



# PROCUREMENT IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL (PIC)

July 14, 2020



Start Time: 10:01am

End Time: 11:55am

Location: Virtual through Microsoft Teams

## Attendance:

<b>Chair/CPO</b>	Robert Gleason	<b>Local Govt. Rep (w/Proc)</b>	TBD
<b>BPW Procurement Advisor</b>	Gabe Gnall	<b>MDOT Secretary</b>	Mike Zimmerman
<b>DBM Secretary</b>	Joan Peacock	<b>Public Member (w/Proc)</b>	TBD
<b>DoIT Secretary</b>	Scott Bernard	<b>Public Member</b>	TBD
<b>GOPI Director</b>	Justin Jung/Nruti Desai	<b>Treasurer</b>	Bernadette Benik
<b>GOSBA Special Secretary</b>	Jimmy Rhea	<b>UMS Chancellor</b>	Keith Gagnon

ITEM #	AGENDA
1	Welcome
2	Introductions
3	Topics for Discussion
4	Open Discussion
5	Closing Remarks
6	Adjournment

## Meeting Notes, Decisions, Issues:

Chair briefed the Council on the Office of State Procurement and strides we've made since our last meeting, introductions were then made in alpha order.

### Statutory responsibilities:

1. Ensure use of most advanced methods, techniques, policies, procedures and forms for procurement and contract management
2. Communicate between State units on procurement matters, emphasizing current developments and advances in procurement methods and management
3. Discuss specific emerging procurement issues and problems, including...
  - a. Procurement officer training
  - b. Risk analysis and insurance requirements
  - c. eMMA and other online procurement resources
  - d. Intergovernmental cooperative purchasing agreements and use
  - e. Other identified issues or problems
4. Advise BPW on problems in the procurement process and recommend improvements
5. Review existing procurement regulations to:
  - a. Determine if they meet purpose and intent of law, especially fostering of broad-based competition
  - b. Make recommendations on regulations, if revising and restructuring results in easier understanding and use
6. Advise General Assembly on legislation to enhance efficiency and transparency of state procurement

### Item A: eMMA Update

July 2019 version 1.0 was launched, essentially a direct replacement of our bid board w/Periscope, version 1.1 will be launched in August, the management piece as well as a reverse auction platform, version 1.2 will move the vendor data out of FMIS into Ivalua and its anticipated launch is the first quarter of 2021. All are setting the stage for version 2.0 which will be the full P-P solution, to include PO's, electronic invoicing, eCatalogs, etc. and that looks to be the last quarter of 2021 for launch. We've had great support from MDOT, Comptroller and Treasurer's office, a collaborative effort. "It's a big project and will impact a lot of agencies, vendors and the user community."

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## **Item A: eMMA Update (cont.)**

Floor opened:

Chantal – compliance monitoring, would be helpful to have

Mike – looking into an IFMIS integration tool, in version 1.1 the contract mgmt tool increases visibility from the vendor side

Sean Looney – Comcast is in 47 other states, I will check with other states on what they use and what's effective

Bob – Who's Buying What I Sell Report, Keith Gagnon's here and aware, think it's the 402 Report

Keith Gagnon – yes, that's the 402 report, critical is making sure on the front end everything gets coded and put in correctly and not included in a too narrow or too broad of a category, again, coding and inputting data needs to be as accurate as possible.

## **Item B: BISM's Goods and Services**

OLA perceived there was a "blip" and assigned DGS oversight to monitor, implement, and maintain fair pricing for the aforementioned programs. OSP is in the process of documenting the process with Jim and Joan, DBM, and once the documentation is complete, will bring back to PIC for discussion.

## **Item C: Leases for Parking Spaces**

This topic was suggested by Valerie Radomsky who is unable to be on the call, we will table to the next PIC meeting.

## **Item D: Review Requirement for OSP Approval of an Agency Cancelling Procurements**

It was decided that further review of what OSP is trying to achieve was needed. They will work with DBM on suggestions and look at processes currently in place and how those might change to better serve the whole, need a trained workforce, fully capable of making the right decisions. This has been deferred to the next PIC meeting.

## **Item E: HB583 – Construction Contracts – Employer Healthcare Benefits**

This topic has been tabled until our next PIC meeting.

## **Item F: IT Vendors, 5 most significant areas that limit qualified vendor participation**

PJ Hogan opened the discussion:

We represent IT firms, issues with Procurement rules, statutes, etc., came together and put together what we thought were the top five issues. Believe the pendulum has swung a little too far and rightly so but feel in some areas totally built rules around construction and commodities and not IT services as there's not the competition there is with other areas. We are willing to work with a subgroup to come up with recommended changes, statutory or COMAR, regulatory changes, we stand ready to help in any way we can. We believe the State is missing out on the top competitors.

A discussion was held and it was agreed to set up a work group, those interested in participating need to contact Jamie at [Jamie.Tomaszewski@maryland.gov](mailto:Jamie.Tomaszewski@maryland.gov). It was also suggested to include the Office of the Attorney General.

## **Open Discussion**

Debbie – Communication can be a challenge and would like to give a shout out to Calvin Gladden for his wonderful communication during the hectic COVID times. Is asking to have this added as a line item in our agenda, what are the ways we can work together going forward, local schools, government, etc. and keeping communication lines open, moving, and developing between each other

Karen – would like us to think outside the box, it takes years to develop new "norms" and get buy in, this council is awesome, sharing different experiences from different entities, we all bring so much strength to the table

Secy Rhee – our small entities are suffering, procurement needs to think economic development and keep local, looking at the reality for businesses

Meeting adjourned at 11:55am