

Minority Business Enterprise Compliance Office

Certification Review Committee (CRC)

Minutes of Meeting

July 21, 2010

A meeting of the Certification Review Committee (CRC) was held at the Rhode Island Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908, on Wednesday, July 21, 2010. The meeting was called to order at 2:18 p.m. with a quorum being declared present. Members in attendance: Muraina Akinfolarin, Olayinka Oredugba, and Denise Correy. Members absent: Louise Anderson and Charles Newton. Also in attendance were Patsy Peterson and Dorinda Keene, staff to the CRC, as well as Rachel Guwoe, student intern working in the MBE Compliance Office.

The Minutes of the June 16, 2010 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 recommendations of the MBE Compliance office regarding the application submitted on behalf of the following firm:

a) Brito's Landscaping Services, LLC MBE/DBE RI

After some discussion, a motion was made and properly seconded to

approve the certification of this firm in the DBE program as administered by those transportation agencies governed by 49 CFR. Motion carried unanimously. A second motion was made and properly seconded to approve this DBE certified company in the State of Rhode Island's MBE program. Motion carried unanimously.

The Certification Review Committee reviewed recommendations of the MBE Compliance regarding the applications submitted on behalf of the following firms:

- a) Fillion's Landscaping, Inc. WBE/DBE MA**
- b) Newton Contracting Company, Inc. WBE MA**
- c) The Smart Associates, Environmental Consultants, Inc. WBE/DBE NH**

After some discussion, a motion was made and properly seconded to notify these firms of the need for a hearing based upon issues of control, dependency, compensation, capital contributions, economic disadvantage, and the appearance that the firms were structured in order to take advantage of the MBE and DBE programs, as applicable. Motion carried unanimously.

Hearings:

Joe DeFeo Enterprises, LLC – A hearing was conducted before the CRC regarding the application for certification submitted on behalf of

Joe DeFeo Enterprises, LLC, and was attended by Ms. Gina DeFeo-Merlan on behalf of the firm. After questioning by the members of the CRC regarding issues of control, dependency, licensing, capital contributions, and the appearance that the firm was structured in order to take advantage of the MBE program, a motion was made and properly seconded to deny certification. Motion carried unanimously.

Sweetland Foods, Inc., d/b/a Cross Country Cookie – A hearing was conducted before the CRC regarding the application for certification submitted on behalf of Sweetland Foods, Inc., d/b/a Cross Country Cookie, and was attended by Ms. Susan Murray on behalf of the firm. After questioning by the members of the CRC regarding issues of control, dependency, compensation, and the appearance that the firm was structured in order to take advantage of the MBE and DBE programs, a motion was made to approve certification. Initially there was no second to the motion. However, after some discussion, the motion was seconded in order to get the motion to the discussion stage. After further discussion and deliberation amongst the CRC members, a vote was called and the motion failed to pass, with all present CRC members voting against certification. Therefore the motion failed to pass with a vote of 0/3, and the applicant is denied certification.

Old/New Business:

Shane & Company, LLC – A hearing had previously been scheduled before the CRC regarding the application for certification submitted on behalf of Shane & Company, LLC. The applicant opted not to exercise their right to the hearing in order to present testimony on behalf of the firm. Rather the applicant opted to have the Certification Review Committee make a final determination based solely on the written record to date. After some discussion, a motion was made and properly seconded to deny certification. Motion carried unanimously.

NTC Cleaning Services, Inc. – This duly certified WBE/DBE firm had requested a category expansion to include flagging services. After some discussion, a motion was made and properly seconded to approve this request for a category expansion. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 3:56 p.m. The next meeting of the CRC is scheduled for Wednesday, August 4, 2010 at 2:00 p.m.