



Rock County Stakeholder Advisory Committee Wednesday, October 16, 2013 Beloit Utilities and Engineering Facilities Meeting Summary

Welcome / Opening Remarks / Agenda Review
Vincent Fisher – Committee Facilitator

Attendees – In person

Rockie Sobeck, Operating Engineers Local 139
Stan Milam, Office of State Senator Tim Cullen
Gregory Boysen, Public Works Director, City of Beloit
John Steiner, WisDOT Supervisor, I-39/90
Alicia Griffin, Serendipity Communications, DBE Liaison Officer
Paul Ndon, WisDOT DBE Program Office
Vincent Fisher, WisDOT DBE Program Office
David Luebke, Beloit City Council
Rhonda Suda, Southwest Wisconsin Workforce Development Board
Lynn Jones, E&T Community Action, Inc.
Sheila DeForest, City Counselor, City of Beloit
Cindy Flower, Bollinger Lach & Associates
Ericka Rebout, Rock Roads
Ola Baiyewu, First Choice Pre-Apprenticeship Training

Attendees – By telephone

Michele Carter, WisDOT DBE Program Chief
Nicole Hunt, First Choice Pre-Apprenticeship Training
Debbie Schanke, DWD BAS
Ray, Wisconsin Labor Apprenticeship

Review September 2013 meeting minutes. No input from attendees. John Steiner responded to the request made at the September 2013 meeting related to top soil. John indicated that a final response still needs to be made; but, he is still in the process of investigating how this will be addressed.

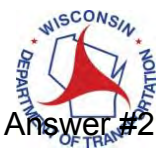
WisDOT DBE Program Follow-Up / DBE Program Summary Quiz
Michele Carter – WisDOT Program Chief

Vincent Fisher and Paul Ndon led an 11 question DBE Program Summary Quiz that served as refreshment on items related to the DBE program.

Question #1 – The federal DBE program was created to remedy past discrimination by the federal government.

Answer #1 - True

Question #2 – Congress review the DBE program regularly.



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Answer #2 – True

Follow-up question - How frequently does Congress review the program?

Answer – Every time they re-evaluate the transportation bill. They look at whether not the DBE program is still a requirement. They have to prove that discrimination still exists and if there a compelling interest for government to do this DBE program.

Question #3 – In Wisconsin, DBE program rules only apply to contracts that include federal funds.

Answer #3 – True. In the 1991 court case, it was determined that WisDOT cannot set DBE goals on contracts that are only state funded.

Question #4 – The DBE program requirements are outlined and codified in the Code of Federal Regulations, 49 CFR Part 26.

Answer #4 - True

Question #5 – DBE goals apply to the workforce and businesses working on WisDOT projects.

Answer #5 – False. The DBE goal doesn't apply to the workforce. It is only for businesses. The TRANS program is part of the FHWA OJT requirements. It is not in the DBE Program regulation.

Question #6 – All minorities are eligible for DBE certification.

Answer #6 – False. You must be both socially and economically disadvantaged.

Question #7 – Firms owned by women are presumed eligible for DBE certification.

Answer #7 – True. The term 'presumed' depends upon the certification. They are required to be both socially and economically disadvantaged.

Question #8 – A business owned by a white male may become DBE certified

Answer #8 – True. They have to prove social disadvantage and fall under the economic radar of \$1.32 million.

Question #9 – DBE firms are guaranteed at least one contract with the agency that certified them, like WisDOT.

Answer #9 - False

Question #10 – A benefit of being DBE certified is that prime contractors are required to solicit your firm for contracts that have goals.

Answer #10 – True. They are required to solicit. They will go through the process of a Good Faith Waiver. ASP 3 outlines what WisDOT expects them to do when working with DBE firms. Two forms are used (e.g., Form 1202 and Form 1506) to answer questions about who a Prime Contractor called, their prices, etc. to say if they didn't meet the goals. Although WisDOT can't require/guarantee a contract for a DBE firm, they can require that a DBE firm be contacted.

Question #11 - The DBE program requires contractors to select businesses and workers using local preference (i.e., people who live in select zip codes.)

Answer #11 – False.



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Rock County Action Plan / Definition of Success

Vincent Fisher, Paul Ndon and Michele Carter – WisDOT DBE Program Team

Yellow post it notes were distributed to attendees in order for them to suggest measures of success under the Rock County Action Plan heading "Facilitating Employment Opportunity for Local Workers". They included:

1. A TrANS program with a real contact database including an active list of 'local' people that are available and ready to work. (Sheila DeForest)
2. Create jobs that have a documented impact on job placement. (Gregory Boysen)
3. Outreach to community based agencies and local job centers. (Olatoye Baiyewu)
4. Continued emphasis on local TrANS program should be administered in Rock County; preferably Beloit, WI (Sheila DeForest)
5. Good tracking of TrANS program recruitment, service and training participation, graduation and job placement (Sheila DeForest)
6. 'Local' TrANS program – an active list of people that are available and ready for work. (Sheila DeForest)
7. Maintain and build stakeholder collaboration/partnerships for referrals and information sharing. (Lynn Jones)
8. Accessible and current information available to ensure quality communication. (Lynn Jones)
9. A minimum of three (3) classes yearly and maybe four (4).
10. Provide local training to the unemployed and underemployed that will prepare them for work in road construction and provide wages leading to self-sufficiency.
11. Using the 511 website as a communication conduit
12. Stakeholder collaborations / referrals

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Upcoming Meeting Date

Vincent Fisher – Committee Facilitator

Event: **Rock County Stakeholder Advisory Committee Meeting**

Date: Wednesday, **November 20, 2013**

Time: 3:30 – 5 p.m.

Location: **Blackhawk Technical College; 6400 S. County Road G; Room 2602; Door 2-19; Janesville, WI**