



Florida Advisory Council on Small and Minority Business Development

MEETING MINUTES

November 6, 2013

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Welcome & Introductions:

Chair Gonzalez welcomed everyone to the meeting. **IN ATTENDANCE:** Cheryl Gonzalez, **Chair** - (University of North Florida), Barbara Rhodes Melvin (Wells Fargo Bank), Dale Coxwell (Coastal Steel, Inc.), Pamela Hart Frazier (Palm Beach County), Wendy Grey (Wendy Grey Land Use Planning LLC), Jay Narang (GDKN Corporation), Carlos Rodriguez Maverick Constructors, Inc.), Ben Harris (City of Tallahassee), Anne-Marie Richards (Office Depot), George Owen (Regions Bank), Malik Ali (FMSDC), Samuel Newby (PepsiCo) and Augusto Sanabria (Hispanic Business Initiative Fund of Florida). Also in attendance were the Office of Supplier Diversity Staff – Thad Fortune-MBE Administrator and Denise Wright-Administrative Assistant I who recorded the minutes.

NOT IN ATTENDANCE: Y. Lisa Colon Heron (Smith Currie & Hancock), Christine McMillon (Ensync Diversified Management Services, Inc.), Rhett Frisbie (Department of Lottery) and James Sanders (Nationwide Insurance Company).

Guest: Peter Harris (ADG Business & Governmental Consultants) and Jennifer Diaz (Department of Economic Opportunity)

Agenda Modification/Adoption: Ms. Melvin moved to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded by Ms. Richards. The agenda was accepted and approved by the Council.

Adoption of Minutes from the September 4, 2013 Meeting: Ms. Frazier moved to adopt the minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Owen. The minutes were accepted and approved by the Council.

Department of Management Services, OSD's Update: Mr. Thad Fortune, MBE Administrator.

- Mr. Fortune stated OSD currently has **6,123** companies certified with **4,744** owners. In the last 60 days, OSD has certified and/or recertified **233** companies and **33** companies were administratively closed. OSD has had **411** companies to come over from MyFloridaMarketPlace(MFMP) into OSD's Vendorstrator.
- Erin Rock, DMS Chief of Staff / OSD's Executive Director, has signed the Business Utilization Plan Request Letters and Denise Wright mailed the letters to the State Agencies and Universities. The Plans are due by October 27th, and at the present time 95% of the Plans have been submitted. Once the Plans are approved by OSD, they will be placed on OSD's website.
- Mr. Fortune stated OSD is moving in the second quarter of spending plans. As OSD receive the spending plans from the Agencies, they are done each quarter. The spending plans are also placed on OSD's website.
- OSD is in the process of streamlining their website. We will be asking the Council Chair as well as the members for any suggestions they may have for the web site. One of the things came from the meeting is that we will send out a survey to our certified vendors asking for feedback in redeveloping the web site. Ms. Gonzalez asked if the Council could get a link to send to their constituents for feedback to OSD about their web page.

Council Chair Update: Cheryl Gonzalez, Diversity Officer, University of North Florida

- Ms. Gonzalez stated the annual report has been drafted and she will send it to Denise Wright to forward to members. She would like to have a call meeting next week to discuss the annual report and to get any

revisions that are needed. Ms. Gonzalez stated members can also send their revisions to Denise Wright and she will forward them to her.

- Ms. Gonzalez stated she has had several meetings with the Chief of Staff/Executive Director of OSD.
- Ms. Gonzalez stated she does not know the status of the DSO at this time. She is aware there were some questions pertaining to the possibility of a conflict if a Council Member served on the Board of the DSO if it goes forward. Ms. Gonzalez stated they have Florida's Governor who is Chairman of Enterprise Florida, the head of the Department of Commerce who is the Chief Administrator for Enterprise Florida and we have the Department of Economic Opportunity which also reports to the Chief Administrator for Enterprise Florida who is the head of Commerce who reports to the Governor.
- Ms. Gonzalez gave thanks to the Vice Chairman who was a guest of the Southern Florida Minority Supplier Development Council.

Stakeholder Commentary: Jesse Panuccio, Executive Director, Department of Economic Opportunity

- Mr. Panuccio stated the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) has been in existence for two years. DEO consists of two legacy agencies which are, the Agency for Workforce Innovation and the Department of Community Affairs.
- Mr. Panuccio stated that well over **90%** of business in Florida comes from small businesses. He said in the recession Florida's private sector lost **830,000** jobs and the unemployment rate went from **3.5%** to about **11.4%**. The on-line job demand fell from **275,000** in 2006 to **159,000** in 2009. At the peak of the recession, DEO had **700,000** Floridians claiming unemployment benefits, so many they had to take out a **3.5 billion dollar** loan from the federal government.
- Mr. Panuccio stated the housing market crumbled and in they reached peaked foreclosure in April 2009 of **65,000**.
- The State debt increased by several billion dollars and increased almost every year. By 2011 we were facing significant budget shortfalls.
- Mr. Panuccio stated the comparison stats for the above numbers will show a Florida turnaround story: Since December 2010-the unemployment rate dropped **4 full percentage points** and as of August 2013 we are at **7.0%** which was due to the Government shutdown.
- In terms of job growth, Florida has gained back **365,000** private sector jobs.
- The unemployment is now call reemployment assistance and there are now about **235,000** people claiming reemployment assistance.
- In May of this year, DEO paid off the 3.5 billion dollar loan including the interest.
- As of September 2013, there were **271,000** on-line job demands.
- Mr. Panuccio stated in terms of migration, Florida is back to about **500** new residents a day.

Committee Reports:

- A. Annual Report**-Cheryl Gonzalez, Council & Executive Committees Chair: Ms. Gonzalez stated she will send the annual report draft to Denise Wright and set up a date and time the Council can meet.
- B. Communications Committee**-Dale Coxwell, Committee Chair: NO REPORT.
- C. Council Internal Procedures & Bylaws**-Pam Frazier, Committee Chair: NO REPORT.
- D. Legislative & Policy**-Sam Newby, Committee Chair: NO REPORT.
- E. Research & Emerging Trends**-Barbara Melvin, Committee Chair: NO REPORT.
- F. State Agency Vendor Diversity**-Rhett Frisbie, Committee Chair: Not in attendance.
- G. Strategic & State Comprehensive Planning**-Wendy Grey, Committee Chair: Ms. Grey stated all the research for the evaluation of the State Comprehensive Plan has been completed. She is preparing a draft report for committee members to review and she hope to have it on the January meeting agenda.

New Business:

- A. Working Group Session:** Mr. Narang requested this item be moved to the next meeting agenda.

Announcement(s): Ms. Frazier announced FAMBEO's Fall Training, November 20-22, 2013, Rosen Plaza Hotel, Orlando, Florida.

Next Scheduled Meeting: Wednesday, January 8, 2014, 2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.