



Approved 10/4/2011

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

**Regular Meeting
Tuesday July 12, 2011**

The MBE/WBE and Small Business Advisory Committee convened in a regular meeting on Tuesday, July 12, 2011 at 301 W. 2nd Street Room 1101 in Austin, Texas.

Chair Adrian Neely called the Board Meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Adrian Neely, Ed Lowenberg, Barbra Boeta and Anne Harutunian

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the June 7, 2011 regular meeting were approved on 4-0 vote, on a motion by Ms. Boeta and seconded by Mr. Lowenberg.

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

No citizens were signed up to speak.

3. OLD BUSINESS

a. Update regarding Small Business Construction Program (SBCP)

Rosie Truelove, Director Contract & Land Management Department (CLMD), Veronica Briseño Lara, Director Small Business Resources (SMBR) department and Gabrielle Stokes, Andrews & Kurth updated the committee on the SBCP program.

Two upcoming projects have been identified and all SBE certified firms would be notified:

- Mueller Sub Station Fire Hydrant; approximately \$8K project to be released next week, Monday July 18, 2011.
- ABIA Checkpoint Monitors; approximately \$20K project to be released in August 2011.

The committee requested that SMBR contact the firms that opted out of being SBE certified and find out why.

b. Update from the Third Party Resolution Working Group.

Rudy Garza, Assistant City Manager, Ms. Lara and Ms. Stokes recapped the steps taken with the working group and discussed the resolution with the committee. City management and staff do not recommend the current draft of the resolution.

Citizen Communication summarized below;

Dave Porter, Greater Austin Chamber said they oppose the resolution as written.

Norvell Eutsey, Capital Area African American Chamber of Commerce said they oppose hiring language in the resolution, want MBE/WBE ordinance applied to entire value of project & stronger process requiring primes contacting subcontractors.

Carol Hadnot, Austin Black Contractors Association (ABCA) said the working group did not craft some of the language in the resolution and advised the committee to give clearer direction to staff.

Andy Martinez, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce said he agreed with the committee in allowing staff to revisit the language on the resolution.

The committee requested staff take more time to review and develop language in the resolution to address the concerns of both the committee and the speakers that attended, and come back to the next meeting in August.

They also requested staff bring examples of past projects where the language regarding good faith efforts and MWBE participation was already included in the contract as it exists today to evaluate the effectiveness and consider if the language needs to be changed.

c. Discussion regarding the SMBR Budget Resolution proposed by the Advisory Committee

Ms. Lara informed the committee that the previous budget reduction of 150K has since been removed from SMBR and the service provider contracts will continue to be funded as they have this year. There will not be an increase to the SMBR budget.

The committee suggested that the public and the committee members continue to communicate the concerns throughout the budget process and discuss at next regular meeting of the council subcommittee.

4. STAFF REPORTS

Monthly report from Small & Minority Business Resources (SMBR) on Request for Changes and Council Awards.

Ms. Lara reviewed the reports with the committee.

The committee requested the following in reference to the Request for Change report;

- SMBR bring to the meetings all information on projects where goals were not met.
- Come back to the next meeting to discuss two projects on the report; Davis WTP Treated Water Discharge System 1st Priority Improvements project and the Control House Webberville Solar Switchyard project.

Alayne Johnson, ABCA agreed with the committee's request of staff, to report and discuss projects where goals were not met.

5. AGENDA ITEMS

- Weatherization Committee Update
- SBCP Update
- 3rd Party Resolution Working Group-Post for action.
- Update from Circuit of the Americas; Formula One
- Staff updates regarding two projects on RFC report

Mr. Neely, chair read a letter to city staff and the public stating his desire to not request consideration for re appointment to the MBE/WBE & Small Business Advisory Committee.

The board members, city staff and public commented and thanked Mr. Neely for his years of devoted service and well wishes for his future.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Mr. Neely at 2:30 p.m.