



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTABILITY
STATE CONTRACTING STANDARDS BOARD

Final & Approved
Minutes

10:00 A.M. - Wednesday October 13th, 2021 Meeting of the State Contracting Standards Board
Sec. 4e-36 Contested Solicitations and Awards Subcommittee Via Microsoft Teams Video
Conference

Members Present:

Robert Rinker
Bruce Buff
Stuart Mahler

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

Michael Durham, Donahue Durham & Noonan. P.C. – representing Anthem
Philip Schulz, Associate Attorney General – representing the Teachers' Retirement Board
Richard Sponzo, Assistant Attorney General – representing the Teachers' Retirement Board
Helen Sullivan – Administrator for the Teachers' Retirement Board

1. Call to order

Chair Rinker called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

2. Approve the Minutes of the September 27, 2021 Meeting

Stuart Mahler moved to approve the minutes; Bruce Buff seconded. All voted in favor.

3. Anthem contest of Connecticut Teachers' Retirement Board Retiree Health Request for Proposals

Chair Rinker noted that this meeting is for information gathering. The subcommittee considers Contest #1 to be the contest filed by Anthem on August 27th, 2021. The decision for Contest #1 was issued on September 27th, 2021. Contest #2 is the contest filed by Anthem on September 22nd, 2021. Contest #3 is the contest filed by Anthem on September 29th, 2021. Chair Rinker asked if there is a signed contract between the TRB and United Healthcare?

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Helen Sullivan answered no, not yet.

Chair Rinker asked if there have been communications updating TRB's retirees of this switch to United Healthcare?

Helen Sullivan answered yes.

Attorney Sponzo addressed the subcommittee.

Chair Rinker asked when is the open enrollment?

Ms. Sullivan answered October 18, 2021 – November 22, 2022.

Chair Rinker asked if the TRB has the pricing for open enrollment options?

Ms. Sullivan answered yes.

Chair Rinker asked for confirmation of the number of covered lives.

Ms. Sullivan responded approximately 32,000 covered lives.

Chair Rinker asked how many of those covered lives are in the Medicare Advantage plan versus the Medicare Supplement plan?

Ms. Sullivan responded 26,500 in the advantage plan and 5,500 in the supplemental plan.

Chair Rinker asked how the premiums are allocated between retirees and/or their spouses, and the State of Connecticut.

Ms. Sullivan responded that according to C.G.S. 183(t), retirees and/or their spouses, the State, and active teachers are all allocated 1/3 of the cost. The contributions are based on the State plan. We offer a buy-up to keep members happy.

Chair Rinker asked if the 1/3 of the contributions made by active teachers are part of the contributions they make to the TRB fund?

Ms. Sullivan answered yes.

Chair Rinker asked if the retiree insurance plan is fully insured?

Ms. Sullivan answered yes, except the dental insurance remains self-funded.
Chair Rinker asked how the rates can be proprietary?

Attorney Sponzo responded the total rates remain proprietary regardless of the bearing of payment. Attorney Sponzo continued to say Anthem's figures are wrong.

Chair Rinker asked if the TRB disagrees with the \$2.3 million difference between the Anthem and United Healthcare proposals?

Attorney Sponzo answered yes.

Chair Rinker asked if the TRB is willing to elaborate on the claimed cost savings United Healthcare's proposal over Anthem's proposal?

Ms. Sullivan answered \$831,000 for both plans.

Attorney Durham stated Anthem would like to see these calculations.

Attorney Sponzo addressed the subcommittee.

Chair Rinker asked whether Medicare programs begin on January 1st of every year?

Ms. Sullivan answered yes.

Chair Rinker asked how many criteria were used to evaluate the proposals?

Ms. Sullivan answered there are 6 general categories with multiple subcategories.

Attorney Durham addressed the subcommittee.

Chair Rinker stated that Bruce Buff will now ask questions.

Attorney Durham addressed the subcommittee.

Attorney Sponzo addressed the subcommittee.

Bruce Buff asked how many people were on the RFP committee at the TRB?

Ms. Sullivan answered 3 and described those persons' experience.

Bruce Buff asked who put together the weights assigned to the criteria.

Ms. Sullivan answered Segal does that.

Bruce Buff asked when did Segal provide the weights to the committee?

Ms. Sullivan answered that she approves them, and Segal put them together during the RFP process. Ms. Sullivan stated she does not have a specific date.

Bruce Buff asked when the weights were approved officially?

Ms. Sullivan answered they were approved during the RFP process.

Bruce Buff asked if the weights were completed before the RFPs were sent out?

Ms. Sullivan answered she was aware of the weights and was okay with the weights. Ms. Sullivan does not know when the weights were officially approved.

Bruce Buff asked Ms. Sullivan to provide documentation of when the weights were officially approved.

Ms. Sullivan stated she would provide that information.

Bruce Buff asked why were the weights not sent out with the RFP?

Ms. Sullivan answered we do not release the weights according to OPM guidelines.

Bruce Buff responded that OPM's guidelines may not be best practices.

Attorney Sponzo addressed the board.

Attorney Durham addressed the board.

Bruce Buff asked for Ms. Sullivan to provide the completed score sheets when the contract is signed.

Stuart Mahler asked Ms. Sullivan to provide in writing who was on the evaluation team.

Ms. Sullivan agreed.

Attorney Durham addressed the subcommittee.

Attorney Sponzo addressed the subcommittee.

Chair Rinker reviewed what information is considered proprietary. The Board has a statutory right to request information and does not need to FOIA any information.

4. Adjournment

Motion by Bruce Buff, seconded by Stuart Mahler. All voted in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 A.M.

Respectfully submitted: Ryan Chester