

Meeting Minutes

IPD / Best Value Task Force

Best Value Meeting – Thursday, January 13, 2011

1. As a follow up to the December CPARB board meeting, we discussed potential modifications to the draft best value bill that might allow the BV Task Force to make a consensus recommendation to CPARB for a BV bill this session.
2. Van Collins (representing the AGC) reported that the AGC was not willing to support even a drastically pared down pilot project bill. The AGC has some fundamental concerns with best value contracting by public owners. They prefer to continue to work with CPARB to explore different measures that may accomplish some of the goals that BV was designed to address. Van mentioned contractor pre-qualification as a potential measure.
3. Ed Kommers (representing sub contractors) reported that he had discussed the BV bill with sub contractors. They looked at the bill to see what it would take to make it acceptable. Ed felt that it would require way too many changes and it would be very complex. He thought it would probably be unworkable.
4. Larry Stevens and Ed Kommers stated that they do not have the support of their constituents.
5. Dan Absher stated that many general contractors are concerned about best value because they want to protect the existing design-bid-build market. Dan also is concerned that BV may cause bid protests.
6. Vicky Schiantarelli (representing OMWBE) asked if there was a kind of project that the contractors would find acceptable for BV. The contractors did not identify any kind of project for BV.
7. Dave Johnson (representing labor) stated that labor does not support the BV bill. He does not see a compelling reason to add another alternative contracting method.
8. The public owners continue to support BV.
9. Van Collins said that the BV concept has sparked a lot of discussion with general contractors. Dan Absher added that we should look at the big picture. How does BV fit with responsibility criteria, pre-qualification, and other alternative delivery methods?
10. The TF concluded that we will not recommend a BV bill to CPARB for the 2011 session. We recommend that CPARB continue to look at measures (such as contractor pre-qualification) and explore solutions that will improve public works in Washington. This may include repackaging or rebranding elements of the best value process.
11. Dave Johnson and Ed Kommers said that they plan to meet with Representative Ormsby to discuss the BV bill. John Lynch offered to be included in that meeting.