



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTABILITY
STATE CONTRACTING STANDARDS BOARD

Draft Minutes
State Contracting Standards Board Audits Work Group
9:00 A.M., Friday, November 12, 2021
Via Microsoft teams meeting

Members Present:

Thomas Ahneman, Chair
Lauren Gauthier, Acting Chair
Alfred Bertoline
Stuart Mahler
Jean Morningstar
Robert Rinker

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

1. Call to order

Acting Chair Lauren Gauthier called meeting to order at 9:05 AM

2. Approve Minutes of September 10, 2021

Stuart Mahler motioned and Alfred Bertoline seconded to approve the minutes, Jean Morningstar abstained, majority voted in favor.

3. FY 2020 Audit Status

Alfred Bertoline made some comments about edits to the audit instrument.

Stuart Mahler made some comments about edits, changing statutes to hyperlinks.

4. Adjust audit instrument due to OPM concerns

David Guay reported on the updates to the audit instrument regarding OPM's concerns about including MOUs and MOAs in the audit instrument. OPM believes the SCSB does not have jurisdiction over this topic. They believe the request is too much a burden for agencies to answer.

Robert Rinker stated that we collected information last year about MOUs and MOAs without any pushback. These small agencies do not have procurement professionals who have knowledge of these agreements. There is no statutory definition of MOUs and MOAs. When we approved the State Department of Education's procurement manual, we defined MOAs and MOUs. Besides that, no one else seems to have a definition for them.

Stuart Mahler asked if we should reach out to the AG's office

Thomas Ahneman asked who has jurisdiction over MOUs and MOAs?

David Guay stated that Attorney Gareth Bye from OPM indicated that if we continued with the study, OPM will seek a formal opinion from the AG whether we can do that.

Lauren Gauthier stated that the vagueness of where jurisdiction lies regarding MOUs and MOAs makes it important for someone to be tracking these agreements which this board could do.

Jean Morningstar stated that even very large agencies use MOUs and MOAs. In this age of consolidation, the one UConn model is being used elsewhere.

Thomas Ahneman suggested that we continue with MOUs and MOAs in the audit instrument.

Alfred Bertoline reviewed the history of how the subject of MOUs and MOAs came to the Board. There is a lot of money flowing through these agreements and someone must track that.

Robert Rinker stated that an AG opinion could lead us to report to the General Assembly that we need explicit jurisdiction over these agreements.

Lauren Gauthier asked what is OPM's jurisdiction to direct our work?

David Guay stated that they did not direct our work.

Thomas Ahneman believes the audit work group would like to continue with MOUs and MOAs. He will report to the Board this work group's opinion.

5. Adjournment

Lauren Gauthier motioned to adjourn, Stuart Mahler seconded, all voted in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:37 AM

Respectfully submitted: Ryan Chester