STATE OF CONNECTICUT



Office of Governmental Accountability State Contracting Standards Board

Regular Meeting Minutes

Friday, October 13, 2023 - 10:00 A.M.

Location: Virtual Only

Members Present: Robert D. Rinker, Acting Chair Alfred W. Bertoline Bruce H. Buff Lauren C. Gauthier Albert W. Ilg Donna M. Karnes Salvatore Luciano Daniel S. Rovero Brenda L. Sisco Gregory F. Daniels, Esq., Executive Director, ex-officio

Staff Present:

Jonathan M. Longman, Chief Procurement Officer Samson F. Anderson, Research Analyst Carmen Hufcut, Trainer Specialist Molly Lukiwsky, Intern

1. <u>Call to Order</u> Acting Chairman Robert Rinker called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

2. Approve the Minutes of the September 8, 2023 regular meeting

Daniel Rovero motioned to approve the September 8, 2023, regular meeting minutes, and Alfred W. Bertoline seconded the motion. Salvatore Luciano abstained from the vote because he was not in attendance for the September 8, 2023, meeting. The September 8, 2023, regular meeting minutes were approved and adopted unanimously.

3. Staff Reports

- a. Executive Director Report Gregory F. Daniels, Esq.
 - i. Legislation, Regulations, Policies, and Procedures Report
 - Director Daniels reported that the Statutes, Regulations, and Policies and Procedures Work Group held a meeting on October 5, 2023 to discuss regulations and legislative recommendations; those items would be covered in greater detail later on the meeting agenda.
 - ii. Staffing Report
 - Director Daniels reported that the State Contracting Standards Board (SCSB) is still waiting for Human Resources to finish some aspects of the hiring process,

including Equal Employment Opportunity clearance before offers are made to the selected candidates.

- Director Daniels also reported that the staff will interview two candidates for the Administrative Assistant position during the week of October 15, 2023.
- b. Chief Procurement Officer (CPO) Report Jonathan M. Longman
 - i. Training
 - Mr. Longman reported that the SCSB acquired a license for software that is necessary for the courses that Carmen Hufcut has been working to create. Mr. Longman demonstrated how these courses are being integrated into the SCSB Learning Management System.
 - ii. Other
 - Mr. Longman reported that the staff had been working on other items:
 - 1. The Digest of Administrative Reports to the Governor
 - 2. The Legislative Regulation Review Committee (23 regulations pending status)
 - 3. Request for advisory opinion Capital Region Development Authority, received October 11, 2023
 - 4. Two Privatization Matters:
 - a. 4e-16 Office of Higher Education, temp-hire to support Stone Academy closing.
 - b. 4e-16 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) complaint regarding the Connecticut On-Line Law Enforcement Communications Teleprocessing (COLLECT) Unit's Auditing contract with Diverse Computing.
- 4. Audit/Data Analysis Work Group Alfred W. Bertoline
 - a. Al Bertoline reported that the Workgroup continued progressing with the tri-annual audit plan, three agencies were in various stages of providing the SCSB with the requested material.
 - b. Mr. Bertoline also reported that the next set of audits would be comprised of the following agencies: the Office of Higher Education, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Insurance, and the Dept. of Public Health. The next set of engagement letters will be sent out on/about October 27, 2023 and agencies will have until December 1, 2023 to provide the required documentation.
- 5. Sec. 4e-36 Contested Solicitations and Awards Committee Report Acting Chairman Robert Rinker
 - a. Acting Chairman Rinker reported that no matters were pending before the committee.
- 6. Privatization Contract Committee Report Acting Chairman Robert Rinker
 - a. Acting Chairman Rinker provided an update regarding two matters that will soon be presented to the Privatization Subcommittee for review:
 - i. Office of Higher Education, temp-hire to support Stone Academy closing
 - Business case received on October 12, 2023

• CPO recommends that the case is ready for subcommittee review

ii. DESPP, COLLECT UNIT Privatization Complaint under Diverse Computing Contract

- Case received September 7, 2023
- Administrative and Residual Union (A&R) supported the complaint via email on September 12, 2023
- Initial documentation request sent to DESPP on September 13, 2023
- Received initial contract data from DESPP on October 6, 2023
- A&R formally petitioned the SCSB on October 12, 2023 via letter with the following concerns: replaced services performed by State Employees, lower output performance goals, lack of cost-benefit analysis, reassignment of employees, non-competitive.
- 7. Statutes, Regulations, Policies and Procedures Work Group
 - a. Acting Chairman Rinker provided an update from the October 5, 2023 meetings and presented the following list of legislative proposals:
 - i. Cost-effectiveness evaluations shall be submitted to the Board.
 - ii. A business case submitted to the Board shall include an analysis of the impact of the proposed privatization on protected classes of workers.
 - iii. The budget for the Board shall be treated in the same fashion as other watchdog agencies such as the Freedom of Information Commission, State Election Enforcement Commission and Office of State Ethics.
 - iv. Criminal conduct under C.G.S. § 4e-34 shall include any criminal conduct associated with prior procurement or contracting.
 - v. Quasi-public shall be considered to be a state contracting agency.
 - vi. The statutes of the State Contracting Standards Board shall supersede any notwithstanding the language of any state contracting agency or any quasi-public agency.
 - vii. A state contracting agency shall consider the financial condition of any private entity in evaluating a bid or a proposal.
 - viii. In any solicitation of bids or proposals, a state contracting agency shall notify prospective bidders or proposers of their rights under C.G.S. § 4e-36.
 - ix. Quasi-public contracts shall contain provisions for accountability, transparency, and results-based outcomes.
 - x. The definition of a core governmental function shall include the provision of essential human services to residents of the state who lack the support necessary to ensure basic human functions.
 - xi. A state contracting agency shall post any awards of emergency procurements.
 - xii. A business case shall include the qualitative impact of any privatization on the existing state workforce.
 - xiii. C.G.S. § 4e-16(c)(3) shall be revised to allow a state employee bargaining unit to submit a bid when the number of state employees impacted by a privatization contract is 25. The number of impacted state agency employees, as described above, shall include the cumulative impact of any privatization contract that increases the number of impacted state employees to 25.

- b. Salvatore C. Luciano motioned to move the legislative proposal forward in the legislative process, and Bruce Buff seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion except Brenda Sisco.
- 8. Other Business
 - a. None.
- 9. Public Comment
 - a. None.
- 10. Adjournment
 - a. Salvatore Luciano motioned to adjourn, and Alfred W. Bertoline seconded the motion. All members voted in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted: Gregory F. Daniels, Executive Director