

Minority Business Enterprise Commission

Certification Review Commission (CRC)

Minutes of the Meeting

March 15, 2006

A meeting of the Certification Review Committee (CRC) was held at the RI Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908 on Wednesday, March 15, 2006. The meeting was called to order at 2:18 p.m. with a quorum being declared present. Members in attendance: Charles Newton, Mauraina Akinfolarin, Jim Choquette, and Denise Correy. Also in attendance were Dorinda Keene, staff to the Committee, and Louise Anderson, from RIDOT.

The Minutes of the February 15, 2006 meeting were reviewed. After some discussion, a motion was made and properly seconded to approve the Minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

The Certification Review Committee reviewed the following applications and the recommendations of the MBE Compliance Office:

a) Matt & Associates MBE/DBE WA

After some discussion, a motion was made and properly seconded to approve the certification of these firms for participation in the State of Rhode Island's MBE program as well as the DBE project as

administered by those transportation agencies governed by 49 CFR in the industry as detailed in the write up presented by the MBE Compliance Office. Motion carried unanimously.

Hearings:

Roy D. McQueen & Associates, Ltd. – A hearing was conducted before the CRC pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act and was attended by the President and part-owner of the applicant firm, Mr. Peter Yip. After questioning by the members of the CRC concerning issues of ownership, control, capital investment, and compensation, a motion was made and properly seconded to deny the certification of this firm. After some discussion, a vote on the motion was as follows: two CRC members (J. Choquette and M. Akinfolarin) voted for the motion to deny certification; two CRC members (C. Newton and D. Correy) voted against the motion to deny. Per the request of the CRC, the MBE Compliance Office shall seek the opinion of legal counsel with respect to the determination in the case of a tied vote. A final, written determination with respect to the applicant will be tabled, pending the advise of legal counsel.

E.L. Waterman, Inc. – A hearing had been originally scheduled for March 15, 2006 regarding issues of the appearance of the applicant acting as a pass-through and subverting the intent of the MBE program. Per the request of the applicant and their legal counsel, this hearing has been postponed until Wednesday, April 19, 2006 at 2:30

p.m.

Old/New Business:

LJ Site Development, Inc. – This item was carried forward from a prior CRC meeting. At the CRC meeting on February 15, 2006, a motion was made by the CRC to notify this applicant of a hearing based upon issues of ownership, control, dependency upon a non-minority individual(s) and affiliation with non-minority firms. However, due to the fact that significant time has lapsed since the submittal of the original application, and due to the fact that the applicant has repeatedly failed to submit information with respect to the application, as requested, the MBE Compliance Office sought the advice of legal counsel and recommended to the CRC that the application be withdrawn. A motion was then made and properly seconded by the CRC to rescind their previous motion of February 15, 2006. Motion passed unanimously. A second motion was then made and properly seconded to notify the applicant that, pursuant to Section 3.00 (iii) of the Rules, Regulations, Procedures and Criteria Governing Certification and Decertification of MBE/WBE/DBE Enterprises by the State of Rhode Island, their application would be withdrawn for failure to submit information as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

The Sign Shoppe – The Certification Review Committee reviewed the request of the applicant for a category expansion, as well as a

recommendation from the MBE Compliance Office regarding same. After some discussion, a motion was made and properly seconded to approve this category expansion. Motion carried unanimously.

Cheenob, Inc. - The Certification Review Committee reviewed the request of the applicant for a category expansion, as well as a recommendation from the MBE Compliance Office regarding same. After some discussion, a motion was made and properly seconded to approve this category expansion. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 4:23 p.m. The next meeting of the Certification Review Committee shall be on Wednesday, April 19, 2006 at 2:00 p.m.