

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

Subcommittee Commission Meeting  
Indiana Government Center South, Conference Center, Room A,  
402 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204  
Thursday, June 2, 2016 | 1:00 p.m.

### Meeting Minutes

#### I. Call to Order

Chairman Tony Kirkland called the meeting to order Thursday, June 2, 2016, 1:07 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	Elizabeth Kiefner-Crawford Indiana Department of Transportation Representative
Remo Mezzetta Central Representative	Jesse Moore Northern Representative	Jean Breaux Senator	Alfonso Vidal Southern Representative

#### III. Welcome Remarks and Chairman's Update

Chairman Kirkland welcomed attendees, stated that the meeting would focus on trying to establish goals for fiscal year 2017. He then turned the floor over to the commission to ask questions of Dr. Sameer Bawa, BBC Research & Consulting.

#### IV. BBC Q&A – Disparity Study Results – Goal Setting Methodology

Commissioner Jesse Moore had submitted four questions to Dr. Bawa before the meeting and the discussion was opened by Dr. Bawa reading the first question.

The question was as follows:

“Since the Disparity Study is presented with woman-owned businesses, designating white woman-owned businesses, and state goals are set combining all woman-owned businesses, that is, white woman-owned businesses and minority-owned businesses -- minority woman-owned businesses, can BBC supply the state with data on all woman-owned businesses considered together?”

Dr. Bawa answered in the affirmative, that BBC could indeed supply this information, for an additional fee.

Commissioner Jessica Robertson then asked Dr. Bawa to explain why BBC only counted white women towards the WBE numbers in the disparity study.

Dr. Bawa explained that the practice of only counting white women towards WBE numbers when conducting disparity studies is the accepted best practice across the industry and backed by federal guidance.

Commissioner Vidal then asked Dr. Bawa to explain why BBC only counted white women towards the WBE numbers in the disparity study.

Sen. Jean Breaux arrived at this time.

Dr. Bawa explained that the practice of only counting white women towards WBE numbers when conducting disparity studies is the accepted best practice across the industry and backed by federal guidance.

Commissioner Jesse Moore then asked Dr. Bawa about utilization goal setting methodology that the commission should employ.

Dr. Bawa explained that there is a standard two step procedure for setting utilization goals.

Step 1: Utilize the reference material Terrie Daniel provided the commission before the 04/25/16 commission meeting. The reference material was a document which included national best practices for setting MWBE utilization goals as well as the pertinent graphs, figures, and information from the latest Indiana disparity study.

Step 2: "...The agency would examine information relevant to current marketplace conditions for minority woman-owned businesses as well as other information that's relevant to setting a goal that's both attainable and realistic by the agency."

Dr. Bawa went on to explain step 2 further and also explained that all of the information he presented could be found in the disparity study, specifically chapter 3.

Senator Jean Breaux then raised her concern that BBC's methodology was inadequate; specifically BBC's use of Dun & Bradstreet.

Dr. Bawa explained that the practice is the accepted best practice across the industry and backed by precedents set in many different courts.

The commissioners then discussed the goal setting methodology and the exclusion of minority WBEs from the overall WBE disparity study numbers.

The commissioners came to the conclusion that they did not have enough information to establish new utilization goals for 2016. They determined that they would suggest to the rest of the commission that the 2015 goals be kept in place until March 2017.

The subcommittee set dates and times for two additional meetings.

1. Thursday, August 18, 2016 @ 1:00 p.m.
2. Thursday, October 13, 2016 @ 1:00 p.m.

The commissioners determined that a subcommittee should be created to review the utilization goal setting process and establish a standard methodology.

The commissioners also determined that a subcommittee should be established with the express intent of exploring how to enforce utilization goals on the Department of Public Works' contracts and breaking large state contracts down into smaller contracts.

The subcommittee determined that the Commission as a whole should make recommendations to the Division of Supplier Diversity for improvement.

The subcommittee then opened the floor for public comments.

## **V. Public Comments**

The following attendees made public comments:

- Laura Sniadecki
- Mike Fellows

## **VI. Adjourn**

Chairman Kirkland adjourned the meeting Thursday June 2, 2016, 2:45 p.m.