

CHARTER AUDIT COMMITTEE MINUTES

Friday, November 30, 2018
Department of Education
755 N. Roop Street
Carson City, NV

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

James Smack, Chief Deputy Controller, Office of State Controller
CJ Manthe, Commissioner, Public Utilities Commission
Rebecca Feiden, Director, Achievement School District
Michael Shafer, Audit Chairman, Department, of Education
Heather Domenici, Executive Branch Auditor, Governor's Office of Finance

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Mike Dang, Management Analyst IV, State Public Charter School Authority

GUESTS PRESENT

Beth Kohn Cole, Owner, Kohn and Co.

STAFF PRESENT

Suzanne Richards, Charter Audit Committee Secretary, Nevada Department of Education

I. ROLL CALL/CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was brought to order at 9:00 am. Chairman Smack completed the roll call resulting in Mike Dang being excused.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT I

Chairman Smack asked for comments from the public. No members of the public wished to make any comments.

III. NEW COMMITTEE MEMBER

Chairman Smack introduced Heather Domenici as the new member to the committee and the replacement for Steve Weinberger who retired.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Smack asked for any comments regarding the minutes from the September 25th meeting. The committee had no comments or corrections regarding the minutes from the meeting. Mr. Shafer motioned in favor to accept the minutes as written and Ms. Feiden seconded the motion. Ms Domenici abstained on voting. The committee voted on and unanimously passed the minutes

V. COMMITTEE UPDATE AND CHANGES

Chairman Smack announced that due to the election outcome, he may be asked to leave his current position at the Controller's Office and will no longer be employed by the state of Nevada. He hopes to remain in his current position as Chief Deputy to the Controller through the legislative session. Until he has been given a formal ruling regarding his current position, he plans to continue on as Chairman of the Committee.

VI. DISCUSSION OF CHANGES TO PREVIOUSLY APPROVED APPLICATIONS

Beth Kohn Cole explained that her firm has merged with Eide Bailly. She questioned whether Eide Bailly should have to resubmit a new application, or would her experience carry over with the merger?

Chairman Smack asked the committee for their input.

Ms. Domenici explained that Eide Bailly is very qualified to complete School Audits.

Chairman Smack questioned whether Eide Bailly should be able to use the expedited process to submit the application, or would they have to submit a new "full" application since they were not included on the original approval list.

Mr. Shafer felt that Eide Bailly should go through the full process because they are not currently on the list.

Ms. Feiden stated that the committee also needs to consider the peer review time limit of three years. She continued by stating that by not knowing when Eide Bailly had their last per review, the time frame could be re-shifted and thus extending the current rule to their advantage.

The committee decided that Eide Bailly should submit the full application but could include Ms. Kohn's experience when completing it.

VII. VOTE ON REVISIONS TO RFQ CRITERIA AND APPLICATION

Chairman Smack noted his changes to the RFQ. He asked the committee for input regarding changes.

Ms. Domenici cited multiple grammatical changes to the document.

A vote to the changes to be made was postponed until the committee meets again.

VIII. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL TO THE AUDIT GUIDE

Ms. Feiden emphasized that the committee is not responsible to prepare the Guide. The responsibility falls on the Department of Education.

Chairman Smack explained that since the RFQ references the Guide, the Guide should be in complete prior to releasing the RFQ. He asked for suggestions regarding how the committee should move forward.

Ms. Manthe suggested that the committee direct Ms. Domenici to work with the Department of Education to complete the changes needed. Ms. Domenici agreed and stated that she could complete her review and meet with the Department.

Ms. Feiden noted her concerns regarding changes to the Guide.

Chairman Smack asked Ms. Domenici to complete her review and meet with the Department of Education so that the committee could vote on the Criteria after the Guide is completed.

Another meeting was scheduled for December 14th to approve the RFQ.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Smack asked for comments from the public. No members of the public wished to make any comments.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 am.