

Budgeting for Results Commission

Friday, September 27, 2013
10:00am

Chicago – JRTC, 100 W. Randolph, 2nd floor, Room 2-025
Springfield – Capitol, 2nd and Monroe, 2nd floor, Room 205

Dial in: 888-494-4032 Access Code: 6371670294#

Minutes

Chicago: Sen. Pam Althoff, John Bowman, Rep. Will Davis, Bob Goerge, Kent Gaffney, Layla Suleiman Gonzalez, Larry Joseph, John Kamis, Jim Lewis, Howard Peters, Maria de Jesus Prado, Alex Rorke, Lt. Governor Sheila Simon, Cristal Thomas

Springfield: John Lowder, Steve Schnorf

Phone: Sen. Dan Kotowski

I. Welcome & Introductions

Commissioners and guests were welcomed. Commissioners were asked to introduce themselves in Chicago, Springfield, and on the phone.

II. Review & Approval of Minutes

Commission was asked for any edits or additions to the minutes from August 30 meeting. Minutes approved as presented.

III. Review of Report Outline and Timeline

Greg Wass introduced the outline of the report with a due date of November 1st. Timeline with assignment was included in meeting materials. Report assignments and due dates for the timeline were discussed.

Report will include implementation status update on accomplishments to date, summary of public hearings, updates on progress towards implementing recommendations, and recommended next steps. Report will also include the appendix and is a great public document on the efforts and accomplishments for BFR.

Commission discussed the desire to make the report more user friendly for those who are not as familiar with BFR. Report and attachments will be made available electronically at budgetingforresults.illinois.gov.

IV. Review of Possible Recommendations from Hearings & Web Comments

Cristal Thomas discussed the document that Tasha Green Cruzat provided at the last Commission meeting that laid out the recommendations that were gathered from the public hearings. This document as well as a summary of the public hearings including hearing locations, meeting participants, and written testimony received will also be included in the report.

Larry Joseph suggested that the recommendations part of the report focus on recommendations that have already been made that have not been implemented yet or at least not to the full extent. This would identify things that have not been completed yet so that people are aware of what BFR is working toward. Also recommended a section on progress thus far as far as recommendations go.

Steve Schnorf suggested that key recommendations from those who participated in the public hearings this year be reflected in the report as well. Senator Kotowski echoed these comments and noted the need to include stakeholders' opinions and recommendations.

Thomas indicated that there will still be a section about the public hearings this year and suggestions received in addition to the recommendations from past that BFR reports.

Joseph noted that the stakeholders who spoke at the hearings were likely geared towards a State Agency or to the Governor's Office and that additional work will need to be done in order to solicit meaningful feedback from stakeholders. He encouraged the Commission as a whole to think about addressing this issue moving forward.

It was noted that many stakeholders have not been heard and there needs to be increased stakeholder participation and more of an effort to encourage that interaction.

Chair suggested that in the future hearings might be restructured in such a way as to encourage open dialogue as opposed to more formal testimony.

Layla Suleiman Gonzalez suggested introducing data in the meetings/hearings to lead the discussion and get more specific feedback.

Alex Rorke suggested using the term "workshop" to encourage make the hearings more friendly and encourage participation.

V. Review of Status Updates for Previous Recommendations

Thomas discussed the structure of this year's recommendations and the different categories in which the recommendations will fall. The focus will be on the high level categories to inform people what is occurring in each area. Updates could be provided for each top area as well.

Commission reviewed recommendations handout and discussed the 34 recommendations left and divided them into the 8 categories. It was agreed that the staff will do the initial review of the 8 categories and try to consolidate the 34 recommendations when/if possible. A goal of October 7th was set in order to provide Commissioners with the staff's recommended consolidations for their review.

Joseph requested that accomplishments and what still needs to be done be separated out in report items 4 and 5.

Bob Goerge asked if there is an alignment between the recommendations and the five sections.

Joseph and Wass explained the progress report at the beginning is a more general report of key accomplishments and progress to date on the implementation of BFR.

Senator Kotowski added that the document is trying to show everything that has been done and how things are moving forward but the goal was to include in narrative form that the goal of BFR is to ensure that the State is communicating the value provided to taxpayers from public investments and to regain public trust that decisions around government spending are made with efficiency and effectiveness in mind.

VI. Update on Mandates Committee

John Kamis discussed the Committee's charge to propose and eliminate mandates that are duplicative, obsolete, or overly burdensome. He described the process by which these mandates are eliminated and provided a document which outlined the Committee's findings. He shared one list which included agency approved mandates for elimination and a separate list that requires additional follow up. Kamis noted that action needed for the ones on hold are for follow up with those legislators for further discussions. He concluded by asking Commissioners to take a look at the list of agencies and to direct any questions to himself and or Kristen Clark.

It was explained the cost listed is a reflection of the cost that it takes to complete mandates as they stand.

Joseph inquired about number two on the approved Mandate Review list and whether it was being suggested that reporting be eliminated. It was explained that there would be no hard copy of the report but it will only be online.

Senator Kotowski asked for a similar document on mandates removed for last year. He would also like to know what it would cost for implementation. There was also discussion about whether mandates that go unfunded for a certain amount of time should be eliminated.

Commission agreed that the draft report should include the approved Mandate Review list.

VII. Pilot Project Update

John Kamis spoke about the status of support for the pilot project. He indicated that confirmation has been received from a number of partners. He also indicated that Jason Saul is ready to begin work on the pilot which will include an analysis on the area of education. The staff of Mission Measurement will work closely with budget analysts to determine the effectiveness of state programs. The Pilot Program Committee hopes to meet every two weeks once the pilot process begins. The goal is for the pilot to be completed by the end of the year for use by the Governor's Office and the General Assembly.

Wass added that the Mission Measurement is expected to begin receiving data by the end of the month. The pilot will focus on roughly fifty education programs. The evaluation tool developed via the pilot is intended to produce results based information on the performance of state programs which can be used to inform the budget. Kamis added that the process is to be more informative than determinative. The Pilot Advisory Committee will discuss further.

The Commission would like to see an outline of the pilot so they can better understand its function.

VIII. Transparency Task Force

Senator Pam Althoff provided a brief overview of the Transparency Task Force which was created by legislation she sponsored in the most recent session. She thanked those Commissioners who agreed to serve and encouraged other Commissioners to join as well.

IX. Other Business

Chair asked if there was any other business. Thomas discussed an additional written testimony which was received which will be made available to the Commissioners and included in the report.

X. Adjourn

It was noted that the next Commission meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 25, 2013 at 10:00am in the same locations.