



## **Federal Agencies Procurement Advocacy (FAPA) Spring Meeting Minutes**

October 24, 2014

Kona 3, Hilton Waikoloa Village, HI

### **Attending (from sign-in sheet):**

Philius Angelides, Alpha Corp. (Subcom. Chair)

Matt Baker, ITA

Grant Bartee, LBJ Inc.

Joan Freitag, Hanson Inc. (FAPA Chair)

Dave Greenwood, Baker International

Mark Hamouz, Alfred Benesch & Co.

Benjamin Lilly, Hankins & Anderson (Subcom. Chair)

Sheryl Nojima, Gray, Hong, Nojima, & Associates, Inc.

June Nakamura

Jon Nishimura, Fukunaga & Associates (Subcom. Chair)

Jessica Salmoiraghi, ACEC

Bob Schlesinger, Baker International (FAPA Vice Chair)

Mohan Singh, AECOM

Mark Steiner, ACEC

### **Welcome and Introductions: 2:00pm**

Joan Freitag (Chair) and Bob Schlesinger (Vice Chair), Mark Steiner (ACEC), Jessica Salmoiraghi (ACEC), and Subcommittee Chairs; Jon Nishimura (Small Business), Philius Angelides (Civilian Agencies), and Bob Schlesinger (Military Agencies), were introduced or identified.

1. The Chair notified the committee that Mark Steiner's role would change and thanked Mark Steiner for his work at ACEC with a presentation. Jessica Salmoiraghi was introduced as the new ACEC staff person for the committee.
2. The group reviewed FAPA goals (attached). Joan requested that the group is looking for a key contact with agency without current designated connections.

### **Subcommittee Reports**

1. Military Agencies Subcommittee—Bob Schlesinger
  - a. Bob outlined that the goal of the group is to bring high priority items to the services meeting in an attempt to change the tone of the meeting from antagonistic to cooperative.
  - b. Bob outlined the top priorities of the group from former meetings.
    - i. Improved Acquisition Forecasts for timeliness and accuracy
      1. Control of the sources sought process

- ii. Consistent and low burden selection process for multiple-award IDIQ engineering contracts (DAS believes that this item is resolved)
    - iii. Appropriate use of PPQs – (DAS felt this item was resolved.)
    - iv. Arbitrary overhead
    - v. Limit arbitrary changing of designers on design-build contracts.
    - vi. Reduced Federal Contractor Manpower Reporting Application (CMRA) data base requirements for A/E contracts – (DAS felt that this isn't an issue for Defense Agencies).
    - vii. Transition from ACASS to CPARS follow up from August meeting
  - c. Bob outlined some of the new priorities for the group.
    - 1. Identifying ways to implement P3 test program provisions of WRRDA.
      - a. There are concerns that program approval is moving through the DC headquarters and that the focus is on locks and dams which the corps may not own. In addition, there is a concern that there are 15 pilot projects and that large firms are looking to participate in these projects to the exclusion of smaller firms.
    - 2. Providing accurate costs of constructed project to designers to improve estimates.
      - a. There is a concern that construction costs and budget numbers used by the Services do not reflect current cost due in part to the Service's use of old data.
  - d. Joint Services Meeting is scheduled on November 5<sup>th</sup> at 11 am E.T.
2. Civilian Agencies Subcommittee—Philius Angelides
- a. VA
    - i. Philius outlined his discussion with Dennis Milston who is an industry advocate and is looking for further information on CM at Risk.
  - b. Department of State-OBO
    - i. The agency is quiet after having a full committee hearing by the House Oversight and Government Reform regarding the Design Excellence program. There is interest in setting a meeting up with OBO in the first week of December.
  - c. GSA
    - i. GSA Special Programs Division is looking for ACEC for technical training resources. Is there interest in this opportunity?
    - ii. Potential discussions with Les Shepard at the Public Buildings Service regarding his push to use Design Excellence procedures for maintenance projects.
  - d. FEMA-DHA
    - i. Mark Steiner sent a letter to a contracting officer and the Director of FEMA regarding a best-value solicitation. No response had been received at the time of the meeting.
  - e. Department of Justice-FBI

- i. There was a request for members who have connections to these agencies to bring them to the committee.
  - f. Procurement Subcommittee—
    - i. A question was posed whether ACEC has \$10,000 to fund the GovWin data analysis for the white paper on procurement issues. In looking for alternatives, would it be possible to use ACEC’s Deltec relationship for this research?
  - g. Small Business—Jon Nishimura
    - i. Set-asides for AE services for military construction or family housing projects, including IDIQs, of \$350,000+ are not allowed by FAR. There is some research on DFAR 219.502.1 and the former legislation that permitted the set-aside. Further research on the issue was requested as discussion was lively on the topic.
    - ii. Executive Order 13673 Fair Pay and Safe Workplaces discussion.
  - h. Programs—Joan Freitag
    - i. ACEC and FAPA Annual Convention efforts focused on developing two large panels with government leaders to present in a roundtable format. Joan requested that additional individuals join the planning group for agenda development and topic selection with Bob and Joan leading the effort.
      - 1. Potential Topics:
        - a. SCos and their impact on creative financing
        - b. P3
        - c. Moderated discussion on making A/E acquisition Brooks Act compliant with the federal contracting workforce.
      - ii. Webinar topics on Economics and safety responsibility
- 3. Determine Winter FAPA meeting date
  - i. The week of January 19<sup>th</sup> targeted with a tentative scheduling on January 21<sup>st</sup> starting at 9 a.m. and continuing through January 22<sup>nd</sup> until Noon.
- 4. June Nakamura presented the National Park Service Presentation (attached)

Next Steps:

- Determine Annual Conference sessions
- Determine additional contacts at Federal Agencies where none are currently identified
  - FBI/DOJ specifically targeted
- Determine interest in December OBO meeting
- Can Deltech fund the request for the projected \$10,000 GovWin data analysis for a procurement white paper?