

## Equal Opportunity Review Commission

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### MINUTES

Wednesday February 21, 2017

12:00 PM

City County Building

Sixth Floor City Stats Room 646

414 Grant Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15219

**Commissioners in Attendance:** Erin Conley, Jennie Sweet-Cushman, Karen Hall, Justin Laing, Tracey McCants-Lewis, Barry Nathan, Gonzalo Manchego, James Myers Jr., Demeshia Seals, Andrea Vasquez

**Absent Commissioners:**

**Staff in Attendance:** Oliver Beasley, Chuck, Durham, Emily Pontarelli, Valerie McDonald-Roberts, Ricardo Williams

**I.** Minutes are approved for January 2018

## **II. New Plans**

**1802-01-** Housing Authority, Paid Up Life Insurance (National Benefit Service Center)

Anthony Mannella from the Housing Authority City of Pittsburgh presents the National Benefit Service Center contract. Mannella explains that National Benefit Service Center did outreach to WBE firms, but was unable to obtain a vendor for this contract.

Conley asks what kind of work a WBE subcontractor would do on this contract. Steve from National Benefit Service Center responds that it would be a small amount of clerical work.

Gonzalo calls for a vote.

Gonzalo motions to approve this plan. Conley seconds.

**PLAN IS APPROVED**

**1802-02-** Housing Authority, Network Engineering and Support Services (In Tech Solutions, Inc.)

Anthony Mannella presents the In Tech Solutions contract. Mannella notes that In Tech Solutions reached out to 60 MWBE firms in order to obtain participation. Mannella

mentions that they were able to secure Virtix IT for 11 percent MBE participation on this contract.

Questions arise from the Commission over whether the prime contractor could have broken up the work to allow for additional participation. The vendor responds by going over the scope of services and stating that maintenance is one area where they could guarantee work.

Laing calls for a vote.

Laing motions to approve this plan. Conley seconds.

### **PLAN IS APPROVED**

**1802-03-** Housing Authority, Armed and Unarmed Security Services for High-Rise and NVH Welcome Booths (OSA Global).

Anthony Mannella presents the OSA Global contract. McCants-Lewis asks what the compliance monitoring portion of the contract will entail. GRP Services responds by stating that GRP Services will be the onsite manager over OSA Global.

Laing asks OSA Global about the ability to add a minority subcontractor. OSA Global notes that he is unable to subcontract because of special licensing from the state and because of the liability and risk associated with hiring a subcontractor.

After further discussion, Laing responds that there is no good faith effort. Laing states that there have been competent firms identified who are working in the state but have not been approached.

Laing calls for a motion to not approve this plan. McCants-Lewis seconds.

### **PLAN IS NOT APPROVED**

**1802-04-** Innovation and Performance, Computer Hardware and Peripherals (RGH Enterprises, Inc.).

Director Haller presents the RGH Enterprises contract for the Department of Innovation and Performance.

RGH states that they are looking to work with a local WBE firm, but this has not be finalized so the additional documentation showing good faith effort was not provided.

Laing calls for a motion to not approve the plan. Seals seconds.

Vote was tied.

**PLAN IS NOT APPROVED**

**III. Updates**

Clarence Curry, Sports and Exhibition Authority, along with developer from Continental Building Company, presents an update to the Stadium Authority for North Shore Parcel 14 Office Building.

Continental Building Co. notes that the contract is about \$12 million spent this year. Currently, MBE percentages are 7.5% and WBE 13.2 %.

**IV. Chairman's Remarks**

Laing discusses the role of the Commission, and in particular, the January Innovation and Performance contract in which the contract was pushed forward despite the Commission's vote to not approve. Laing asks if the Commission is willing to have a post agenda meeting with Council about where the Commission stands with the City.

Laing also discusses a meeting between EORC and the URA to discuss them coming back to present to the Commission.

**V. Adjournment**