
State Contracting Standards Board Fact Sheet

The State Contracting Standards Board was created to be the central oversight and policy body for all state procurement. Established in the wake of the Rowland scandals, the Board came into being in January 2009. Members of the Board were appointed and the Board met briefly in 2010. The Board was dormant from 2011 until late 2013 when new Board members and an Executive Director were appointed. The Board hired a Chief Procurement Officer in the spring of 2014. In the spring of 2017 the Chief Procurement Officer left and the position has been vacant ever since.

We initiated a work group system of Board members to focus on the possible, and to maximize participation as volunteers, this structure continued in FY 2020 & 2021.

Accomplishment Highlights for FY 2020 & 2021

- The Board's Privatization Contract Committee resolved a privatization matter involving the University of Connecticut Health Center and the Department Correction concerning pharmacy services for inmates. The resolution was complicated due to questions of whether another agency can act as a contractor and whether a service was once performed in-house and privatized in the past would require the Board's approval.
- After the Board's approval of the Department of Transportation plan to return the work of Bridge Inspections to state employees to save over \$2 million in FY 2019, the Board's Privatization Contract Committee created the necessary, work flow and tools for reviewing privatization efforts by agencies.
- The Board's Contested Solicitations and Awards Subcommittee resolved two major contests against, the Capital Region Development Authority (CRDA) one of Connecticut's quasi-public agencies concerning the reconstruction of Hartford's Dillon Stadium.
- The two Dillon Stadium reconstruction contests resolved by the Board's Contested Solicitations and Awards Subcommittee uncovered irregularities and concerns on how Quasi-Public Agencies contract. A special committee was formed to study these issues. The Board adopted a report on its findings in December 2020.
- The Board's Contested Solicitations and Awards Subcommittee resolved two major contests against the Office of the State Comptroller by Oxford Health Plans LLC concerning a Request For Proposal (RFP) for administration of State Medical Benefit Plans.
- The Board received two more complaints concerning quasi-public agencies. The Board again formed a special committee to investigate, review and study complaints against the Connecticut Port Authority and the Material Innovation Recycling Authority.
- In response to the savings projected by the Board's two FY 19 studies and reports the adopted budget for FY 20 called for contracting savings of 5 Million and 15 Million in FY 21.
- The Board is auditing thirteen agencies during FY 21.

A more robust audit than what we currently do has the ability to change the waiver process and save significant dollars through reasonable competitive bidding.

Our audit program has already highlighted where agencies can better comply with contracting and procurement procedures and save the state dollars. It has also highlighted the need for better procedures, which the Board is tasked with doing, but without the resources to move forward.

The audit program has highlighted the need for the Statutory Privatization Contract Committee to be more proactive in reviewing compliance with cost effectiveness evaluations for renewing of privatization contracts and for reviewing active contracts of privatized areas, which were privatized in the past to determine whether they are the best and most cost effective way for the state to accomplish that task in today's world.

Of course, all of this ties together with training, which the Board is tasked to do, but without a trainer and Chief Procurement Officer we are unable to do.

Because we have one of the original authors of the clean contracting act as a member of the Board, and we know because of the size, breadth and scope of the mandates contained within the act that a very large staff was contemplated.

We understand that a large staff is not possible, but we do believe an investment in a minimum staff will pay dividends in the millions for years to come.

Additional Minimum Staff

OGA - CSB FY22 & FY23 *Corrected

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				FY22		
	POSITION	FY22	FY23 (includes 27th payroll)	Plan	Grade	Step
1	Chief Procurement Officer	\$130,000	135,000	EX	03	
2	Research Analyst	\$72,683	75,479	AR	22	3
3	Accounts Examiner	\$76,085	79,011	AR	23	3
4	Trainer	\$72,683	75,479	AR	22	3
5	Staff Attorney 1	\$83,548	86,761	AR	25	3
	Personal Services	\$434,999	\$451,730			

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Other Expenses	FY22	FY23
(2) cell ph @ \$50 monthly charge	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
employ asst for 5	\$125.00	\$125.00
est for 2 people @ 500mi per yr	\$500.00	\$500.00
misc office supplies	\$2,500.00	\$2,000.00
work stations	\$11,000.00	\$0.00
Estimated cost	\$15,325.00	\$3,825.00
Estimated Total Cost	\$450,324.00	\$455,554.73

General Budget Information

The current budget covers salary and some operating expenses. The operating expenses are typical such as Regular Postage, Local/Long Distance Telecomm Service, Board member Fees, Office Equipment Lease, and General Office Supplies.

- Proposed FY22 - \$175,870 Requesting for FY22 \$626,194*
- Proposed FY23 - \$182,674 Requesting for FY23 \$638,228*

*Corrected from February 22, 2021 Public Hearing Testimony