

Governor's Commission on Minority and Women's Business Enterprises

Quarterly Public Commission Meeting
Purdue University, Stewart Hall, 128 Memorial Mall, West Lafayette, IN 47907
Monday, June 8, 2015 | 1:03 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order

Chairman Jamal Smith called the meeting to order Monday, June 8, 2015 at 1:03 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Courtney Edmonds took roll call – those members present were:

Jamal Smith Chairman	Jessica Robertson Indiana Department of Administration Commissioner	Terrie Daniel Minority and Women's Business Enterprises Deputy Commissioner	Derrick Casson Indiana Department of Transportation Representative
Erik Scheub Office of Small Business and Entrepreneurship Representative	Elizabeth Kiefner-Crawford Indiana Department of Transportation Representative	John Bartlett House Representative	Jean Breaux House Representative
Jimmy Rayford Central Representative	Remo Mezzetta Central Representative	Jesse Moore Northern Representative	David Olivencia Northern Representative
Francis Vega-Steele Northern Representative	Alfonso Vidal Southern Representative		

III. Establish quorum

Quorum was established for the meeting.

IV. Adoption of Past Minutes

Mr. Alfonso Vidal moved to adopt the March 9, 2015 meeting minutes, with the reflected change from Mr. David Olivencia. Mr. David Olivencia seconded the motion. The motion passed and the March 9, 2015 Governor's Commission on Minority and Women's Business Enterprises meeting minutes were adopted.

V. Welcome Remarks and Chairman's Update

Chairman Jamal Smith welcomed attendees and the newest commission member, Libby Crawford who replaced Heather Kennedy from INDOT. Chairman Smith introduced Judge Allen who provided legal updates to the commission on the Platt Construction case; the consolidated hearing of Mara B. Clark Consulting, Inc., Amy S. Johnson Consulting Corporation and Real Talk Consulting, Inc.; Commercial Doors Install and Service, Inc. and Lead Management Consulting, LLC.

Mr. Jesse Moore moved to have Judge Allen provide suggestions regarding mediation for the Platt Construction case at the September 14, 2015 commission meeting. Mr. Remo Mezzetta seconded the motion. The motion passed.

VI. Deputy Commissioner's Report

Terrie Daniel provided an update on partnerships and outreach events from across the state. Terrie introduced Debby Walker, Deputy Commissioner of Procurement with the Indiana Department of Administration to provide a compliance update.

Luther Taylor provided the Minority and Women's Business Enterprises certification overview. He presented updates on MWBE certification and operations, including total number of certified M/W/VBE Indiana firms, incoming applications, recertifications, average days to certify and top reasons for denials.

Courtney Edmonds provided an update on educational, training and outreach activities. She also provided an update on good faith effort reviews for IDOA Public Works and INDOT contracts.

Allie Hausladen with BBC Research & Consulting provided an update on the 2015 Disparity Study to the commission.

VII. INDOT DBE Program Update

Derrick Casson presented the Indiana Department of Transportation DBE program update. He provided an update on certification, contract compliance and support services. He reported certification statistics, including number of certified firms, number of denials, average processing time for applications and number of applications received. He also provided an update on federal DBE numbers for the Ohio River Bridges project and upcoming contracting opportunities. Derrick provided pricing and DBE goal information for the I-69 Section 5 project. Derrick provided updates on INDOT outreach efforts for contractors.

VIII. New Business

Erik Scheub provided an update on Indiana Entrepreneurship Week.

IX. Public Comments

Larry Pherson and Bill Ensign, founders of the Supplier Diversity Coalition of Greater Lafayette, provided public comments.

Larry Pherson, "I'm just really pleased to be here. It was interesting to hear the discussion, especially all of the discussion about measures and performance, and how do you keep track of what it is you're doing, and are you being successful, and are you accomplishing anything? And I know sometimes I had those discussions, and I'd feel like my mind was going to explode, you know, my one cell. It's always a very difficult challenge, but I'll have to say that, you know, in my many years at the university, one of the most rewarding things I was engaged in was working with Bill to create the Coalition for Supplier Diversity. And there's many times you work really hard and you don't feel you're accomplishing much, but at least with the Coalition, I thought I could look back on it and say, 'Hey, we accomplished something,' and I'm pleased about that."

Bill Ensign, "I'll just give a little bit of history about the Coalition. I worked at Ebonic Corporation. We were a facility that used to be Eli Lilly, so I owe all of my supplier diversity DNA to Eli Lilly and Company, who I think many of you know have a very strong program. One of the things that was a challenge for us here in Lafayette back 15 years ago, was getting enough interest for diverse firms in Indianapolis to pay attention to Lafayette, so I worked with Larry and I said, 'Hey, you know, Lilly's got a name, of course, in Indianapolis. Purdue's got the name in Lafayette. Let's combine, and then pull in the other major employers in the Lafayette community,' because you have many significant employers that are also socially conscious as well. So, we reached out to the Caterpillars, the Dayton Lyles and the other major firms, and basically we said, 'Hey, you're interested in supplier diversity?' And they all said, 'Yes, we are, but it's a challenge because of being in Lafayette, per se.' And so, we said, 'Let's combine our efforts and raise our hands and go crazy, and then the firms will know it's not just Purdue, it's not just Lilly, but it's the whole community that is very strong towards supplier diversity.' And then when Purdue made the best decision of hiring Jesse -- It was a pretty good one. It took the -- it allowed -- it took Lafayette to another level, because now you have a community of this size with full-time organization for supplier diversity. So, a lot of the admin that is needed for a successful initiative of supplier diversity was taken on by Purdue, and it helped us still get the benefits,

but actually, you know, we'll spend more time rolling up our sleeves and finding the opportunities for the diverse firms and our respective employers.

Representative Bartlett suggested that the date for the March 2016 meeting be moved to Friday, March 18, 2016 to allow for commission members in the Indiana General Assembly to attend. Chairman Jamal Smith agreed and the date for the March 2016 commission meeting was moved to Friday, March 18, 2016.

X. Adjourn

Chairman Jamal Smith adjourned the June 8, 2015 meeting at 3:11 p.m.