

Equal Opportunity Review Commission

MINUTES

Wednesday May 16, 2018

12:00 PM

City County Building

Sixth Floor City Stats Room 646

414 Grant Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Commissioners in Attendance: Erin Conley, Justin Laing, Tracey McCants-Lewis, Barry Nathan, Demeshia Seals

Call-In: Andrea Vasquez

Absent Commissioners: Jennie Sweet-Cushman, Karen Hall, Gonzalo Manchego, James Myers Jr

Staff in Attendance: Chuck, Durham, Emily Pontarelli, Ricardo Williams

I. Minutes are approved for April 2018

II. New Plans

- **1805-01** Housing Authority, Construction Management Services (Procon Consulting LLC)

Anthony Mannella, Housing Authority City of Pittsburgh, presents the Construction Management Services plan. A representative of Procon Consulting (A MBE Company and the Prime on this contract) explains that services are being subbed out to RBW Strategies LLC for 10%. A representative of RWB Strategies is also present to answer any questions. The total contract is being performed by MBE and WBE companies with 90% MBE and 10% WBE participation.

Commissioners note that it is rewarding to get a 100% MBE and WBE on a contract.

Conley makes a motion to approve, McCants-Lewis seconds.

PLAN IS APPROVED

- **1805-02-** Housing Authority, Construction Management Services (PDDM Solution)

Anthony Mannella, Housing Authority City of Pittsburgh, presents the Construction Management services plan. A representative from PDDM Solution notes that they are utilizing Tri-State Design & Development Inc. (MBE) for 34.1% of the contract, and Foresight Construction Services (WBE) for 12.6%. Representatives from both Tri-State Design & Development and Foresight Construction services are present to answer any questions.

McCants-Lewis makes a motion to approve, Conley seconds.

PLAN IS APPROVED

- **1805-03-** Housing Authority, New Construction of Northview Midrise Electrical (RKB Electric)

Anthony Mannella, Housing Authority City of Pittsburgh, presents the New Construction of Northview Midrise Electrical plan. A representative from RKB Electrical notes that they are utilizing R. Kohlman Development (MBE) for 26.5% of the contract, and Mayer Electric Supply (WBE) for 10%. Representatives from both R. Kohlman Development and Mayer Electric Supply are present to answer any questions.

Seals makes a motion to approve, Nathan seconds.

PLAN IS APPROVED

- **1805-04-** Housing Authority, New Construction of Northview Midrise Plumbing (Vrabel Plumbing Co.)

Anthony Mannella, Housing Authority City of Pittsburgh, presents the New Construction of Northview Midrise Plumbing plan. A representative from Vrabel Plumbing notes they are utilizing Cooper Trading (MBE) and Luke Edmonds Trucking (MBE) for 18% of the contract, and Concreate Simplicity Consulting & Supply (WBE) for 7%. Representatives from Cooper Trading, Luke Edmond Trucking and Concreate Simplicity Consulting & Supply are present to answer any questions.

Conley make a motion to approve, Nathan seconds.

PLAN IS APPROVED

- **1805-05-** Housing Authority, New Construction of Northview Midrise HVAC (Controlled Climate System)

Anthony Mannella, Housing Authority City of Pittsburgh, presents the New Construction of Northview Midrise HVAC plan. A representative from Controlled Climate Systems notes that they were only able to get Butler Landscaping (MBE) Company for less than one percent of the total contract. There is no one present to represent Butler Landscaping.

Commissioners Laing and Seals do not think that Controlled Climate Systems made a good faith effort in reaching out to MBE and WBE firms to help with the work. After a 20 minute conversation with the Prime on how they need to get more MBE and WBE participation, or at least reach out to more MBEs and WBEs, a vote is taken.

Seals makes a motion to not approve. McCants-Lewis seconds.

PLAN NOT APPROVED

1805-06- Mayor Office, Communication and Language Access Consultant (Bromberg & Associates LLC.)

Feyisola Alabi, Mayor's Office City of Pittsburgh, presents the Communication and Language Access Consultant plan. A representative from Bromberg & Associates (a WBE) notes they will be utilizing Perfection Events, Inc. (MBE) for 5% of the contract, and Federal Compliance LLC (who is not a certified WBE). Although the plan exceeded the required participation for WBEs, the MBE utilization was much lower than the 18% required level of participation. Commissioners believe that the Prime (Bromberg & Associates) did not make a good enough good faith effort to reach out to more MBE firms.

Conley made a motion to not approve. McCants-Lewis seconds.

PLAN NOT APPROVED

Due to the passage of new legislation to City Code Chapter 177A, Professional Service plans under \$50,000 will not be reviewed by the EORC.

The following Professional Services plans that amounted to \$50,000 or less were thereby approved by the EORC.

1805-07- Bureau of Neighborhood Empowerment (Flexible) **\$43,875**

PLAN IS APPROVED

1805-08- City Planning (Center for Hearing and Deaf Services) **\$27,000**

PLAN IS APPROVED

1805-09- City Planning (Telecom Consultant – Antenna Aesthetics) **\$30,000**

PLAN IS APPROVED

- **1805-11-** Human resources & Civil Services (Industrial/Organizational Solutions – Fire fighter) **\$30,540**

PLAN IS APPROVED

- **1805-10** Finance Department, Tax regulation, Code, and Other Revision Services (Strassburger, McKenna, Gutnick, & Gefsky)

Edward Barca, Finance Department City of Pittsburgh, presents the Tax regulation, Code, and Other Revision Services plan. There are several representatives from Strassburger, McKenna, Gutnick, & Gefsky. Mr. Barca explains his good faith effort by reaching out to over 50 MBE and WBE companies. However, he only received 5 replies stating that they could not do the work. Due to the sensitivity of the information involved with this contract, the Finance department explained that the Prime (Strassburger, McKenna, Gutnick, & Gefsky) will be able to do the work while safeguarding critical information. For example, tax number, SSN, personnel information.

Conley makes a motion to approve, Nathan seconds.

PLAN IS APPROVED

III. Chairman's Remarks

Commission Chair Laing enforces new legislation today for City Code 177A that was passed by City Council. The commission will review only professional contracts that are over \$50,000. This caused a number of plans in the month of May to not be reviewed by the Commission.

Do to the number of commissioners unable to attend the reporting meeting on May 19th, Commission Chair Justin Laing and Rick Williams will reschedule the meeting for a later date.

IV. Adjournment