



Approved Sep 6, 2011

**MBE/WBE and Small Business Advisory Committee
Minutes**

**Regular Meeting
Tuesday August 2, 2011**

The MBE/WBE and Small Business Advisory Committee convened in a regular meeting on Tuesday, August 2, 2011 at 301 W. 2nd Street Room 1101 in Austin, Texas.

Acting Chair Ed Lowenberg called the Board Meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Ed Lowenberg, Anne Harutunian, Brian Walters and Andy Ramirez

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the July 12, 2011 regular meeting were postponed due to lack of attendees present from the meeting to vote on them.

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Paul Saldana, US Hispanic Contractors Association (USHCA) requested detailed & transparent reporting on the Formula One project.

Carol Hadnot, Austin Black Contractors Association (ABCA) said the working group recommendation was monthly updates on Formula One reporting. Requested SMBR outreach to MBE's & WBE's regarding the 10hr/30hr OSHA training.

Felix Batchassi, IT Solutions on Demand, LLC expressed concern with his Commodity Code review for certification.

Juan Oyervides, USHCA notified the public of an upcoming meeting with Austin Energy regarding the upcoming line clearance solicitation

3. OLD BUSINESS

a. Update from the Purchasing Department regarding the new Online Vendor Registration

Mark Walsh, Purchasing Department reviewed the new online vendor connection system and provided a handout.

Citizen Communication summarized below;

Carol Hadnot, Austin Black Contractors Association (ABCA) expressed concern with the functionality of the program; will it be user friendly and will there be training? And requested summary of contracts by vendor.

Alayne Johnson, ABCA said they would like the capability to see if their members are on contracts and utilized.

The committee requested that Purchasing come back to the September 6th meeting to discuss the possibility of having a layered security access process for businesses.

b. Discussion of possible Third Party Resolution amendments

Veronica Briseño Lara, Director Small & Minority Business Resources (SMBR), Lino Mendiola and Gabrielle Stokes, Andrews & Kurth and Brian Gildea, Economic Development Manager (EGRSO) provided an update, discussed and reviewed the proposed changes to the resolution with the committee.

Citizen Communication is summarized below:

Paul Saldana, USHCA discussed suggested changes to the language in the resolution.

Carol Hadnot, ABCA would like to see penalties & sanctions in the resolution.

On a motion by Mr. Ramirez, seconded by Mr. Walters, the current draft resolution was adopted on a 4-0 vote with the following amendments and additional direction:

- Make changes to the language in the resolution in the following areas;
 - Goals applied to the entire value of the contract
 - Change hiring language to match what is in current chapter 380 agreements
 - Sanctions and Penalties language added
 - Add; Council Subcommittee to item 12
- Email an updated draft resolution with changes discussed by the committee and public in the areas noted above.
- All may provide feedback by e-mail to staff
- If there were concerns about the revised draft resolution, schedule a meeting prior to the next Council Subcommittee meeting to review & discuss changes to the resolution in the specified areas.

c. Update from the Weatherization Committee regarding Austin Energy Weatherization project.

Committee member Brain Walters provided an update of the meeting held on July 19, 2011.

Citizen communication;

Carol Hadnot, ABCA said there are prime contractors that refuse to utilize African American subcontractors and suggests an independent auditor look at the contracts

Alayne Johnson, ABCA asked the committee to look at applying sanctions to prime contractors

Juan Oyervides, USHCA said on of the USHCA members, a subcontractor has not been paid for 6 months

The advisory committee requested Austin Energy attends the next meeting to provide an update and asked SMBR staff to meet with Austin Energy to discuss their concerns.

The committee also stated that they would discuss this issue with the MBE/WBE Council Subcommittee

4. STAFF REPORTS

Monthly update and report from Small & Minority Business Resources (SMBR) on Small Business Construction Program (SBCP), Request for Changes (RFC) and Council Awards.

Ms. Lara provided an update on the current programs and reviewed reports for SMBR.

Alayne Johnson, ABCA said they are happy with the participation on the RFC report

The committee requested an update at the next meeting regarding the SBCP and report of current and upcoming solicitations

5. AGENDA ITEMS

- Weatherization Program update from Austin Energy
- SBCP update regarding projects.
- Third Party Resolution update.

MBE/WBE and Small Business Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

- Formula One Update (Circuit of the Americas-COTA).
- Create committee to explore Mentor Protégé Program.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Walters and seconded by Mr. Ramirez