

**Business Enterprise Program Council for Minorities,  
Females and Persons with Disabilities Meeting Notes**

**MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

100 W. Randolph  
Room 9-040  
Chicago, IL 60602

401 S. Spring St.  
Room 500 ½  
Springfield, IL 62706

**Monday, March 24, 2014- 1:30 PM**

**COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Fred Coleman Nelida Smyser Deleon Beth Doria Larry Ivory Corinne Pierog  
Jesse Martinez Perry Nakachi Lynn Marie Turner Chimaobi Enyia  
Samantha Hufnagel

**COUNCIL MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE**

Joan Archie Richard Boykin Omar Duque Rodney Lewis Charisse Witherspoon  
Alfred Ramirez Florence Cox Marva Boyd Hedy Ratner

**COUNCIL CHAIR**

Simone McNeil, CMS Director

**COUNCIL SECRETARY**

Paul Cerpa, BEP Deputy Director

**CMS STAFF IN ATTENDANCE**

Elias Ricks Ngwayah II Harry Reinhard Michelle Jackson Vincent Bass Susan Hartman  
Ellen Daley Carlos Gutierrez Tom Mikrut Roger Nondorf

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Ben Bagby Gustavo Giraldo Philip Dalmage Dreena Jones Sharla Roberts Deanna Rossetto  
Art Moore Michelle Casey Gilbert Villegas Jr. James Clark III Jud Henry Bill Walter  
Joel Petrie Thomas McElroy II Maze Jackson Nathan Page Lance Lewis Vir Doshi

## AGENDA

March 24, 2014

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

- I. Welcome
- II. Call to Order
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Approval of Minutes of Council Meeting held on February 24, 2014.
- V. Chair's Report
- VI. Posted Business
  - Sheltered Market Follow-Up Discussion
  - Comments back to Jesse Martinez on his QBS Good Faith Effort process
- VII. Committee Updates
  - Procurement Committee
  - Business Development Committee
  - Capital Access and Banking Committee
  - Certification Committee
  - Policy, Rules and Enforcement Committee
- VIII. New Business
- IX. Public/Vendor's Testimony
  - Bill Walter, Vice President of Operations, A&R Mechanical Contractors, Inc.
  - Joel Petrie, Vice President, E.L. Pruitt Company
- X. Adjournment
  - Next Council Mtg. – April 28, 2014

## **Welcome**

Simone McNeil Council Chair welcomes all.

## **Call to Order**

Simone McNeil Council Chair called the meeting to order and then asked the Council Secretary to conduct the roll call.

## **Roll Call**

The roll was called and a quorum was not obtained.

Simone McNeil Council Chair announced that Alesha Hawkins was no longer with the State and that Chimaobi Enyia would be taking her place as a Council Member. Chimaobi Enyia was added to the roll.

## **Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from February 24, 2014 could not be approved as a quorum was not obtained. Minor corrections to the minutes as presented were noted.

## **Chair's Report**

There was no report from the Chair.

## **Posted Business**

Paul Cerpa, Council Secretary, opens a discussion regarding Sheltered Markets. Council Member Larry Ivory offered his concerns and requested CMS' stance on the Sheltered Market proposal. He also feels that the CPO's Office has undermined what was right in regard to the Sheltered Market, as well as causing massive delays in implementation. Everyone is looking to the Council for their course of action.

Paul Cerpa, Council Secretary, stated that while the Council approved the Sheltered Market, it needed to address CPOs input, as that will impact the rule making process and implementation. Member Chimaobi Enyia wants to stand by the consultant's report and move forward. He suggested establishing a group to assess concerns.

Council Member Perry Nakachi notes that there are no assurances, and is curious as to what purchasing directors feel what their liabilities are. The goal is to avoid litigation. CPO Ben Bagby stated that he is not opposed to the Sheltered Market, but it needs further investigation. If there is an appropriate remedy to the issues raised, he is open for discussion.

Council Member Larry Ivory noted that the CPOs are lawyers and are concerned about keeping everyone out of trouble, but this is just a delay. Member Ivory stated that we need direct action and have an obligation to move forward with the Sheltered Market.

Despite the push for establishing exploratory committees, Council Member Perry Nakachi wants to move forward with a vote by the Council for a decision on the Sheltered Market. Unfortunately there is no quorum has not been established for a vote.

Member Chimaobi Enyia again calls for an ad hoc committee to establish a framework and criteria for its utilization. Council Chair Simone McNeil requested legal input from CMS staff regarding IT procurements as they may relate to the Sheltered Market. She is also calling for more outreach to the BEP vendors regarding upcoming contracts. Council Secretary Paul Cerpa calls for reinstatement of IT ad hoc committee to review the issues and agenda that are involved.

Council Member Jesse Martinez has requested feedback on CDB's Good Faith Effort process and procedure. He is seeking a vote by Council on approval of the GFE process, however, as a quorum still has not been reached, a vote cannot be taken. He requested a vote at the next Council meeting.

## **Committee Updates**

### **Procurement Committee**

No report.

### **Business Development Committee**

No report.

### **Capitol Access and Banking Committee**

Committee Chair Fred Coleman stated that they are making progress on identifying sources to provide capital to Illinois based businesses. The minutes of that committee are attached.

### **Certification Committees**

Council Member Beth Doria, speaking on behalf of Committee Chair Florence Cox, noted that the Committee reviewed and voted on one appeal and two denials

### **Policy, Rules and Enforcement**

The Policy, Rules and Enforcement Committee voted on a submitted Good Faith Effort waivers. The minutes from that Committee are attached. It was also noted that Committee membership participation may be diminishing and a call for new membership is solicited. Council Member Marva Boyd is now a new member of the Committee.

## **New Business**

No new business.

## **Public/Vendor's Testimony**

Bill Walter from A & R Mechanical Contractors Inc. and Joel Petri of E. L. Pruitt Co. addressed the Council asking for assistance in providing a better way to meet the BEP goal for mechanical contracts south of Interstate 80. These competitors have joined together to note to the Council the difficulties they are experiencing; for example, when searching vendors within specific scopes of work, they are finding vendors not qualified in the areas required. They want to avoid making Good Faith Efforts.

James Clark from Entrust Realty Advisors is seeking business with regard to leasing property on the State's behalf. They are a certified MBE and want to be considered in this area. He was advised to speak with the Property Management group of CMS.

Nathan Page from 806 Enterprises is an IT and General Management company. Notes challenges in starting a minority business, as well as, building capacity and obtaining funding.

## **Adjournment**

Paul Cerpa called for Adjournment

Multiple casts for a motion (moved) for Adjournment

Member Marva Boyd seconded the motion to Adjourn.

Meeting adjourned as of 4:30 PM

Next Council Meeting will take place on Monday, March 24, 2014-1:30 PM

For detailed minutes of this meeting, please see the URL below.

<http://multimedia.illinois.gov/cms/bep-032414.aspx>

Download:

<http://multimedia.illinois.gov/cms/bep-032414.wmv>

## Capital Access and Banking Sub-Committee Report

Committee Chair: Fred Coleman III, Ph.D., Higher Ed BEP Councilmember

March 24, 2014

### Opening Remarks

- I would like to note that BEP Councilmember Member Corinne Pierog is largely responsible for the development and compilation of the data related to the non-profit and venture capital phase of this initiative. As you may remember, this initiative to identify resources that provide loans, grants or other forms of capital to small, diverse and entrepreneurial businesses was started by BEP Councilmember Hedy Ratner in 2013.

### Current Status on Identifying and Compiling Not-for-Profit Foundations

- Work has continued in identifying Illinois-based not-for-profit foundations.
- Our search has also led to identification of out-of-state not-for-profit foundations with offices in Illinois.
- Our most recent efforts have focused on gathering contact information such as addresses, contact names, and websites.
- We are finished with the contact information gathering phase for not-for-profit foundations and will now focus on documenting and including their funding interests and amounts they will fund.
- In total, we have fourteen (14) not-for profit foundations we need to input their funding interests in the database.

### Related Initiative on Identifying Venture Capital Firms (For-Profit) that Fund Start-ups and Entrepreneurial Ventures

- The identification and compiling of contact information for twenty-two (22) Illinois-based venture capital (for-profit) firms has been achieved. This includes contact person information, addresses and websites.
- Next steps are to gather and compile their funding interests which will essentially complete the information-gathering for this sub-group we are making a part of this overall effort.

### Next Phases of Work

- Identify the funding interests of the not-for-profit and venture capital firms.
- Combine this work with the earlier list of governmental or quasi-governmental agencies the committee identified in 2013.
- Recommend a marketing program to make this information widely available to Illinois small and diverse and entrepreneurial businesses.
- Target completion is May or June 2014.

Business Enterprise Council  
Policy, Rules and Enforcement Committee  
March 11, 2014  
Meeting Minutes

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting of the Policy, Rules and Enforcement Committee of the Business Enterprise Council was called to order at 12:05 pm.

**II. Roll Call**

Present were Beth Doria, Chair; Jesse Martinez; and Marva Boyd.

**III. Review of Good Faith Effort Submittal**

- A. The committee was presented with a Waiver Request from Kieffer Bros. Construction Co., Inc. on DCEO Grant #12-203580, Olney East MainStreet Water Main Replacement Project.

This \$350,000 project had a 4% BEP goal. This project is in rural Richland County in Southern Illinois and based on the Good Faith Efforts submitted and confirmed by this committee, a motion was made, seconded (Doria/Boyd) and voted on unanimously to grant the waiver request.

- B. The committee was presented with a Waiver Request from Evrard-Strang Construction on a CDB Grant Project for Rural Health, Inc. Community Health Center. This project is located in rural Anna in Southern Illinois and is 65% complete.

Based on the Good Faith Efforts submitted and confirmed by this committee, a motion was made, seconded (Doria/Boyd) and voted on unanimously to grant the waiver request.

**IV. Adjourn**

There being no further business to come before the Policy, Rules and Enforcement Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 12:40 pm.