

A meeting of the City of Orlando Certification Board was held on Wednesday, September 27, 2017 at City Hall, 400 S. Orange Avenue, 2nd Floor Agenda Conference Room, Orlando, Florida 32802. The Board convened at 9:00 a.m. to review case files.

Board Members Present: Annas Kabbaj, [8,3]
Arlene Guffin, [5-0]
Bruno Portigliatti, Chairperson [10-1]
Khalid Muneer, Vice Chairperson [9-2]
Sarah Ristorcelli, [3-0]

Board Members Absent: Julio Rocha, [1-2]
Marquis Alexander, [7-4]

Staff Members Present: Janeiro Coulter, MBE/BLEUPRINT Division Manager
Marya Collier, MBE/BLEUPRINT Supervisor
Dafina Doctor, Recording Secretary

Bruno Portigliatti, Chairperson, called the Certification Board meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. The minutes from the August 30, 2017 meeting were approved as written.

MWBE RULINGS

Phenix Construction and Design Inc – Patricia Anibarro, President appeared before the Board. Discussion ensued. It was moved by Sarah Ristorcelli, seconded by Annas Kabbaj and vote carried unanimously to certify Phenix Construction and Design Inc as an MWBE Building Contractor (Prime Only).

ECHO UES, Inc. – Jeraldo Comellas Jr., President appeared before the Board. Discussion ensued. It was moved by Annas Kabbaj, seconded by Arlene Guffin and vote carried unanimously to certify ECHO UES, Inc. as a MBE in Civil Engineering Services, Subsurface Utility Engineering (Sue) and Utility Locator Service (Underground).

Target Translations & Interpretations LLC – Maria Pulido, President appeared before the Board. Discussion ensued. It was moved by Arlene Guffin, seconded by Sarah Ristorcelli and vote carried unanimously to certify Target Translations & Interpretations LLC as an MWBE in professional and certified translation and interpretation services to government agencies, individuals as well as medical, legal and business communities, in multiple languages, including American Sign Language (ASL).

William Soria CPA LLC – William Soria, Owner appeared before the Board. Discussion ensued. It was moved by Sarah Ristorcelli, seconded by Khalid Muneer and vote carried unanimously to certify William Soria CPA LLC as an MBE in Licensed CPA-Government Consulting, Audit and Compliance, Accounting, Grant Audits, Financial Services, Bookkeeping, Payroll and Taxes.

Florida Passion Fruit Vineyard LLC – The applicant did not appear before the Board. Discussion ensued. It was moved by Annas Kabbaj, seconded by Sarah Ristorcelli and vote carried unanimously to Florida Passion Fruit Vineyard LLC as a MBE in Tree trimming and removal, installation and maintenance, fence installation and removal, pavers and bricks installation and repairs. Specialized in growing and supplying passion fruit vines for landscape design, beautification and production of pulp for fruit juice.

M.S. Clark Enterprises, Inc. – The applicant did not appear before the Board. Discussion ensued. It was moved by Annas Kabbaj, seconded by Sarah Ristorcelli and vote carried unanimously to certify M.S. Clark Enterprises, Inc. as a MBE in Parking Management.

R.T. Bryan Solutions, LLC – The applicant did not appear before the Board. Discussion ensued. It was moved by Annas Kabbaj, seconded by Sarah Ristorcelli and vote carried unanimously to certify R.T. Bryan Solutions, LLC as a MBE in waterproofing, restoration, spray fireproofing, firestop, insulation, spray insulation, expansion joints, spray foam and caulking/sealants, exterior-interior finishing.

Owen Steel Company Inc. – The applicant did not appear before the Board. Discussion ensued. It was moved by Annas Kabbaj, seconded by Khalid Muneer and vote carried unanimously to deny MWBE status to Owen Steel Company Inc. based on:

1. Companies that are required to hold any professional license or permit for performance of their line(s) of business that are obtained based on a Qualifying Agent's registration must comply with the following:
 - a) Companies that are at least 51% minority owned must be qualified by the registration of at least one (1) of the minority owners.
 - b) Companies that are at least 51% women owned must be qualified by the registration of at least one (1) of the women owners.
 - c) The qualifying Agent must have an ownership interest in the company and be a full-time employee of the company.
2. The minority or the women owner(s) must possess independent power to direct or cause direction of management and policies of the firm, as characterized by:
 - a) Substantial experience in firm's line(s) of business for which minority and-or women owned business status is requested.
 - b) Not controlled by Board of Directors or other management entities comprised of an equal or greater number of non-minority or of non-women group members.
3. The minority or the women owner(s) must be independently responsible for the day-to-day management and control of the firm's daily operations, commensurate with ownership, as characterized by:
 - a) Whether the license to perform the firm's line(s) of business is held by the minority or the women owner(s).
 - b) Who makes final decisions and participates in price negotiations and bidding jobs.
 - c) Who supervises the management and field operations of the firm.

- d) Who makes final staffing and personnel related decisions.
 - e) Who signs checks, bids, and contracts, or authorizes their signature.
4. The firm is not considered an independent women owned business because the husband and/or male principal and/or employee:
- a) Is Chief Executive Officer or President.
 - b) Provides the expertise to perform line(s) of business or has the greater experience in the industry.
 - c) Assists in obtaining credit, loans, bonding, leases, etc.
5. When the husband or other male family members contribute to the above characteristics, the firm may be considered a family-owned firm rather than a Women-Owned Business Enterprise, as defined in Rule 111.1 and WBE status may be denied.

TREC Group Inc. – The applicant did not appear before the Board. Discussion ensued. It was moved by Sarah Ristorcelli, seconded by Annas Kabbaj and vote carried unanimously to deny WBE status to TREC Group Inc. based on:

1. The business concern must be at least 51% owned by minority group members or at least 51% owned by women group members, as characterized by:
- a) Independent contribution of capital by the minority or the women group members commensurate with percent of ownership claimed. Ownership gifted to minority or women owners, equipment or other assets gifted, and/or funds gifted to purchase ownership or to establish a new business will not be considered independent contributions of capital. Inherited capital or assets will not be considered as gifted for purposes of these rules. Expertise will not be considered capital for the purposes of these rules.
 - b) Independent risk of loss and share of profits commensurate with the proportional ownership.
2. The firm is not considered an independent minority or women-owned business because the husband and/or male principal and/or male employee:
- a) Contributes to the capitalization of the firm. Ownership gifted to women owners, equipment or other assets gifted to women owners, and/or funds gifted to purchase ownership or to establish a new business will be considered contributing to the capitalization of the firm. Inherited capital or assets will not be considered as gifted for purposes of these rules.

- b) Assists in obtaining credit, loans, bonding, leases, etc.
 - c) Possesses equal or greater powers to direct management and day-to-day decisions.
3. When the husband or other male family members contribute to the above characteristics, the firm may be considered a family-owned firm rather than a Women-Owned Business Enterprise, as defined in Rule 111.1 and WBE status may be denied.

Re-Certifications

The applicants did not appear before the Board. Discussion ensued. It was moved by Arlene Guffin, seconded by Sarah Ristorcelli and vote carried unanimously to recertify the following companies: Accurate Traffic Counts, Inc.; Almond Consulting Group Inc; Angel's Insulation Sales and Services, Inc.; APD Construction, LLC; Cabrera Capital Markets, LLC; Civil/Site Engineering, Inc.; Flash-Rite, Inc.; Forte Young, Inc.; FP Technical; J. Mori Painting, Inc.; Leak Doctor, Inc. (The); Perez of Florida, Inc.; Potential Electric, LLC; R L Burns Inc.; Ricondo & Associates, Inc.; SGM Engineering, Inc.; T & T Construction of Central Florida, Inc; and Xclusive Staffing of Florida, LLC.

Terminations/ Non-Responsive

The applicants did not appear before the Board. Discussion ensued. It was moved by Khalid Muneer, seconded by Annas Kabbaj and vote carried unanimously to terminate the following companies for non-responsiveness: Annetta Wilson Media Training & Success Coaching; Back-Up Power Services, Inc.; Black & Son Remodeling, LLC; Bobes Associates Consulting Engineers, Inc.; Bridge Lawn Maintenance LLC; Carpet & Blinds Beautiful, Inc.; ICUBE Consultancy Services, Inc.; Java Express, LLC; Martin Charles Concrete Incorporated; Miami Microtronix Corporation; MSE Construction and Materials, LLC.; Roberson's Vending Service, Inc.; Stillwater Companies Construction, LLC; Supreme Works Corp.; United Contracting, Inc.; and VISTRA Communications LLC.

Old Business

A discussion ensued regarding the City of Orlando's definition for Hispanic individuals. It was moved by Sarah Ristorcelli, seconded by Khalid Muneer and vote carried unanimously to exclude the five (5) additional steps of the definition.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:23 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 25, 2017.

Dafina Doctor

Dafina Doctor, Recording Secretary