

Maine Recovery Council

November 25, 2025 (online only)

The meeting was called to order by Chair Pat Kimball, she reviewed the reason for the meeting. She explained that the RFP discussion had not taken place at the last meeting so as not to intrude on the public forum. Introductions were done and the meeting was turned over to Brendan O'Neil. He referenced the packet of materials he had sent.

The Council had decided, at their last meeting, to incorporate any adjusted scores following additional reviews of materials provided by the applicants. That action had to be memorialized. An amended motion was approved (Vinsel/Stover, 11-0-1). The scoring results: Berry/Dunn - 219.5; Public Consulting Group - 219.0. The question was asked - cost for each/ Chasity would check. There was some confusion regarding the scores and the impacts of the adjustments.

The second issue raised concerned an email sent by one of the applicants. The AG's office was concerned that the email would compromise the process. Issues of conflict of interest were raised. It was kept from the reviewers, only the Board Chair was cognizant of its existence outside of the Executive Director. The full Council would need to consider the email and whether to credit its significance.

The discussion ranged from dismissing the email as an attempt to provide guidance to the disqualification of the entity from which it was sent. The concern, was the grant process compromised by the email. The motion was made to disqualify Berry Dunn from further consideration (Blackwell-Moore/Haskell, 10-1). The next decision needed was to award the contract to Public Consulting Group (PCG) or go out again. The motion was made to tentatively accept the proposal from the remaining applicant (McLoughlin/Haskell, 6-3) Concerns were raised as to the compatibility of software to access following the conclusion of the work. Council members were asked to read the materials sent from PCG and a decision would be made at the December 11 meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20pm