



**PUBLIC NOTICE
STATE OF ILLINOIS**

Business Enterprise Council for Minorities, Females and Persons with Disabilities

100 W. Randolph
Room 2-025
Chicago, IL 60601

401 S. Spring St.
Room 500 1/2
Springfield, IL 62706

Minutes

Monday, June 28, 2021

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Location: WebEx Video Conferencing

- I. Welcome
Director Forde welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 1:35pm. Ms. Lakhani proceeded with roll call.

Roll Call – Roll call was conducted. Quorum was established.

II.

BEP Council				
ATTENDANCE ROSTER: COUNCIL MEMBERS				
Members	Present			Absent
	In person Chicago	In person Springfield	via WebEx	
Janel Forde, Chair			x	
Alex Bautista			x	
Bola Delano			x	
Emilia DiMenco			x	



Jaime DiPaulo			x	
Kendra Dinkins			x	
Ryan Green			x	
Larry Ivory			x	
Andrew Johnson			x	
Jesse Martinez			x	
Sharron Matthews			x	
Jonathan McGee				x
Edward McKinnie				x
Kaney Frances O'Neil				x
Jorge Perez				x
Hedy Ratner			x	
Tracy Sullivan			x	

Business Enterprise Council				
ATTENDANCE ROSTER: Agency Representatives				
Agency	Representative	Present		
		In person - Chicago	In person - Springfield	via WebEx
Central Management Services	Arielle Johnson Terrence Glavin Carlos Gutiérrez Radhika Lakhani			x

In accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120) and the Freedom of Information Act (5 ILCS 140) the above meeting is open to the public
BEP Council



Business Enterprise Council				
ATTENDANCE ROSTER: Agency Representatives				
Agency	Representative	Present		
		In person - Chicago	In person - Springfield	via WebEx
	Julie Langrehr			
	Harry Reinhard			
	Nicole Mandeville			
	Patricia Perez			
	Leslie Taylor			

Note: Meeting was held via WebEx video conference to adhere to the social distancing guidelines, due to the COVID -19/Coronavirus pandemic.

III. **Approval of Minutes for Council Meeting held on April 26, 2021 -**
 Member DiMenco motioned to approve the minutes from April 26, 2021. Member Delano seconded. All agreed. The minutes were approved

IV. Chair's Report - **Director Forde provided an update on the following:**

- Juneteenth - Director Forde details BEP programming on recognition of Juneteenth holiday commemorating emancipation. BEP during the month focused on advocating for economic advancement for the black community and used economic freedom as a focus point.
- Summary of AAPI & Small Business Month – Director Forde details BEP programming on recognition of Asian American and Pacific Islander month (May) and Small Business Month. We partnered with DCEO, WBDC, the Chief Procurement Officer.
- Mentor Protégé - report on the progress of establishing focus groups to build Mentor Protégé program. Work of the Mentor Protégé program is to be additive not duplicative.
- Council Attendance Policy Reminder – review of attendance policy adopted February 24th meeting. It was resolved in the last BEP Council meeting that there would be an attendance policy. Per policy that was adopted on February 24th the BEP Secretary will be



reaching out to Council members who have been having challenges to work on a productive path forward.

- SB1608 Trailer Bill – Info for the new law linked via chat feature
- Illinois Public Higher Education Cooperative (IPHEC) -recognition of Univ. of Illinois Jesse L. More awarded the 2021 diversity award from Insight into Diversity Magazine.

V. Subcommittees Reports

- **Certification Subcommittee Report** - BEP Secretary Arielle Johnson provided the following update from the Certification Subcommittee meeting: A quorum was not established on account of lack of attendance – all matters discussed were informal. Attendance, certification ease-of-navigation, and tribal business was discussed. KPI and metrics were reviewed.
- **Outreach Subcommittee Report** – Outreach Subcommittee Chair Emilia DiMenco provided the following update from the May 25th, Outreach Subcommittee meeting: Most robust, productive meeting that showed significant progress. The committee reviewed attendance data, new senate bill, fast track process, bylaws, and one-page marketing feature.
- **Compliance Subcommittee Report** – BEP Secretary Arielle Johnson provided the following update from the Compliance Subcommittee meeting: A quorum was not established on account of lack of attendance – all matters discussed were informal. The committee brainstormed matters regarding scheduling, attendance, and bylaws.

VI. Ongoing Business

- **Update from Certification Division** – Carlos Gutierrez, Certification Division Manager provided the following update regarding the Certification Division: Mr. Gutierrez discussed tribal certification and classification of Native Americans via state and federal government comparisons. Certification orientation and NIGP code updating was also discussed. End of July was set as a goal for NIGP reclassification.
- **Update from Compliance Division** – Harry Reinhard, Compliance Division Manager provided the following update regarding the Compliance Division: Mr. Reinhard discussed community college compliance process; specifically, with regards to flyer dissemination, vendor seeking, external member outreach, and recruitment. It was reported that Lake County has provided records of county vendors and potential supplier database. Reporting at the end of the fiscal year for compliance is August 31st.
- **Update from Outreach Division** – Nicole Mandeville, Associate Deputy Director BEP provided the following update regarding the Outreach Division: New BEP website has launched making the site easier to navigate, find information, share resources, and provide guidance to State Agencies, Institutions of Higher Education and Community Colleges. The site also, has a past events section where previously hosted events can be viewed.
 - Member Ivory expressed concerns about public accessibility to the BEP council.
 - Member Ivory questioned the junior college's current plan to foster business with people of color



- Member Ivory voiced concerns over black businesses being included in statewide BEP discussion
- **SB1608 Trailer Bill** – BEP Secretary, Arielle Johnson provided the following update regarding the SB1608 trailer bill:
 - Secretary Johnson discussed noteworthy aspects of the trailer bill – PA 102-0029:
 - Goal setting is contingent upon the Disparity study
 - Emergency rule making powers
 - Clarification in regard to moving BEP from CMS to EIC
 - Curing utilization plans
 - The law was signed on Friday, June 25, 2021
 - Member Ivory questioned if the bill impacts the increase of the 20% aspirational goal to 30%. .
- **Sheltered Markets** – Secretary Johnson questioned how to establish a formal process for teaching about and establishing formalized markets, as well as analyzing the data related to Sheltered Markets. The relationship between Sheltered Markets and the disparity study was also discussed. Director Forde urged a group to tackle these discussed issues.
- Member Matthews voiced concerns over implementation of Sheltered Markets in relation to the internal agencies and organizational structures
Member Matthews questioned the relationship between the disparity study and the new 30% goal for BEP.
Member Matthews volunteered to be a member of the working group on the Sheltered Markets initiative.
Member Matthews questioned the timeline of the disparity study.
- **BEP Council Bylaws** – Radhika Lakhani discussed the importance of BEP by-laws which outlines BEP Council duties and responsibilities, attendance policy, subcommittee chair selection process and more. Ms. Lakhani noted during the discussion that she received little to no feedback from the Council with respect to the by-laws.
- Member Matthews and Member Ivory expressed their opinion stating they felt the by-laws were sophomoric and restrictive. Ms. Lakhani discussed the implementation of new bylaws with respect to sub-committee chair appointments. Ms. Lakhani reviews the previously made comments on specific wording on the bylaws on the updated draft
- Member Matthews voiced concerns over the restrictiveness of the BEP council in the proposed bylaws, speaking and discussion times, and “sophomoric” language.
- Director Forde addressed Member Matthews’ concerns and highlighted sub-committee as an important forum
- Member Ivory restated concerns over meeting accessibility
- Member Ivory echoed concerns over speaking time and voiced disappointment at being unable to meet with Director Forde



- Ms. Lakhani responded to Member Ivory's statements by acknowledging the concerns and providing evidence that the bylaws and other concerns had been circulated for a large period of time
- Member Sullivan voiced support for the bylaws
- Member Delano voiced support for the bylaws, but voiced concerns over speaking time.
- Secretary Johnson responded to Member Ivory's concerns and offered a meeting time

VII. New Business

- Compliance Plan Review at Full Council vs Subcommittee
- Secretary Johnson discussed the potential establishment of Compliance workgroup
- BEP Council Subcommittee Discussion
 - Member Matthews voiced support for a Compliance Subcommittee workgroup
 - Member DiMenco voiced support for a new workgroup and asked for a more robust report from the Compliance Subcommittee to the Full Council
- Illinois Public Higher Education Cooperative (IPHEC) Award Recognition
 - Member Sullivan presented on IPHEC's recent award and introduced Aaron Carter who presented on goals, mission, and achievements of IPHEC over the past few months.

VIII. Public/Vendor's Testimony – Mr. Malcom Weems

- Malcom Weems raised concerns regarding vendor accessibility to group insurance contracts. State group insurance contracts do not have a goal, it was suggested that the disparity study consider including healthcare

IX. Adjournment - Member Delano motioned to adjourn the meeting and the motion was seconded by Member Sullivan. Meeting adjourned at 3:24pm

- Next Subcommittee Meetings
 - Certification Subcommittee Meeting – Monday, July 26, 2021
 - Outreach Subcommittee Meeting – Tuesday, July 27, 2021
 - Compliance Subcommittee Meeting – Wednesday, July 28, 2021
- Next Council Meeting– Monday, August 23, 2021