

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

100 W. Randolph
Room 2-025
Chicago, IL 60602

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

Monday, October 28, 2013- 1:30 PM

COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Joan Archie	Fred Coleman	Florence Cox	Nelida Smyser-DeLeon
Beth Doria	Larry Ivory	Corinne Pierog	Jesse Martinez
Marva Boyd	Lynne Marie Turner	Charisse /witherspoon	Hedy Ratner

COUNCIL MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Alfred Ramirez	Perry Nakachi	Richard Boykin	Omar Duque
Samantha Hufnagel	Rodney Lewis		

COUNCIL CHAIR

Simone McNeil, Chairman

COUNCIL SECRETARY

Chima Enyia, Acting Secretary

CMS STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Harry Reinhard	Langstan Smith	Leslie Taylor
Vincent Bass	Susan Hartman	Jeanetta Cardine
Elias Ricks Ngwayah II	Carlos Gutierrez	Ngozi Okorafor
Michelle Jackson	Austin Baidas	

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Gustavo Giraldo	John Donato	Matthew Grady	Deanna Rossetto
Poonam Gupta	Margaret van Dijk	Michelle Casey	Wallace Bradley
Daryl Harris	Kacy Bassett	Micaela Vidana	Dreena Jones
Art Moore	Juan Mardo Jr.	Sharla Roberts	Melissa Hamilton
Steve Richie	Shirley Webb	Kweku Thompson	Mike Stone
Vir Doshi	Sharron Matthews	Ameer Ali	Chama St. Louis
Verona Reyes	Michelle Saddler		

AGENDA
October 28, 2013
1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

- I. Welcome
- II. Call to Order
 - Introduction of the Acting Director of CMS, Chairlady of the BEP Council, Ms. Simone McNeil
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Approval of Minutes of Council Meeting held on and September 23, 2013.
- V. Chair's Report
- VI. Posted Business
 - Department of Healthcare and Family Services
 - Department. of Human Services
 - Illinois Toll way Authority
- 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
- X. Adjournment
 - Next Council Mtg. – November 25, 2013

Welcome

Chima Enyia welcomed all and introduced new Acting Director, Simone McNeil. Director McNeil spoke on her goals for Central Management Services and Business Enterprise Program Council. Director McNeil also acknowledged and introduced new Acting Assistant Director, Austin Baidas.

Call to Order

Director McNeil called meeting to order with roll call of introductions to familiarize faces and names with organizational affiliations.

Roll call resulted in a quorum present for meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from September 23, 2013 was moved by member Beth Doria and seconded by member Charisse Witherspoon. It was approved by the council.

Chair's Report

No Chair's Report

Posted Business

Sharron Matthew, Assistant Director, Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (DHFS is Medicaid Agent for the State of Illinois) gave an informed overview of the Human Services Budget for Medicaid and implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and fielded questions from other Council and Panel members. (Please reference attached presentation below).

Secretary Michelle R.D. Sadler, Illinois Department of Human Services (DHS) Secretary, gave summary on activities at DHS in terms of BEP, how they are currently doing, and what they are doing to improve with specific answers to questions that were raised in advance. She also introduced members of her team, Nelida Smyser-Deleon, Assistant Secretary for Programs at DHS, Matthew Grady, Chief Operating Officer of DHS and Kacy Bassett, the new Director of Business Enterprise Programs (BEP) and Steven Ritchie, BEP Liaison and Representative in Springfield and throughout downstate Illinois with mention of Matthew Hammoudeh, IDHS Assistant Secretary over Operations. Kacy Bassett discussed his experience prior to coming to BEP. The floor was later opened to questions from other Council and Panel members.

John Donato, Chief of Procurement/APO, Illinois State Toll Highway Authority (STHA) along with Chief of Staff, Michael Stone and Gustavo Giraldo, Chief of Diversity and Strategic Development gave an update and overview of the STHA's procurement goals for their Customer Service Center and Violation Processing System also known as back office procurement. Questions were taken from other Council and Panel members.

Committee Updates

Procurement Committee

Procurement Committee is currently working with others to pull together a letter for Acting Director McNeil to sign. The letter would be regarding working with agencies to

encourage them to share information so that there are no longer complaints regarding short notice of forecast of any upcoming changes and advantages.

They have used the City example of items that the City has initiated to give vendors a bigger picture of forthcoming opportunities with more insight, information and encouragement to get to know one another before it's time to submit.

They are also looking at possible improvements to the website to make it more user-friendly and less intimidating.

Business Development Committee

No report.

Capitol Access and Banking Committee

The Capitol Access and Banking Committee reported that they are continuing to work on finding non-profit and micro loan organizations that are operating to provide small capitol loans to minority owned businesses – this effort is ongoing.

Certification Committee

The October 28, 2013 Meeting was cancelled due to lack of a quorum and was rescheduled for November 25, 2013.

Policy, Rules and Enforcement

The Policy, Rules and Enforcement Committee met on October 15, 2013 to review a waiver submittal. The waiver was submitted by the Knoxville Community Unit School on the high school project. This was an unfortunate thing where the primary contractor submitted the Knoxville School District's bid with an indication that they would not be able to meet the 12 % minority and women participation goal.

As a good faith measure, they did reach out and were able to get FBE participation for a total of 22 %. They tried to get minority participation and were unable to do so. After a review of this submittal, the Committee did grant the waiver. However they felt it important enough to send a letter to the Knoxville School District to tell them that the BEP Council does take compliance very, very seriously.

They informed the School District that on State grants, if they so choose to accept bids that are not compliant, then that does jeopardize their funding. The committee wanted everyone to be aware that they are being very diligent on that and are not just going to rubber stamp these items.

A secondary discussion occurred regarding the percentage of minority participation as well as the primary contractor's compliance standing in the State of Illinois.

New Business

The Council granted CDB the ability to approve the grant waiving process on the construction. We note that AE (Architect and Engineers)...prior there were no goals. Now there are goals and now there is a formal process that will be introduced to the Council at during the next Board meeting. The Council will receive a copy of that process for their review and hopefully approval. Also on the construction end CDB

would like to come up with a formal process for Council review and hopefully approval at the next Board meeting as well.

Public/Vendor's Testimony

Punam Gupta, Certified IT Services Contractor, informed that she has been BEP certified for the last five years and had not received a single contract with the State, apart from a small product. She questioned as to whether there was a breakdown as to who were the subcontractors, who were getting those contracts, especially in IT. She had questions regarding the 58 million dollar IT contract for DHS and others with no BEP Goals.

A secondary public/vendor, Mr. Wallace Bradley, spoke up and felt that the council should better inform the public of these meetings. Also, Ms. Sharron Matthews from the Department of Human Services explained that the reason why there is an incremental goal increase is because this is a new type of network that hasn't been done before. According to Ms. Matthews, it has to start small and then grow. As it grows so does the goal. Member Smyser-Deleao inquired from Ms. Gupta whether she was registered on the IPB. The vendor responded yes. Member Smyser-Deleon went on to explain the situation with the Sandata contract.

Adjournment

Director McNeil moved to adjourn. Member Jesse Martinez seconded the motion to adjourn. Meeting was adjourned 4:15 PM.

Next Council Meeting will take place on Monday, November 25, 2013-1:30 PM

NOTE: The following URL sites contain actual audio and video of the Council meeting. For specific and detailed information on any topics of the meeting, please visit one of the following listed sites.

<http://multimedia.illinois.gov/cms/bep-102813.asx>

<http://multimedia.illinois.gov/cms/bep-102813.wmv>