

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

**MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

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

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

**Monday, May 14, 2012 - 1:30 P.M**

**COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Marva Boyd  
Lynne Marie Turner  
Alesia Hawkins  
Beth Doria  
Joan Archie

Charisee Witherspoon  
Fred Coleman  
Jesse Martinez  
Larry D Ivory

Perry Nakachi  
Nelida Smyser Deleon  
Florence Cox  
Richard R Boykin

**COUNCIL MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE**

Hedy Ratner  
Rodney Lewis

Samantha Hufnagel  
Alfred Ramirez

Charles Lynn Lower  
Omar Duque

**COUNCIL CHAIR**

Malcolm Weems, Chairman, CMS Director

**COUNCIL SECRETARY**

Paul Cerpa, BEP Deputy Director

**CMS STAFF IN ATTENDANCE**

Tasha Cruzat  
Philina King  
Nadine Lacombe  
Sharla Roberts  
Ellen Daley  
Denise Reed

Harry Reinhard  
Chimaobi Enyia  
Susan Hartman  
Carlos Gutierrez  
Angela Stinson-Marti  
Phil Kaufman

Elias Ricks Ngwayah II  
Gladys Rodriguez  
Matt Runyer  
Jim Shadid  
Nadine Lacombe

## **OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Sharron Matthews  
Ruddy Ortiz  
Vir Doshi  
Darryl Harris  
Ben Bagby

Michael Flannigan  
Matthew Grady  
David Byrd  
Ken Martin  
Margaret VanDijk

Carlos Charneco  
Chad Hoosier  
Leonard McGee  
Tim Fishburn

## **AGENDA**

- I. Welcome
- II. Call to Order
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Approval of Council Meeting Minutes – April 23, 2012
- V. Chair’s Report
- VI. Posted Business
  - IT/Telecom Contracting
  - Sharron Matthews, Healthcare & Family Services
  - David Byrd, Executive Director, CAAG, Chicago Urban League
- VII. Unfinished Business
  - BEP Council Certification Appeal June 25, 2012
- VIII. Committee Updates
  - Procurement Committee
  - Business Development Committee
  - Capital Access and Banking Committee
  - Certification Committee
  - Policy, Rules and Enforcement Committee
- IX. New Business
  - DCEO Presentation – David Vaught
- X. Adjournment
  - Next Council Meeting – June 25, 2012

## **Call to Order**

Chairman Weems called the May Business Enterprise Program (BEP) Council meeting to order at 1:34 on May 14, 2012.

## **Roll Call**

Council Secretary Paul Cerpa took the roll and announced that a quorum has not been obtained.

## **Approval of the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on April 23, 2012**

Council will hold on approval of the minutes until a quorum has been reached.

## **Chair's Report**

Chairman Weems opened the discussion regarding the current state of affairs with respect to State IT contracts. Statewide hearings will be scheduled so that BEP Vendors can address their issues and availability. Before the hearings are held, CMS Legal will establish policy and procedures surrounding the format of these hearings. Discussions on these hearings narrowed the focus to just two hearings, one in Chicago and the second in Peoria.

## **Posted Business**

Chairman Weems recognized Council Secretary Paul Cerpa for current BEP business.

Secretary Cerpa noted that a scheduled IT Committee meeting was not held, thus a report was not available.

Secretary Cerpa recited the section of the BEP Act that is relevant to "Sheltered Markets". Some Council members felt that the Sheltered Market program is a pathway to illustrate the disparity of BEP vendors involved in State IT contracts, and help alleviate this problem through JCAR Administrative Rules. The statewide hearings mentioned by Chairman Weems would assist in making the case to JCAR. Concerns were raised on the lengthy process of rule establishment through JCAR. Secretary Cerpa noted that BEP is still awaiting rules on the new veteran's goal program thus any JCAR approval does not appear swift. Council member Larry Ivory disagreed with existing timeframes that were laid out for the hearing process and recommended that BEP move forward with expediency as businesses seem to be closing and on the decline. Council members Doria and Witherspoon voiced their agreement. Council member Doria also recommended an emergency filing with JCAR.

Chairman Weems stated that we will move forward, and in addition, will attempt to invite JCAR members to the next Council meeting. He also stated that great effort will be in place to have BEP goals on all State IT contracts moving forward.

Ken Martin, IDOT, voiced concerns of identifying vendors by name within the Council meetings. SB 51 prohibits this action.

Sharron Matthews, HFS, gave a presentation on her agency's role in BEP vendor utilization in State IT contracts. Ms. Matthews presented a handout that represented this participation. In this handout it was noted that IT services are a large integral part of HFS. Even though the federal government will be responsible for some of the costs, HFS plans on spending 300 to 400 million dollars over the next few years. It was noted that all of the IT contracts had BEP goals established. Chairman Weems stated that the Council should take an active role in dealing with agencies that are not following the lead of HFS.

David Byrd, Executive Director, CAAG, Chicago Urban League, addressed the Council with a presentation that included a handout. Mr. Byrd's contention is that the State is unwilling to award contracts to minorities. He noted that Caucasian women did quite well in state contracting as opposed to very low percentages given to the minority groups, African Americans being the lowest. Fairs and expositions are of little value, and MBE vendors are losing ground as they are no longer the large companies they once were. Mr. Byrd recommends inclusion of prime contractors in the upcoming IT hearings, increasing the dollars that are subject to the BEP goal, holding agencies accountable for poor participation and the imposition of penalties, and the strengthening of compliance. Darryl Harris noted that the state is doing better and that the council has become more proactive and should apply more pressure to under achieving agencies.

### **Unfinished Business**

A quorum was reached at this point so the Council approved the minutes from the last meeting, with one exception; Council Member Cox noted an error regarding the Certification Committee voting to uphold the original denial in the last meeting's minutes.

There was no Council appeal hearing held this month as the vendor was not available. The appeal will have to be held at the June 25<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.

### **Committee Updates**

Procurement Committee – No report

Business Development Committee – No report

Capital Access and Banking Committee – Council member Fred Coleman noted that a meeting was not held, however conference calls were conducted regarding how New York deals with bonding issues and perhaps Chicago should investigate this procedure.

Professional Services – No report

Policy, Rules and Enforcement Committee – No report

### **New Business**

David Vaught's presentation will be held until next month's Council meeting.

Council member Beth Doria requested the status of BEP goal application in the grant process. Darryl Harris is aware of a process, confirmed by Council member Jesse Martinez, and in the process of finalizing the mechanics.

**Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 3:27 PM