STATE OF ILLINOIS
PPB
PROCUREMENT POLICY BOARD

Chairman: Jay Stewart
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COPY

December 5, 2014

Fred Hahn
Chief Procurement Officer
Capital Development Board
377C Stratton Office Building
Springfield, IL 62706

Re: 50-35 Potential Conflict of Interest, 102-332-002

Dear Mr. Hahn,

In accordance with the requirements of Section 50-35 of the Illinois Procurement Code, I have reviewed your request received December 5, 2014 and understand the facts to be as follows:

1) The Capital Development Board has issued a request for a review and comment on potential conflicts of interest disclosed by prime vendor Farnsworth Group, Inc.

2) The contract pertains to construction related services.

3) Farnsworth Group, Inc was selected via qualifications based selection.

4) The disclosure form submitted on behalf of Farnsworth Group, Inc indicates the following:

   a. Ms. Karen M. Jenson is an appointed Chairperson of the Metropolitan Airport Authority of Peoria and received $1,200 annual compensation.
   b. Mr. Robert Kohlhase has been a member of the Groundwater Advisory Council since 1997, as created by the Groundwater Protection Act, and his current term expires in 2017. He receives no compensation for this position.
   c. Mr. Gregory J. O'Connor is an elected member of the Board of Education of Columbia Community Unit School District #4 in Columbia, Illinois. He receives no compensation for this position and his term will expire in 2017.
   d. Mr. Brian Fisher is an appointed member of the Oswego Plan Commission for which he is compensated $25 per meeting up to twelve meetings per year.
   e. Mr. Aaron Quick is an appointed member of the Bloomington-Normal Airport Authority and is compensated $1,200 annually.
   f. Mr. Eric Bachman is an appointed member of the Stark County Zoning Board of Appeals and is compensated $20 per meeting for an average of six to eight meetings per year.

5) The Capital Development Board confirmed that none of the disclosed individuals were in a position to influence the award of this contract. The Capital Development Board and CPO Hahn indicate that it would be in the best interest of the State to approve this conflict of interest due to the using agency's needs and the value of the contract.

Based on the foregoing, you are requesting my review and comment pursuant to the Illinois Procurement Code.

Review and Comment

After careful review of the documentation provided, I do not view the relationships disclosed above as creating a conflict of interest sufficient to preclude the Capital Development Board from entering into a contract with Farnsworth Group, Inc for the services outlined in your letter received December 5, 2014.

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