

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

Quarterly Public Commission Meeting
Indiana Government Center South, Conference Center, Auditorium,
402 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204
Friday, March 18, 2016 | 1:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order

Chairman Tony Kirkland called the meeting to order Friday, March 18, 2016, 1:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Michael Babcock took roll call – those members present were:

Tony Kirkland Chairman	Jessica Robertson Indiana Department of Administration Commissioner	Terrie Daniel Minority and Women's Business Enterprises Deputy Commissioner	Heather Jernigan PTAC
Elizabeth Kiefner-Crawford Indiana Department of Transportation Representative	Remo Mezzetta Central Representative	Jesse Moore Northern Representative	Frances Vega Northern Representative
Alfonso Vidal Southern Representative	Jean Breaux Senator		

III. Establish quorum

Having 9 voting members Chairman Kirkland established quorum for the meeting.

IV. Welcome Remarks and Chairman's Update

Chairman Kirkland welcomed attendees and gave a brief personal history.

V. Adoption of Past Minutes

Chairman Kirkland entertained a motion to adopt the minutes from the December 14, 2015 meeting. The motion was unanimously passed and the December 14, 2015 Governor's Commission on Minority and Women's Business Enterprises meeting minutes were adopted.

VI. Deputy Commissioner's Report

Deputy Commissioner Terrie Daniel drew the commissioner's attention to her report that each commissioner was given, and opted to have them review it on their own rather than present to allow for more time to be dedicated to the Disparity Study.

Ms. Daniel then explained what the disparity study is and what its purpose is for the benefit of first time attendees. Ms. Daniel then turned the floor over to Sameer Bawa from BBC Research & Consulting.

VII. 2015 Disparity Study

Mr. Bawa reviewed the Disparity study results, with the key findings being:

1. Goals are an effective measure here in the state of Indiana to encourage the participation of minority and women owned businesses. When those goals are in place, disparities become much smaller and sometimes disappear all together, and when those goals go away, there are substantial disparities almost for all groups across all different agencies.
2. The lack of prompt payment to small businesses is a common problem that small businesses encounter often in the state of Indiana.
3. Breaking down large contracts down into smaller contracts is an effective way to encourage MWBE participation.
4. Networking and outreach to minority and women owned businesses matters, it helps, because it allows them to build relationships not only with the agency itself but also with prime contractors with which they can partner moving forward. In addition, it also keeps them aware of contracting opportunities both as prime contractors and subcontractors with IDOA as well as the SEIs. So anything that IDOA and the SEIs can do to continue those efforts and potentially expand them where it makes sense would be helpful for minority and women owned business participation.

Mr. Bawa then opened up the floor for questions from the commissioners. Commissioners asked questions of Mr. Bawa, and then the floor was opened to the audience to ask questions.

VIII. INDOT DBE Program Update

Elizabeth Kiefner-Crawford presented the Indiana Department of Transportation DBE program update. She provided an update on certification, contract compliance and support services. She reported certification statistics, including number of certified firms. She also included updates on current and future INDOT projects in relation to their supplier diversity goals.

IX. New Business

Heather Jernigan provided a program report for PTAC.

Mr. Moore, suggested, in lieu of setting narrowly tailored goals towards a specific ethnicity, that more targeted outreach efforts may be more appropriate.

Chairman Kirkland, entertained a motion to accept the 2015 Disparity study, and it was unanimously affirmed, with the exception of Ms. Crawford who abstained.

Chairman Kirkland, also mentioned having the commission regroup in order to set the M/WBE participation goals.

There was no more new business.

X. Adjourn

Chairman Kirkland adjourned the meeting Friday, March 18, 2016, 3:20 p.m.