A meeting of the City of Orlando Certification Board was held on Wednesday, August 26, 2015, at City Hall, 400 S. Orange Avenue, 2nd Floor Agenda Conference Room, Orlando, Florida 32801.

Board Members Present: Brikena Tomasic, Chairperson [11, 1], Charles Hawkins II [11, 2], Mi Hoshino [11, 2], Khalid Muneer [2, 0], Ramesh Panchal [11, 2] and Bruno Portigliatti [11, 3].

Board Members Absent: Maria G. Turk [11, 3].

Staff Members Present: Kevin Walsh, MBE Official, Gina Bernard, Certification Officer III and Susana Black, Recording Secretary.

The Board convened at 8:30 a.m., Brikena Tomasic, Chairperson called the Certification Board hearing to order at 9:15 a.m.

The minutes from the July 29, 2015 meeting were approved as written.

M/WBE RULINGS

**Garrard Framing & Drywall, Inc.** – Julie Garrard, President appeared before the Board. Discussion ensued. It was moved by Bruno Portigliatti, seconded by Khalid Muneer and vote carried unanimously to deny WBE status to Garrard Framing & Drywall, 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.

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.

   c) Not controlled by any other contractual or financial relationship, which would subject minority/women owners to control by non-minority and/or non-women group members.
3) The firm must not be affiliated or associated with another non-minority or non-women owned firm to a degree which could prevent or inhibit an independent status, as characterized by:
   a) Shared facilities, inventory, equipment, labor force, etc., without adequate compensation.
   b) Relationship between owners, directors, officers, or key employees or their relatives and non-minority/non-women owned firms in a similar line of business.
   c) Financial or bonding support provided by a non-minority non-women owned firms in a similar line of business, without adequate compensation.

4) The company is not considered an independent women-owned business enterprise because the husband and/or male principal and/or male employee:
   a) Provides the expertise to perform line(s) of business or has the greater experience in the industry.
   b) Receives equal or greater compensation than the woman-owner, not commensurate with ownership.

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.

The applicant was advised of her rights to appeal the Board’s decision.

**AllStar Property Services, Inc.** – Michele Daniele, President appeared before the Board. Discussion ensued. It was moved by Bruno Portigliatti, seconded by Charles Hawkins II and vote carried unanimously to certify AllStar Property Services, Inc., as a WBE Full Service Maintenance Company. Services Include Pressure Cleaning, Window Cleaning, Power Sweeping and Porter Service.

**CRS Contracting, LLC** – Deo Sharma, President appeared before the Board. Discussion ensued. It was moved by Bruno Portigliatti, seconded by Charles Hawkins II and vote carried unanimously to re-certify CRS Contracting, LLC as an MBE General Contractor (Prime Only).

**Dannick Engineering Consultants, Inc.** – Caesar Cabral, President appeared before the Board. Discussion ensued. It was moved by Bruno Portigliatti, seconded by Charles Hawkins II and vote carried unanimously to re-certify Dannick Engineering Consultants, Inc., as an MBE in Structural Engineering and Transportation Engineering.

**Site Solutions of Central Florida, Inc.** – Tina Sopp, President appeared before the Board. Discussion ensued. It was moved by Brikeena Tomas, seconded by Bruno Portigliatti and vote
carried unanimously to re-certify Site Solutions of Central Florida, Inc., as a WBE in Site Development – Concrete Work, Curbing, Sidewalks, Earthwork, and Demolition.

**Color Burst, Inc.** – Vivian Turton, President appeared before the Board. Discussion ensued. It was moved by Bruno Portigliatti, seconded by Ramesh Panchal and vote carried unanimously to re-certify Color Burst, Inc., as a WBE in Annual Flower Installation.

**W.P. Underground Utilities, LLC** – Henry Warren Patten, Jr., Vice President appeared before the Board. Discussion ensued. It was moved by Mi Hoshino, seconded by Ramesh Panchal and vote carried unanimously to certify W.P. Underground Utilities, LLC as an MBE Underground Utility & Excavation Contractor.

**German Delaware, Inc.** – German Hernandez, Owner appeared before the Board. Discussion ensued. It was moved by Mi Hoshino, seconded by Ramesh Panchal and vote carried unanimously to certify German Delaware, Inc., as an MBE in Concrete: Paving & Resurfacing Sidewalk).

**Marchena and Graham, P.A.** – The applicant did not appear before the Board. Charles Hawkins II and Bruno Portigliatti presented Memorandum of Voting Conflicts-Form 8b and both refrained from voting. It was moved by Ramesh Panchal, seconded by Khalid Muneer and vote carried by the voting members to re-certify Marchena and Graham, P.A., as an MBE in Legal Services.

**R L Burns, Inc.** – The applicant did not appear before the Board. Charles Hawkins II presented Memorandum of Voting Conflicts-Form 8b and refrained from voting. It was moved by Brikena Tomasic, seconded by Bruno Portigliatti and vote carried by the voting members to re-certify R L Burns, Inc., as an MBE General Contractor (Prime Only), Construction Management, Consulting and Carpentry Services.

**Motplans.com** – The applicant did not appear before the Board. Discussion ensued. It was moved by Bruno Portigliatti, seconded by Ramesh Panchal and vote carried unanimously to deny MBE status to Motplans.com based on:

1) The business concern must be at least 51% owned by minority group members, as characterized by:

   a) Asians/Pacific Islander include: Persons whose origin is from Japan, China, the Philippines, Vietnam, Korea, Thailand, Indonesia, Mongolia, Brunei, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Hong Kong, Singapore, Myanmar, Laos, Cambodia, Taiwan, India, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Guam, U.S. Trust Territories of the Pacific, Northern Marianas, Pakistan and Bangladesh.

2) The minority 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 business status is requested.

b) Not controlled by Board of Directors or other management entities compromised of an equal or greater number of non-minority group members.

3) The company is not considered an independent minority owned business enterprise because the non-minority male:

a) Provides the expertise to perform line(s) of business or has the greater experience in the industry.

b) Receives equal or greater compensation than the minority owner, not commensurate with ownership.

c) Possesses equal or greater powers to direct management and day-to-day decisions.

**Montana Datacom** – The applicant did not appear before the Board. Discussion ensued. It was moved by Khalid Muneer, seconded by Brikena Tomasic and vote carried unanimously to deny WBE status to Montana Datacom based on:

1) Failure to provide sufficient information to the Certification Board on which a determination of eligibility can be based.

2) Refusal to comply with a reasonable City request for information, data, or access to records pertinent to the application for re-certification or re-recognition within the time period specified by either the Certification Board or City MBE staff.

3) 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.

**International Trade Bridge, Inc.** - The applicant did not appear before the Board. Discussion ensued. It was moved by Bruno Portigliatti, seconded by Brikena Tomasic and vote carried unanimously to certify International Trade Bridge, Inc., as an MBE in Project Management related to Aerospace and Defense, Environmental Management, Energy and Water, Management and Emerging Business.
LWJ Framing and Drywall, LLC - The applicant did not appear before the Board. Discussion ensued. It was moved by Bruno Portigliatti, seconded by Brikena Tomasic and vote carried unanimously to certify LWJ Framing and Drywall, LLC as an MBE in Metal Framing, Drywall Hanging, Drywall Finishing and Drywall Texture.

Re-Certification


Terminations/Non-Responsiveness

The applicants did not appear before the Board. It was moved by Charles Hawkins II, seconded by Brikena Tomasic and vote carried unanimously to terminate the following companies for non-responsiveness: Cabrera Capital Markets, LLC, Carlman Booker Inc., Choice Security and Investigations, Inc., Imaxx Plumbing System, Inc., McKenzie Construction and Site Development, LLC., Organized Jungle, Inc., Perez of Florida, Inc., Powell Concrete, LLC, QRS the Shield, LLC, T & T Construction of Central Florida, Inc., and Vistra Communications. LLC.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 30, 2015.

S. Black
Susana Black, Recording Secretary