

**DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION RESOURCES
OPEN BOARD MEETING**

Thursday, June 28, 2018, 10:00 a.m.

300 West 15th Street, Clements Building, Room 103 Austin, Texas 78701

MINUTES

PRESENT Ben Gatzke (Board Chair)
Christian Alvarado
Jeffrey Tayon (video conference)
Jay Dyer
Mike Bell (video conference)
Bryan Collier, *ex-officio*
George Rios, *ex-officio*
Melody Parrish, *ex-officio*

ACTION *Mr. Gatzke* called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., with a quorum present.

TOPIC **2. Chair’s Remarks**

Consider approval of meeting minutes from May 3, 2018, Board Meeting.

Mr. Gatzke requested a change for the board minutes, action item for the board minutes should read the minutes were approved and strike unanimously approved since the board did it by acclimation instead of by procedure of roll call for this action.

MOTION A motion was made to approve the board minutes with a change by Mr. Dyer and seconded by Mr. Alvarado.

ACTION The minutes were unanimously approved.

TOPIC **3. Chief Procurement Office**

DISCUSSION Mr. Hershel Becker, Chief Procurement Officer, informed the board of the contract for board consideration related to Open Data Portal.

Mr. Ed Kelly, Statewide Data Coordinator, discussed the background for the Open Data Portal (ODP), the current functionality and the new functionality. The ODP started out as a pilot back in 2014 and we did a slight modification to the project in 2016, to upgrade the look and feel of it. Mr. Kelly discussed the portal utilization for data sets, visits, and downloads with agencies. The current user interface of the ODP will display the tile grids. Behind the grids there is meta data associated with the data set that allows the consumer of the open data to find the information as quickly as possible. At the bottom of the ODP home page are story boards which are highlights of specific data. The core functionality is that we have the Socrata Cloud based product, it is very secure, the capability to do auto/manual updates, data lens for publishers to do analysis on their specific data sets, basic geo- mapping capabilities. Frequent users of ODP can build a profile. The next time you sign in your settings and filters are already out there and you don’t have to recreate it.

Mr. Kelly discussed the new ODP features. The portal features the new Socrata Connected Government Cloud, user analytics dashboards, improved privacy and workflow, test environment and Data Governance Capabilities.

Mr. Gatzke asked: What would drive the decision to allow regulated data, first users request?

Mr. Kelly responded: Correct.

Mr. Kelly discussed analytics dashboards. ODP to create the dashboards at three levels and push information out to consumers. The administrative level perspective has better auditing, better permission setting, and history of what moves in and out of the portal.

Mr. Rios commented: I would ask maybe as we look at the FedRAMP regulated data that if they don't have a governance in place at an agency. Somehow give thought into having the executive director or at an executive level preapprove especially the regulated data, if they don't have the governance.

Mr. Kelly responded: Yes.

Mr. Alvarado asked: Would you mind talking about the improved privacy you mentioned?

Mr. Kelly responded: From the perspective of the FedRAMP authorized position, you must go through a series of certifications and verifications to be able to work with the federal government and Socrata has federal government contracts.

Mr. Gatzke asked: What are the types of public data sets do you anticipate being able to merge in and what benefits do you hope to see from those?

Mr. Kelly responded: Texas Parks Wildlife Department (TPWD) has been a partner in this since the pilot. An example could be TPWD has boater registration information, that could be combined with tax information at the Comptroller's site and with boater registration data to see if there is any potential fraud.

Mr. Gatzke asked: Will there be federal public data connections?

Mr. Kelly responded: Within the frame of the overall statewide portal, there could be merging and analytics on state data. On federal data sets that are available, you would have to that outside of the portal.

Mr. Kelly discussed the additional licenses to other Socrata Products. The additional license will include Perspectives which allow you to build customize storytelling pallets of information, combine images, narrative and data to really hone in on the message that you want to send to your customers.

Mr. Rios asked: What is the transition period to start using the new features?

Mr. Kelly responded: Pending approval of this contract; after this meeting, we will be talking to Socrata about the next steps. It will be around the mechanics of scheduling meetings, migration, around July or August as the timeframe for migration for our existing customers. By September 1st, we hope to run on everyone in the new platform.

Ms. Colleen Berkley, Director for Purchasing, discussed the procurement process and some background for the Open Data Portal contract. DIR currently has open data portal services through the Texas.gov contract with Texas NIC USA, LLC, which expires on August 31, 2018. The incumbent vendor for open data portal services, Socrata Inc., has a direct contractual relationship with Texas NIC USA. DIR is not a party to that current contract. With the Texas.gov contract expiring, it was necessary for DIR to solicit a vendor to provide open data portal services in order for DIR to continue providing these services to our customer.

On March 29, 2018, DIR issued Request for Offer (RFO) number DIR-TSO-TMP-428 for Texas Open Data Portal services. As part of the procurement process, DIR held a solicitation conference and provided a

question and answer period for interested vendors. RFO responses were due on April 26, 2018. At that time DIR received two (2) total Responses from Blue Raster and Socrata Inc.

As part of Response evaluation, DIR used a review team made up of subject matter experts whose core competencies provided the fundamental knowledge and expertise in specific subject areas necessary for a successful review. The team included members from DIR and from one additional agency.

To determine the best value for the state of Texas, based on their confidence in the Respondent's ability to deliver the required services, the Review team considered the Respondent's: Technical Solution; Implementation Plan and Schedule; System Support and System Currency; Experience and Past Performance; Pricing; References; and any exceptions presented by the Respondent.

The team provided a consensus-based ranking of the Responses based on the strengths and weaknesses in meeting the considerations just presented. The review team ranked Socrata Inc.'s Response as 1 of 2 and recommended that DIR move into negotiations with Socrata.

This recommendation was reviewed by the Source Evaluation Board, or SEB, along with the documentation provided by the review team listing the various strengths and weaknesses for both Respondents. The SEB approved the recommendation and presented it to the Source Selection Authority, the SSA, for their approval prior to beginning negotiations with Socrata, Inc. During contract negotiations, DIR determined that it would receive a better value for the state in terms of pricing by combining the initial two-year term of the contract and the two one-year renewals into a single four-year base term. Additionally, DIR was able to negotiate the transfer of remaining 75 coaching hours from the current Texas NIC USA contract into the new contract. The contract before you today is a result of those negotiations.

Mr. Mike Labinski, Contract Manager presented information about Socrata, Inc. Socrata, Inc was founded in 2007, has over 10 years' experience building and maintaining and enhancing data, and performance management platforms. The headquarters is in Seattle, WA. Socrata has worked with over 1500 governmental customers across the federal, state and local levels and international. The HUB subcontracting plan using the state guidelines, the HUB plan for this procurement was 26%, through procurement 5% of this goal has been achieved.

Mr. Gatzke asked: Any anticipation of acquisition impacting the rollout or the teams that are working on this?

Mr. Labinski responded: There is no anticipated impact from it.

MOTION A motion was made to approve the award for the Open Data Portal and that we delegate authority to Ms. Napier or her designee to execute the contract Mr. Alvarado and seconded by Mr. Dyer.

ACTION The motion was unanimously approved.

TOPIC 16. Public Testimony

No public testimony

Mr. Gatzke called the meeting adjournment at 10:31 a.m.

Approved by the Board Chair:

Ben Gatzke, Chair

Date