

DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

300 Capitol Mall
 Sacramento, CA 95814
 (916) 492-3623
 (916) 445-5280 (fax)
 www.insurance.ca.gov



APPROVED 12/09/21

3rd Quarterly Insurance Diversity Task Force Meeting Minutes

September 16, 2021

10:00 am – 12:00 pm PDT

Meeting was held virtually

I. Task Force Meeting Call to Order

- a. Task Force Roll Call – California Department of Insurance (CDI) staff, Amy Ives
 - i. Task Force Members Present:

(All attendees participated via Zoom and/or phone.) Linda Akutagawa, Annalisa Barrett, Dr. Fabiola Cobarrubias, Rebecca Aguilera-Gardiner, Mark Morales, Cecil Plummer, Blong Xiong, Vikita Poindexter, Jay Greene, Imelda Alejandrino
 - ii. Task Force Members Absent:

Milton Dellossier, Maria S. Salinas
- b. Establishment of quorum – Quorum met

II. Review and Approval of 2021 1st Quarterly Task Force Meeting Minutes

- a. Motion to Approve Minutes: Dr. Fabiola Cobarrubias
- b. Motion Seconded: Rebecca Aguilera-Gardiner

III. Welcome Remarks and Attendee Introductions

- a) CDI Executives/Staff – Deputy Commissioner Julia Juarez, Insurance Diversity Initiative Director Chandara Phanachone, Chief Deputy Legislative Director Melissa Gear, CDI Attorney Karisa Yocham, CDI Attorney Monica Macaluso, Insurance Diversity Initiative Analyst Amy Ives
- b) Public Attendees – Jennifer Noia (CSAA), Venita Johnson (Senior Advisor, Wes-Tech Environmental), Anthony Belcher (Wes-Tech Environmental)

IV. 2021 Legislation Updates

Melissa Gear, CDI – Provided an overview of SB 655. The bill has been enrolled. Senator Bradford, Department of Insurance and all of us have been able to shepherd through the process with no challenges and bipartisan support. This was the easiest bill to pass through and that is in part due to the work we did prior. Governor has until October 10 to veto or sign the bill. Thanked everyone for working on making this work through.

Mark Morales, IDTF – Advised that City National Bank sent letter of support requesting signature.

Chandara Phanachone, CDI – Asked Melissa if we were still able to send the request for signatures letters.

Melissa Gear, CDI – Yes, can send in letters of support all the way until it is in the Governor's hands. No specific timeline on when it will get signed.

Dr. Fabiola Cobarrubias, IDTF – When will the bill go into effect?

Melissa Gear, CDI – It will go into effect on January 1, 2022. Last year, the Diversity team held informational webinars to share with potentially impacted insurers so they were prepared for the survey administration. They will likely do the same thing for this bill.

Annalisa Barrett, IDTF – Asked if Task Force members would be able to attend the webinars.

Chandara Phanachone, CDI – Absolutely able to attend. We would be happy to have any Task Force members that wish to attend.

V. Strategic Plan – Progress Updates & Discussion

- a. 2020 – 2021 Progress Update

i. Board Diversity Goals

Chandara Phanachone, CDI – Provided an update on the action items from last meeting. We previously discussed that the board diversity webinars would be held monthly ahead of the Virtual Insurance Diversity Summit. Now that the Summit is occurring in about 48 days, we will likely pre-record and introduce them at the time of the Summit. There are three board diversity webinars being considered and discussed.

Board Readiness: Pending with McKinsey, Chandara is working with the McKinsey team to refine the questions and determine how we can leverage their current research to make it beneficial and informative.

Cascading Diversity into the Boardroom: KPMG (with Annalisa Barrett) is leading this. We have secured Dr. Fabiola Cobarrubias (Pacific Inpatient Medical Group and Insurance Diversity Task Force Member) Allstate's Andrea Redmond and Prudential's Gil Casellas. Annalisa will moderate this discussion and KPMG will do all the production. Webinar will be recorded and played back at Summit.

Future Outlook: The Policy Landscape of Board Diversity: This will be the day two Keynote at the Summit. Keynote will include Commissioner Lara, Secretary of State Dr. Shirley Weber and NASDAQ's Kaley Karaffa. The session will be moderated by Insurance Diversity Task Force Member Linda Akutagawa.

With regard to the other Strategic Plan goals. The one that we are working on is the Designation. We need to include another component for it to be a comprehensive designation. Currently, we are looking at Board Diversity and Supplier Diversity – but a key pillar we are missing is to see what insurance companies are doing in the communities they are serving.

Mark Morales, IDTF – Inquired as to if it would create a delay in the introduction of the designation.

Chandara Phanachone, CDI – Should not create a delay as we have the data available. Can get information from COIN and analyze it relatively easily.

Mark Morales, IDTF - Will this impact the roll out at the Summit?

Chandara Phanachone, CDI – We won't be able to roll it out at the Summit as we want to make sure that it's vetted and approved via a number of layers. We have learned from the New York Department of Insurance that buy in is essential for success. How does Task Force feel about this?

Annalisa Barrett, IDTF – It's a great idea. Feels good to hold insurance companies accountable and walk the walk.

Rebecca Aguilera-Gardiner, IDTF – Thinks this is a great idea.

Chandara Phanachone, CDI – With our program and COIN combined, we meet the ESG (environmental, social and governance) goals.

Dr. Fabiola Cobarrubias, IDTF – How broad are investments in community programs?

Chandara Phanachone, CDI – Would be happy to invite the Chief of COIN to our next meeting and get some more information.

Mark Morales, IDTF – Does COIN collect data on charitable giving?

Dr. Fabiola Cobarrubias, IDTF – Different companies participate in charitable giving and reinvesting in the communities and want to make sure that companies are getting credit for all of the investments.

Mark Morales, IDTF – Will we be doing any kind of introduction/teaser about the designation?

Chandara Phanachone, CDI – Will likely be doing a poll at the Summit to gauge interest on the designation.

ii. Supplier Diversity Goals

Chandara Phanachone, CDI – We have met almost all of the supplier diversity goals set out in our plan. Have created the online directory, have hosted procurement events and will do another at the Summit. Something to consider will be to host supplier diversity specific webinars/events similar to our Board Diversity webinar series.

b. New 2022 – 2023 Strategic Plan Discussion

i. Board Diversity Goals

ii. Supplier Diversity Goals

Chandara Phanachone, CDI – Our goal will be to start working with the Advisory Groups to develop some initial goals and then continue to flesh these out and devise the 2022-2023 Strategic Plan in the coming months.

VI. Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act

Chandara Phanachone, CDI – On March 17, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20, temporarily suspending certain Bagley-Keene Act requirements and authorizing state bodies to conduct public meetings via a telephonic or virtual platform. On June 11, 2021, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-08-21, extending the existing temporary suspension of certain Bagley-Keene Act requirements until September 30, 2021, and authorizing state bodies to continue to conduct public meetings via a telephonic or virtual platform until that time. In early September, the Legislature introduced amendments to Assembly Bill 361 to codify and extend the provisions of the Governor's Executive Order N-08-21 until January 31, 2022. This measure was signed by the Governor on September 16, 2021 and will stay in effect until January 31, 2022. Barring any other action, open meeting requirements will be in full effect effective February 1, 2022. We will be happy to answer any questions you may have and keep you informed of developments.

VII. Statewide Coalition on Diversity Initiatives – Updates & Discussion

Chandara Phanachone, CDI – We have continued to meet with our Statewide Coalition partners (California Office of the Small Business Advocate, CalTrans, Department of General Services, California Public Utilities Commission and Department of Health Care Access and Information.) There is discussion regarding a series of podcasts created by the Office of the Small Business Advocate. Additionally, CalOSBA has recently updated their website to include all of the Statewide Coalition partners. <https://calosba.ca.gov/business-learning-center/grow/procurement-and-supply-chain/>. We have also invited them all to participate in the Resource Expo at the Summit to meet with attendees and share information.

VIII. 2021 Virtual Insurance Diversity Summit – Updates and Discussion

a. Registration

Amy Ives, CDI – We are monitoring registration every day. We are working with the Outreach Branch and they are reaching out to many of their community partners and agencies to advise about the Summit. Historically, registration picks up in the days before the Summit. We are very appreciative of the efforts made by the Task Force to promote and share this event. We could not do it without all of your support.

b. Keynotes and Workshops

Chandara Phanachone, CDI – We have curated a number of sessions that we believe attendees will be very eager to attend. We are offering two sessions on the aftermath of Stimulus funding, two sessions on the right types of financing for businesses, how to obtain seats on various boards and Commissions, marketing 101 and surviving and thriving post pandemic. In addition, we will be holding a Resource Expo to allow attendees to meet with diverse certification agencies, diverse chambers, government agencies and other resources. Finally, we'll be holding three different matchmaking sessions for diverse suppliers to meet with insurers in areas they are looking to procure in the next twelve months. We are very excited to share this program with everyone.

IX. Past/Upcoming Events/Announcements – Updates & Discussion

Cecil Plummer, IDTF – WRMSDC (Western Regional Minority Supplier Development Council) held their multi-industry supplier diversity expo on August 19, 2021. This is the biggest networking event of the year. Very successful.

Imelda Alejandrino, IDTF – Cecil did a wonderful job. This Expo was informative and worthwhile to attend.

Rebecca Aguilera-Gardiner, IDTF – Planning in full swing for the Veterans in Business National Conference. It will be held November 8-9th in Sacramento and virtually. Encourages everyone to register. Have some exciting things planned and looking forward to being partially in person and partially virtual.

X. Public Comment - Public Attendee forum for items on Agenda

There were no public comments.

XI. Meeting Closing and Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn Meeting: Rebecca Aguilera-Gardiner

Motion Seconded: Imelda Alejandrino