the Assistant Attorney General Gary Hawes, the Comptroller's office provided information including redacted information to Oxford and the subcommittee. C.G.S. 4e-36(c) allows the subcommittee to settle and resolve any such contest. Oxford and the Office of the State Comptroller in this case mutually agreed to the decision. The decision of the subcommittee was to dismiss the contest without prejudice filed by Oxford on the grounds that it is not ripe for consideration as the full procurement file is not currently available to Oxford.

Chair Rinker thanked David Guay, Assistant Attorney General Gary Hawes, and Bruce Buff for their work on this contest, and the two parties for coming to a mutually agreed upon resolution.

The second contest was received on February 13, 2020. This contest involves Conduent State Healthcare LLC and the Department of Social Services. The RFP was to provide outsourced health care business processing. Conduent was the 24-year incumbent provider of these services. Conduent claims that it missed the highest score by a narrow margin, and the short fall was the result of procedural flaws in the evaluation and scoring process, specifically objective errors. The Subcommittee has until March 14, 2020 to render a decision in this matter.

4. Work Group Reports

a. Report from Audit Work Group

Audit Work Group Chair Thomas Ahneman reported that the Audit Work Group met this morning and held two interviews. The first interview was with Department of Motor Vehicles Commissioner Sibongil Magubane and Deputy Commissioner Tony Guerrera. The second interview was with Office of Early Childhood, Commissioner Beth Bye and Chief Operating Officer Christopher Lyddy.

Chair Ahneman noted that the six draft FY 18 Audit Compliance Reports accepted by the Board at the January 10, 2020 meeting of the Board were transmitted to the Agencies on January 29, 2020.

Supplemental materials requested from the Department of Veterans Affairs, The Connecticut State Library and the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner have been received and will be

processed into the draft Compliance Reports, with an expectation that they will be reported to the Board at the March 13, 2020 meeting for acceptance by the Board.

A draft list of Agencies to be audited for FY 19 was distributed. The Subcommittee determined that after review a Special Meeting by Conference will be held at 9:00 A.M. on February 27, 2020 to select the agencies for audit.

b. Data Analysis Work Group

Data Analysis Work Group Chair Alfred Bertoline reported that a meeting with representatives of the Office of Policy and Management was held on January 21, 2020. Items discussed at the meeting included new competitive bidding waiver processes and reporting, new on-line reporting and the status of the three-year procurement and contracting plans due into the Office of Policy and Management. All items are in process.

5. Report of Special Committee on Dillon Stadium contracts

Chair Fox reported the Committee met in the afternoon of January 10, 2020 with AAG Gary Hawes. A list of questions appropriate for legal counsel were provided to AAG Hawes for his review.

6. Review of February 13, 2020 Appropriations Committee Testimony

Chair Fox reported on the Testimony provided to the Appropriations Committee on February 13, 2020. Chair Fox thanked all the Board members who attended; Alfred Bertoline, Bruce Buff, Albert Ilg, Donna Karnes, Robert Rinker along with Executive Director Guay and UConn Graduate Intern Lauren Gauthier.

The Committee left the Board with the following questions to be discussed in an upcoming Appropriations Work Group meeting.

1. *If you receive funding for staff, would it make sense for you to look over the Memorandums of Understandings that have been happening lately?*
2. *If SCSB received \$500,000 for staffing needs, can you provide information on how you would envision that team (roles, positions and job specifications)?*
 - a. *Do other states have a group of people who fulfill these sorts of functions?*
3. *Can you provide a more in depth break out of the figures for contracts that are not put out to bid?*
 - a. *Can you provide estimated potential savings?*

7. Other Business

Bruce Buff reported that he had reviewed the State Department of Education Training Manual.

Motion made by Bruce Buff and seconded by Robert Rinker to accept the State Department of Education Training Manual. All voted in favor.

8. Public Comment

Travis Woodward, a Department of Transportation Engineer and President of CSEA SEIU Local 2001 P-4 Bargaining Unit addressed the Board concerning a possible privatization effort by the Department of Transportation concerning Nuclear Soil Density Testing. Executive Director Guay advised Mr. Woodward to place his concerns in writing to the Board after reviewing C.G.S. Section 4e-16.

9. Adjournment

Motion made by Salvatore Luciano and seconded by Brenda Sisco to adjourn. All voted in favor, the motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 11:30 A.M.

Respectfully submitted: David Guay