

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

**Monday, April 22, 2019 - 1:30 PM – 3:30PM
MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

100 W. Randolph
Room 2-025
Chicago, Il 60601

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Sharla Roberts; Beth Doria; Jaime Di Paulo; Bola Delano; Larry Ivory, Hedy Ratner, Edward McKinnie, Derrick Champion, Emilia DiMenco, Karen Eng Sheila Hill-Morgan, Jesse Martinez, Alex Bautista

COUNCIL MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Khari Hunt, Jorge Perez

COUNCIL CHAIR

Janel Forde

COUNCIL SECRETARY

N/A

CMS STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Terrence Glavin, Ngozi Okorafor, Elias Ricks Ngwayah II; Harry Reinhard; Carlos Gutierrez; Irma Lopez; Leslie Taylor; Jeanetta Cardine

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Michelle Flagg; Charles Harrell II; Andrew Johnson, Jean Pierre

PUBLIC NOTICE
STATE OF ILLINOIS
Business Enterprise Council for Minorities, Females, and Persons with Disabilities

100 W. Randolph
Room 2-025
Chicago, IL 60601

401 S. Spring St.
Room 500 1/2
Springfield, IL 62706

AGENDA
April 22, 2019
1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

- I. Welcome
- II. Call to Order
- III. Roll Call – Terry Glavin
- IV. Approval of Minutes of Council Meeting held on February 25, 2019
- V. Chair’s Report – Janel Forde
- VI. Subcommittees Reports
 - Certification Subcommittee Report
 - Outreach Subcommittee Report
 - Compliance Subcommittee Report
- VII. Old Business
 - Update on Utilization Plan
 - Data-Sharing and Usage Agreement
 - Update on the One-Pager
 - Update on the Internet Egress RFP
 - Attendance and Participation for Council Members
 - Update on BEP Related Legislation
- VIII. New Business
 - Reducing the Goal Credit for Supplies
- IX. Sheltered Market in Construction
- X. Appeals
 - Envirox, LLC
 - Best Medical Trip, Inc.
 - Pro Fire and Water Restoration Company
- XI. Public/Vendor’s Testimony
- XII. Adjournment
 - Next Subcommittee Meetings
 - Certification Subcommittee Meeting – May 28, 2019
 - Outreach Subcommittee Meeting – May 29, 2019
 - Compliance Subcommittee Meeting – May 30, 2019
 - Next Council Mtg. – June 24, 2019

Please note: In case you need to connect to the meeting via teleconference, please use the following number and access code:
Teleconference Number: 888-494-4032
Access Number: 2587213722

BEP Outreach Events: <http://www.illinois.gov/cms/events/SitePages/List.aspx>
Note: There will be no IPB Notices and Solicitations Reports for this meeting.

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MINUTES

April 22, 2019
1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

I. Welcome

Chair Forde welcomed all to the BEP Council Meeting.

II. Call to Order

Chair Ford called the meeting to order and requested a roll call at 1:35pm.

III. Roll Call

Counsel Glavin conducted roll call and quorum was established for this meeting. Member Doria motioned to have the people recognized on the phone. Vote taken, motion passes.

IV. Approval of Minutes of Council Meeting held on February 25, 2019

Chair Forde requested a motion to approve the minutes from the February 25, 2019 meeting. Member Doria motioned for the approval of the minutes and member Ratner seconded. Vote taken; motion passes.

V. Chair's Report

Chair Forde informed the Council that Acting Assistant Director Ben Jones is no longer with CMS and we wish him well.

VI. Subcommittees Reports

- Certification Subcommittee Report - Chair Sharla Roberts

The meeting we held on April 3, 2019 but did not have a quorum. She said they had a meeting earlier today and had a quorum. She said there were four (4) appeals for certifications and the committee voted to (2) overturned 2 of them and it also voted to uphold 2 of them.

- Outreach Subcommittee Report – Chair Emilia DiMenco

Chair DiMenco said the subcommittee met on February 20, 2019 and it was captured in the last minutes.

- Compliance Subcommittee Report – Sharla Roberts

- Chair Roberts stated that the last meeting was held on April 3, 2019. She said they discussed creating uniformity in the BEP Program from a best practice standpoint. She said she noticed within several different departments that they have within their contract documents special conditions or things that might explain the Business Enterprise Program and not just the Utilization plan, which she thinks most departments currently use. She recommended that we look at best practices from the City of Chicago and Cook County. She urged the BEP compliance sub-committee to strongly look at this information, because if we are challenged

in the court of law, nothing in our contract's documents, other than construction, that discuss from the special condition standpoint or general condition. She said the only thing we have is an attachment called the Utilization Plan which does not discuss from a special condition standpoint or general condition how to run the program. She said this gives the client an understanding of how to do substitution and participation which are fundamentally in other governmental agencies contracts but lacking in the State of Illinois BEP program.

- Chair Roberts said they discussed the Utilization Plan but said she is expecting an update later on in the week, so she won't be going over that. She also said they discussed creating uniformity. She said they gave either Counsel Glavin or Assistant Director Jones an assignment to provide information from a best practice standpoint and how to comply as it relates to construction projects versus non-construction projects. She asked: Are they using this electronically or they send it manually? She stated that the State of Illinois have the B2GNow program, but the state universities do not have this program. Chair Roberts wonders whether said BEP Program should provide this to the universities and agencies. She said the State currently have the B2GNow program implemented, but it is only for agencies not the universities. She emphasized that the BEP program is bigger than just state agencies. She thinks that from Best Practice standpoint and guidance standpoint the university and agencies always go to the BEP Council for guidance.
- Counsel Glavin said we began by looking at another groups as Chair Roberts mentioned earlier. He said the research previously started under former Assistant Director Jones but moving forward he is now the person who is handling it. He said we are looking at the technology we have, the standards we have, and the additional documentations we have. He said one of the major documents we have is the Utilization Plan and looking into how we can revamp it and be consistent with best practices in other jurisdictions. Counsel Glavin said we discussed in the past that different jurisdictions tend to rely on the same platform for data collection and compliance and enforcement with the B2GNow System. He said we are looking for how improvements can be implemented into our existing system, but also what are the other systems that are out there. Counsel Glavin said the survey is ongoing and when this information is gathered, we can digest it and summarize it with the council approval and consideration.
- Chair Roberts said we also discussed what penalty to give to the vendors when they are not in compliance, how are we going to handle that, what is specified in the documents. She said we have several firms and clients that presented to the council that they were not getting paid or utilized. She wants to properly process and document when the firm is not being utilized and what role does the council plays in making recommendations to the end user or the department and what is our next move. She said there is no process in place even though we have it in law to terminate the contract. Chair Roberts said she would like to have a discussion with the council members about what steps they should take, and the timeline involved. She said we have had too many firms that have presented before the council that they are not being utilized. She said to her knowledge these firms still have primes with the State of Illinois.
- Member Martinez said if the firms are not being compliant for whatever reasons, if we hold up their money, then the client will fall back in line. He said they are not going to comply, unless their money is in place. He said there must be a way we can hold-up their cash or just terminate the contract. He said they are not going to behave unless their money is affected.
- Counsel Glavin said in the Utilization Plan, we put our emphasis on the language that highlights "the Utilization Plan is part of the contract. Failure to meet the Utilization Plan is in effect, a default." He said there are sections that emphasized that "payments will be withheld". He said this is taken seriousness and he is hoping that when you see the Utilization Plan, you will be able to give it some thoughts and feedback.

- Member Doria asked how the Council recommends sanctions for penalties for vendors not in compliance.
- Member Roberts said in the next compliance meeting we can have a roadmap for BEP council to discuss. She recommends at the next meeting that we have a roadmap or process that will provide guidance for all the agencies on what the guidance would be as it relates to compliance.
- Counsel Glavin said the empowerment is to make a recommendation. He said as far as the road to get to the recommendation or the authority to decide on rather or not to send out a default letter or procurement or terminate a contract, he said perhaps, we can map out in a more details, but it starts with the council and working its way up to the recommendation. He said they do have the authority to make a recommendation and there is an empowerment at a certain point to terminate a contract that is not compliance with the BEP goals.
- Member Doria asked if our authority ends at recommendations, and Counsel Glavin said correct. Member Roberts said if that is the case, we can't send those recommendations to Legislators and the Governor. She said if we make recommendations, they should be considered that someone is in breach. Counsel Glavin said there are a bundle of recourse. He said one of the keys is what Jesse Martinez said - refusing to pay. He said in addition to that, every time there is a recommendation based on a failure, the vendor becomes documented as less and less responsible and overtime that vendor is not capable of being awarded a contract because there are (3) requirements: You ought to be the best value; best price; and a responsive bidder and responsible. He said at a certain point that document or recommendation alone deteriorate the vendor ability to contract. He said he thinks this should be considered.

VII. Old Business

➤ Updated on Utilization Plan

Counsel Glavin said the first topic is the updated Utilization Plan. He said it was emailed out last week to the council members, he apologized for the delay. He said there were format issues that caused the delay. He asked the council members to please review, and he appreciate any comments. He said in addition they will be giving the Utilization Plan to the Chief Procurement Officers for their comments as well as their valuable inputs from an organization perspective.

➤ Data Sharing and Usage Agreement

He said the State's statute requires the State Controller to work with the BEP Council to share data and support what is called the Minority Contractor Opportunity Initiative which is a state statute requirement. He said to fulfill that requirement, the State Comptroller needs data and the date is contain in the BEP portal. He said we have an agreement in draft form that is being tweaked. He said it mimics the statue as far a language, rights, and responsibilities, but we need an agreement with the State Comptroller so they we can share data. He said this agreement would be put before all members and he would highlight the most important points. He said it is basically an initiative that involves Outreach, Education, and Notification, but what is relevant here is the maintenance of an outline data base. He said the Comptroller maintains it is for the benefit for not only the Minority Owned Business Enterprise, but also for Women Owned Business Enterprise and Business Owned Enterprise for Disabilities. He said the agreement again is in a draft form. He suggests that the council approve Madame Chair's ability to sign that agreement and allow the Comptroller as well as Council to apply with the statue that already exist.

Member Roberts wants to know if this agreement is different from the \$15 dollars agreement that is collected. Counsel Glavin said it is at the end of the statute. He said would email the agreement to all Council members and if there are no objections after seven days, the Chair will go ahead and sign the agreement.

Member Roberts motioned for the approval of granting the authority to the Chairman Forde to execute the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act, 5 ILCS 220 on behalf of the Council. Member Bautista seconded. Vote take, motion passed unanimously.

- Update on the One-Pager
 - Counsel Glavin said there was a request at the sub-committee level to have a One-Pager that describes what BEP is and what activities it involves in. He said this will be used as an educational tool and an outreach tool as well. He said it will also inform other organizations what BEP does and encourage people to offer input in Council proceedings. He said he drafted a One-Pager and provided it to the sub-committee chairs and with some feedback and work, he believes the One-Pager will be ready for Outreach and other activities.
- Update on the Internet Egress (RFP)
 - Counsel Glavin said there have been inquiries regarding an Internet Regress (RFP). He said he reached out to the Bureau of Strategic Sourcing person from the state. He said he was informed that the project is pre-awarded and that the proposals and submittal are still under evaluation. He will be giving an additional update shortly about the solicitation project.
 - Member Roberts said this contract has been old business for almost (2) years now. She wants to make sure that the vendors who submit on this contract meet the 20% compliance goal. Therefore, she is requesting that once this is approved by the committee, the information should be provided to the council members so that they can be aware of the Minority, and Women businesses who applied and met their goals. Chair Forde asked just to be clear what is the ask. Member Roberts said the ask is to inform the council of the participation goals and how they are met.
- Attendance and Participation for Council Members
 - Counsel Glavin said we have been lacking quorum at the previous subcommittees' meetings. He said there has been significant absenteeism of council members at subcommittees' meetings. He said this led them to start work on an attendance policy. He said it will be another tool where there will be a process leading up to some type of notification to the appointment authority on whether an individual or group of individuals are not fulfilling their responsibilities for the Council. He said he drafted a policy and he gave it to the sub-committee chairs for consideration. He said upon receiving feedback and further discussion, we might be closer to an attendance policy at the next sub-committee meeting if the council decides to have one.
- Update on BEP related Legislations
 - Counsel Glavin said there were approximately (5) new bills introduced since the last meeting, but there have been several amendments with previously filed Senate bills. He said he will provide some updates as far as amendments and what the new bills are. He asked if any council members have any interest in any assistance as far as tracking legislations, and he urged them to reach out to him and he will be more than happy to help them with using the General Assembly website, amendments and any on-going actions in Springfield.
 - Chair Forde asked whether there was any feedback on the deadline for the sub-committee on the attendance policy as far as the drafting of the language is a concern or whether there was an interest to make it mandatory. Counsel Glavin said he would suggest they meet at the next sub-committee meeting to discuss the Attendance Policy.

VIII. New Business

- Member Roberts requested the use of the goal credit for supplies on construction projects. She said in the City of Chicago program in construction they count supplies a little bit differently from the State of Illinois. She said she would like to have a discussion with the council members about whether they would like to consider best practices as they do at the DBE program as well as the City of Chicago program. She said it's only up for discussion and they do not need to make a

decision. She urged Counsel Glavin to do some research and provide it at the next sub-committee meeting on how this is done so we can take a look at it.

- Member Doria explained the difference in goals for supplier as oppose to actual contracts. She said when the programs were first developed by USDOG and others she said it was boots on ground and it was actual shovels in the dirt projects. She said the suppliers of goods and services were nearly 60% rather than 100%, because it was not shoveling the ground or boot on the ground. She said she just wanted to clarify this for the council members.
- Member Roberts said firms that are doing construction projects such as the University of Illinois have a lot of suppliers. She said she would like to open discussion for the council members.
- Member Martinez said his challenge is construction projects in Carbondale Illinois and Central Illinois. He said they are going to get credit for 60%, because he does not have enough pre-qualification to do the work in the Southern Illinois area. He said in construction there is going to be the buying of more supplies. He said part of his mission is to do more outreach and identify qualified contracts in the Southern Illinois to do more work. He said they must discuss the number of pre-qualified firms and certified firms that actually do the work.
- Member McKinnie said he does not think they should not do something because of Southern Illinois. He said why can we have it like it is at IDOT. He said they have some rules for reason that do apply and others that do not apply. He said certain areas we can have over 60% or maybe they must do a better job of getting firms to be certified in Southern Illinois.
- Member Doria said it is her understanding that contracts are based on availability, so if the agencies are following the format then the goal should be adjusted accordingly.
- Member Roberts said she thinks it's been preset objective. She said they already done research that said if it is for this, still a prime vendor will select a supplier or an actual firm that is going to supply labor. She thinks the emphasis is to figure out how we can get more firms to provide labor versus the supplies. She said the purpose of the BEP program is to add minorities and women owned vendors that have laborers that want to go to work, and they are not able to go to participate in procuring supplies. She said we should look at what organizations are doing to see who we have certified in Southern Illinois.

IX. Shelter Markets in Constructions

- Member Roberts said she wanted to have the Council discuss having a Shelter Market for construction. Member Doria said in every court that this has come before has been very forthright in striking every sheltered market proposal in construction. She said as much as some people do not want to believe that, that is the reality we live in. These cases are brought before the court and they go all the way up. She said specifically in Chicago when we had a challenge with BAGC v City of Chicago, she said the Judge was very, very specific that there will be no Sheltered Market in Construction. She urged the Council to look at previous cases and take that as a written rule we cannot have Shelter Market as part of construction. She cautioned the Council members to avoid going down this road.
- Member Martinez said one of the challenges is that CDB does not have enough pre-qualify minority women that are vendors to take construction projects. He said his efforts at CBD is to have more pre-qualified minorities firm, because we are a smaller agency and he still need to have firms pre-qualified for projects.

X. Appeals

Envirox

- Mr. Gutierrez discussed the appeals from the last council meeting. He said the certification committee denial certification for Envirox. He said the applicant had appealed to the subcommittee but had been denied and was now appealing to the Full Council. He said the issue had to do with ownership and control. He said the application submitted to WBDC was different from the application submitted to BEP. He said the bottom line is when the client submitted the documents it was totally different and that the applicant did not have control or ownership of the business. He said the ownership of the applicant's company and the holding company are both owned by the non-eligible person.
- Member Roberts said the client was previously denied by certification manager as well the certification sub-committee. She said we must bring this to the council members to decide on the certification. She said the client submitted a letter but did not provide any other documents beside the letter. She also said the client is not here today to present the documents before the council members. She noted that all the council members do have a copy of the paperwork to make their decision.
- Mr. Gutierrez read to the council members Article 10-70 Section 8 for reference.
- Chair Forde asked Carlos they were aware of this meeting, but not formally invite to the meeting. Carlos said that is correct according to the Administrative Rule.
- Member Doria said her view is very clear the holding company is control by a non-eligible member. She said bringing the client before the council is irrelevant, because they do not have the correct information to change the council decision.
- Chair Forde stated the action is to affirm the recommendation from the certification sub-committee. Member Doria made the motion that affirm the original denial of the client. Mr. McKinnie second the motion. Vote was taken, and the denial was upheld.

Best Medical Trip, Inc.

- Mr. Gutierrez said the applicant was denied, because the applicant admitted she gave the power to the non-eligible individual by giving him the position as the President of the company. He said the By-Laws allowed all the powers directly to the President. He said the applicant stated in her original statement that the business was granted to Matthew in 2013. The client said Matthew was working in the company for 20 to 30 hours a week. The client statement said that Matthew is much younger than her, so the client gave Michael the title of President, because he is going to take over the business once he retires. Mr. Gutierrez said we should not consider capital, but instead who has ownership of the company. He said based on this information, we denied the certification because the noneligible has the power and control of the company.
- Member Doria made the motion that the council uphold the client's denial for certification based on the fact that the client does not control the company. Mr. McKinnie seconded the motion. Vote taken; the motion passed.

Fire Water & Restoration

- Mr. Gutierrez discussed the next appeal which is Fire Water & Restoration. He said the denial for this client is based upon control of the company. He said the applicant indicated this is a franchising company and all changes to the company are subject to joint agreement. Mr. Gutierrez said the client cannot make any changes regarding the business. He said the client testimony indicates she and her husband have joint assets. According to Mr. Gutierrez, she said 95% of the work is non-union and they are a franchising company. He stated the issues are can she control the business and make decisions regarding the company. He said the client indicated she cannot make any changes without her husband.

- Member Doria stated it is clear from the client’s testimony she cannot do anything without her husband consent. She motioned for the Council to uphold the denial for certification.
- Mr. McKinnie second the motion. Vote taken; motion passed.

XI. Public/Vendors Testimony

- Thomas Bowling, CEO of the Obama Group; David Lockman, COO of the Obama Group; and Douglas Morrison, Attorney of the Obama Group introduced themselves. Mr. Bowling said at the last council meeting he stated the council members were going to give him an update regarding the status of Wesco. Chair Forde stated she was not aware of any updates regarding Wesco. She asked Mr. Glavin to address and provide updates for this company. Mr. Glavin stated we have met internally regarding Wesco and has been reviewing what the ability is to utilize their corporation on this contract and to see why at this point there a question regarding utilization is an issue. Mr. Glavin said there has been meetings since the last council meeting and it is ongoing. Mr. Glavin said he will give an update as soon as we are able get additional information. Attorney Morrison asked that Mr. Bowling be kept informed of any updates. Counsel Glavin promised to do that.
- Member Roberts stated as the Higher Education representative she does not recall this item being on the sub-committee for compliance agenda meeting, but she said if this is the case, we want to add this as an item for the next sub-committee meeting.
- Member Doria stated her recollection of the last meeting was we were looking for Legal Counsel to give the full council some ideas and what is our opportunities were for sanctioning Wesco or some other remedial action. She apologized to the Obama.
- Counsel Glavin said there is a path to recommendation whenever there is a lack of utilization. He said part of this is fact gathering. He said what they have done is met with your organization and the user from the State side and will be putting the information together. He said this will arm the Council on rather not to pursue the path of some type of recommendation within its authority. He said he will keep the council members inform as well as participation from Obama and make sure it is adequately equipped to move forward. Member Roberts asked to be informed as well.
- Mr. Patrick Thompson from Champaign, Illinois and has a business that specializes in concrete, demolition, and estimation. He is going to follow-up with some of the issues he has with shelter market, split goals, and supplies. He said as a sub-contractor in his engagement with prime contractors, when it comes to supplies, he said the prime contractor can get their supplies much cheaper than what he is able to buy. He said having a reduced goal credit will give his company more opportunity to bid on contracts. He said he has been in the construction business for over ten (10) years and this is some of the other contractors experience as well. He said the opportunity for the work to be un-bundle can help his business. He recently did a concrete job and its was over \$300,000 dollars, but he said it was package as a general contractor. He said as an African American we are looking upon higher than other contractors and he is a union contractor. He said this is the issues the sub-contractors are having with bidding on contracts. He said his ability to get sub-contractors in the union is based upon getting them work. He said he cannot get the sub-contractors work if he has issues with competing construction companies. He said he will need reduced supply cost or unbundled jobs whether it’s in Shelter Market or Private Market. He said it does not make a difference, because we still not seeing a result on getting the prime contracts. He said we should not be penalized, because they do not have the Shelter Market or Private Market. He said we need the prime contracts, so we can create the opportunity for African American who wants to start a business. He said they are constantly been bumping heads with State agencies for an opportunity to work. He said we are trying to create work for our community

and jobs as well. He would like to see some changes with the prime contracts and he is very qualified to do the work.

- Member Roberts said they do see a trend at the university. She said they will take a serious look on how they are procuring firms that provide labor. She said this will be an item for discussion at our next compliance meeting. She also said they will do some research to see how other entities are doing regarding this issue.
- Michelle Flag with Redacre Solution asked the council member why does BEP considered women minority is considered as one and the City of Chicago states its separately.
- Member Doria wants to know what specifically Ms. Flagg is asking. Ms. Flagg wants to know why BEP does not split goals between minority and female rather than have one goal. Member Roberts said the State of Illinois historically does not have split goals. She said we do not have the ability to split goals outside of the construction projects, but she feels that we should considered and discuss in the next upon council meeting. Member Martinez said at CDB in construction they split goals.
- Mr. Bruce Montgomery introduce himself to the council members and said he respect what the BEP program is doing. He also said he is a former member of the African American Task Force. Mr. Montgomery said in the past couple of years the State of Illinois did not have a budget this put several challenges on many of the agencies to fulfill some of their work. He said there was a budget past about a year ago, and he believe the budget will be terminate in fiscal year June 30,2019. He said this program is very effective and one of the things he found is the task workforce had spent and exhaust amount of time speaking to free agencies of procurement of the State of Illinois. He said the report is on-line which includes goals, aspirations, and strategies for each of the reporting agencies. He said the BEP process begins at the beginning of the year by asking agencies what they are hoping to achieve, and then coming back later in the year and asking what you have accomplished. He said there needs to be a process were these goals are done on a quarterly basis. He said it should be were sometime of level where they can adjust the recourse, or we have 3 quarters to meet the goal. He said they cannot wait to the until the game is over and say we did not do anything to improve as it relates to releasing contracts opportunities. He said there are Best Practices that are in place within the County and City. He said there needs to be sharing of this and an understanding how it relates to DBE and how some of these programs must improve. He thinks they need to create some new ways to get better results for business for African Americans. He said each agency should produce their intention looking out a year ahead what are some of their major goals so that the African Americans firms can know what is coming down the pipe and be better prepared to take advantage of these opportunities.
- Member Roberts said there are (3) points she would like to address. She said the law does state that we should do a mid-year report, but we currently do an end-of the-year report. She agreed with Ms. Montgomery that they should monitor contracts on a monthly or quarterly basis. She said we need to know, if agency or university are utilized the B2GNow System. She said the B2GNow System will give the compliance officers or whomever is monitoring the contracts and notification of where the contracts end. She said because, they do not want to be at the end of the contract were the funds have already been depleted and not effectively monitoring the contracts. Member Roberts said we need to provide guidance to the agency or whomever adhere to the BEP Act, contract should be implemented into the B2GNow system. She said therefore we procure it, so they can effectively manage the contracts. Member Roberts said lastly, we must have a procurement plan and CMS is looking into how this can be done. She said the university is looking for us to put in best practice how this can be done.
- Andrew Johnson is the Executive Director of Native American Chamber of Commerce in Illinois. He said their goals are for Native Americans to get involved in activities with the State. He said they will continue to seek membership on the Council to represent Native

Americans. He said the Native American Plan Act was introduced to the legislator a few weeks ago, and it passed the Senate with 150 votes. He said this Act is on the way to the House and he hopes to receive the same results. He said he did meet with some of the council members and he thanked them for their support in this matter.

- Mr. Ebert, Board President for with Illinois Network for Center of Independent Living said they would like to request finding a way to widen the pool of non-for-profit who can participate in the BEP program opportunities. He said they have 22 members in the State and by Federal Law 51% the staff is disability and he manage the staff. He said he would love to see all 22 members become BEP certified vendors and would love the help of the Council members to achieve this opportunity.
- Member Doria asked Mr. Ebert whether this is a non-profit business and he said yes.
- Member Roberts asked if how many owners are presently with disabilities? Mr. Ebert stated that 51% of the Board of Director are people with disabilities and 51% of management staff are people with disabilities. They also serve people with disabilities in the communities. Member Roberts asked whether the client's business is eligible for State of Illinois structural work programs, because as Shelter Workshop the State of Illinois we do have a Shelter Workshop Program implemented by CMS. She is referring to the procurement codes as it relates to persons with disabilities and can qualify for the BEP program. She asked the client whether they want to be a non-profit since 51% of the owners are physically disable or are they interested in participating in the Shelter Workshop Program. Mr. Ebert said they do not qualify for the Shelter Market Program they are not a 14C organization and that is totally against their philosophy.
- Chair Forde informed the client that someone in Springfield will be meeting them to get their contact information.

XII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:10pm

- Next Subcommittee Meetings
 - Certification Subcommittee Meeting – May 28, 2019
 - Outreach Subcommittee Meeting – May 29, 2019
 - Compliance Subcommittee Meeting – May 30, 2019
- Next Council Mtg. – June 24, 2019

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