



Approved 2.5.13

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

**Regular Meeting
Tuesday, January 2, 2013**

The MBE/WBE and Small Business Advisory Committee convened in a regular meeting on Tuesday, January 2, 2013 at 301 W. 2nd Street, City Council Chambers in Austin, Texas.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair, Mr. Ed Lowenberg called the Board Meeting to order at 5:31p.m.

Board Members in attendance were Ed Lowenberg, Schiller Liao, Regina Adams and Sheri Marshall

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Committee approved the October 2, 2012 regular meeting on a motion by Ms. Adams and seconded by Mr. Ramirez. Motion passed 5-0.

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

There were no citizen's signed up to speak.

3. NEW BUSINESS

Item 3a. Discussion regarding a possible resolution to support the creation of a City program to mitigate the impacts of the new economic incentives policy requiring a mandatory wage floor on construction projects related to Third Party Agreements.

Mr. Lowenberg requested that discussion regarding this agenda item be postponed until the February meeting due to loss of quorum at 6:30pm.

Item 3b. Discussion regarding possible agenda topics and meeting date for the MBE/WBE Procurement Advisory Committee Annual Review and Work Plan 2013 Work Session.

Ms. Veronica Lara, Director, SMBR informed the Committee of possible discussions regarding their 2013 annual review and work plan.

Mr. Lowenberg requested SMBR staff provide proposed dates for a special called meeting in February to prepare their annual review and work plan.

Item 3c. Presentation from SMBR staff regarding certification guidelines.

Mr. Elton Price, Division Manager, SMBR provided a PowerPoint presentation of the SMBR certification process and requirements to the Committee.

The Committee requested an itemized list of items reviewed during a certification audit and the certification process for possible changes to the proposed rules and city ordinance.

Citizen's Communication

Ms. Carol Hadnot, ABCA expressed concerns regarding minority firms being certified that are affiliated with much larger non certified companies.

Item 3d. Discuss possible MBE/WBE Procurement Program Ordinance and Rule changes.

Ms. Lara briefed the Committee that due to the upcoming disparity study staff recommends changes to ordinance and program rules be postponed until the study is complete.

The Committee requested that SMBR staff provide an outline of proposed changes to the program ordinance and rules and forego items related to the disparity study at the February meeting.

Citizen's Communication

Ms. Carol Hadnot, Austin Area Black Contractors Association (ABCA) stated that she agrees that the MBE/WBE Procurement Program ordinance and rules should be reviewed prior to the completion of the disparity study.

4. STAFF REPORTS

Item 4a. Monthly report and update from Small & Minority Business Resources Department (SMBR) regarding the Small Business Construction Program (SBCP).

Ms. Lara briefed the Committee on the SBCP report.

Item 4b. Monthly report and update from Small & Minority Business Resources Department (SMBR) regarding Request for Change.

Ms. Lara briefed the Committee on the Request for Change report.

Item 4c. Monthly report and update from Small & Minority Business Resources Department (SMBR) regarding Council Awards.

Ms. Lara briefed the Committee on the Council Awards report.

5. AGENDA ITEMS

- Discussion regarding support for the creation of a City program to mitigate the impacts of the new economic incentives policy in regards to mandatory wage floor on construction projects related to Third Party Agreements.
- Update from SMBR staff regarding certification guidelines.
- Discuss possible MBE/WBE Procurement Program Ordinance and Rule changes.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Lowenberg.