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# **BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS**

*ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND*

**November 8, 2023**

**10:03 a.m.**

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# PRESENT

**HONORABLE WES MOORE**

Governor

**HONORABLE DERECK DAVIS**

Treasurer

**HONORABLE BROOKE LIERMAN**

Comptroller

**JOHN GONTRUM**

Secretary, Board of Public Works

**ATIF CHAUDHRY**

Secretary, Department of General Services

**JOSH KURTZ**

Secretary, Department of Natural Resources

**VALERIE RADOMSKY**

Chief Procurement Officer, Department of Transportation

**THOMAS HICKEY**

Director of Procurement and Real Property Initiatives,  
University System of Maryland

**LISA GRIGSBY**

Recording Secretary, Board of Public Works

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## PROCEEDINGS

GOVERNOR MOORE: Good morning.

ALL: Good morning.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Welcome to today's BPW meeting.

Before we get started with the business of the day, I'd like to turn it over to our Treasurer to offer some comments and reflection about former Secretary and also former Delegate George Owings.

TREASURER DAVIS: Good morning, everybody. You know, I had mentioned previously it seems I'm doing this more and more frequently.

When I first got to Annapolis, I was assigned to the Environmental Matters Committee -- the then Environmental Matters Committee, it's now Environment and Transportation -- for my first eight years. As much as I enjoyed being on the House Economic Matters Committee for the last, for my last 19 years, and you know, all of the opportunities I was given there, I loved being on Environmental Matters. And it was the people. And see, if you talk to a lot of former legislators, most will tell you it's not the job that they miss when it's over. It's the people that they miss when it's over. And those first eight years, we had some of the biggest characters I think that ever graced Annapolis, whether it was Nathaniel Oaks, Leon Billings, Al Redmer. But probably none more so than George Owings.

George Owings, he would always correct me, it's Calvert County, not Calvert County. But George embodied what I thought, you know, being a

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member of the Legislature should be. I would always hear the stories from the old-timers about how they would fight, get after it, and then after it was over, you know, they would all get together and go to dinner, have an adult beverage, or whatever. You know, in other words, they left the job on the floor of the House of Delegates or in the committee room. They didn't take it with them.

George was, George was special. Some of the things I heard before I even got down here, like when they used to debate the motorcycle helmet law, you know, George they told me, I still can't believe it, but he brought his motorcycle into the committee room. He brought his motorcycle in the committee room. And you heard stories like that all the time. George was at times he could be the funniest guy that, you know, I ever served with down there. He was hilarious. But then he could turn serious and he could articulate his point and issue as well as anybody I've served with down here outside of Elijah Cummings. He was unquestionably the best. George reached out to new legislators, you know, gave them his spin, his advice. People from opposite ends of the ideological spectrum from him, you know, you have those differences, but he would still be your friend. He, you know, he would even tell you how to work a bill he wasn't even supporting.

(Laughter.)

TREASURER DAVIS: -- he was like, you need to do this, but I can't vote for it.

(Laughter.)

TREASURER DAVIS: And so you know, we know his service to our military. I think he told me he did a couple of tours I believe in Vietnam. We

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know of his two tours of duty as Secretary of Veterans Affairs. And I honestly believe, he, as much as I knew how much he liked the House of Delegates, I believe he loved being Secretary of Veterans Affairs more. He just loved our veterans and improving their lives, and he loved Maryland. So I didn't mean to go on this long. But you know, as I see more and more of, you know, the older guys that I served with that have passed on and, you know, moved on, it hearkens me back to a time that I recall fondly and what I thought all of this was about, and not, you know, what our politics particularly at the national level has become. So you know, if George was here, well, I'll do it anyway, I tip my glass to Secretary and Delegate Owings and just wish his family our prayers and extend our prayers and best wishes. Thank you.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Thank you. He was, you know, he was, you know, when we talk about the motto of the Marines as semper fi, always faithful. And that's who he was. You know, not just in his work in the House, but also as the Secretary of Veterans Affairs. Twice, Secretary of Veterans Affairs. And you know, he was one of the people actually when we first came on board, was giving us counsel and advice about how we're thinking about the role of the VA and the needs of the VA. Always faithful. And he will be missed. But I echo, his family should know that his family stays in our deepest hearts and our deepest prayers, and he is surrounded by the angels. And he has earned that.

As we begin with today's business, Secretary Gontrum, good morning. Good to see you.

SECRETARY GONTRUM: Good to see you, Governor, good morning. Good morning to you, Mr. Treasurer and Madam Comptroller. There

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are 13 items on the Secretary's Agenda this morning and one report of emergency procurement. I'm happy to assist with answering any questions.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Great. Thank you so much. And we are pleased to be joined today by former County Executive and now Snow Hill Town Manager Rick Pollitt, who has asked to speak in support of Item 9. Good to see you, Rick. Coming all the way from Snow Hill!

MR. POLLITT: Yes, sir.

GOVERNOR MOORE: I love it. But you're speaking in support of Item 9, which directs \$720,000 in funds to the Town of Snow Hill to support the Purnell Street Utility and Roadway Improvements Project. It is great to see you.

MR. POLLITT: Yes, sir. It's really great to be here and it's an honor to be before the three of you. As you mentioned a few minutes ago, I'm Rick Pollitt from Snow Hill. But in a former life, I was Wicomico County's first County Executive. And I like to tell people, I got two terms in before they discovered I was a Democrat and invited me --

(Laughter.)

MR. POLLITT: -- I did try to establish a tradition there that whenever the Board of Public Works approves something of great benefit to our community, I always tried to come and just say thank you. And I wanted to do that today for Snow Hill.

The project you have before you today is going to be a life-changing event for the people of a neighborhood that doesn't get a lot of attention. In fact, it's one of those neighborhoods that sometimes feels disenfranchised and

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doesn't quite feel a complete part of the community. And as I was saying to your staff earlier this morning, there is a lot of skepticism that this is even going to happen. And so I think it's so nice that you take the time to make these decisions. And to you it's a full day agenda, you all work hard. But at the end of the day back home, there's going to be people who will feel they are part of the community again. They are going to see improvements in their way of life and their quality of their community and their neighborhoods. And I couldn't let the opportunity go by without coming and telling you all thank you for that.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Bless you. Bless you, Town Manager. It's great to see you. And thank you for just your continued fight and continued support and continued belief. And again, not just for the good folks over in Snow Hill, but how you just continue to lead. We are very excited about this project. We're very excited to advance the funding today for the project, because it really is going to be, it's a critically important one. It's one that is going to, you know, and your leadership has helped provide it, help provide a real pathway for the community going forward. And we're proud to have the partnership with the Town of Snow Hill. So please also convey our best to Mayor Pruitt as well.

MR. POLLITT: I certainly will. And thank you all very much.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Thank you. Thanks for coming.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Thank you. With that, is there further discussion on the Secretary's Agenda?

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Mr. Governor, I would just like to make a comment about Item 6.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Of course.

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COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: This is the Transportation Authority's wetlands license that will allow the removal of deep water piers from the old Nice-Middleton Bridge. And I just wanted to comment, because we, and appreciate the work of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. They have reached out to ensure that the State pursued all options to minimize the impact of the local, on the local fish population, specifically the endangered Atlantic sturgeon. And I'm grateful to the department for answering all the questions that they had and really doing their due diligence. You know, I'm really pleased to know there was consideration given to leaving the piers in place. I also asked why can't we just leave the piers there and forego the use of the subaqueous blasting. But because of the need to ensure structural safety of the new construction, that can't happen. And so MDTA and DNR are really adhering to time of year restrictions, patrolling the area beforehand for fish deterrents, and having on site independent environmental monitoring that will minimize the impacts and protect our wildlife, which is of course essential to the economic health of the Bay and the State. So I appreciate the work that is being done on that, and thank you for the answers to all the questions and to the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. Thank you.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Okay. Thank you so much. Is there any further, any further discussion on the Secretary's Agenda?

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: No.

GOVERNOR MOORE: May I have a motion to approve the Agenda?

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: So moved.

GOVERNOR MOORE: And is there a second?

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TREASURER DAVIS: Second.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Outstanding. Thank you so much. We'll proceed with DNR. Secretary Kurtz, speaking of CBF and the good work they are doing, good to see you, Mr. Secretary.

MR. KURTZ: Good morning. Good morning, sir. Good morning, Mr. Treasurer, Madam Comptroller. For the record, my name is Josh Kurtz. I am the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources. The department has ten items for your consideration today. My staff is here to answer any questions you may have.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Wonderful. Thank you. I would actually like to take a moment to highlight Item 2A, and that directs more than \$1.4 million from Program Open Space Local Share and also the Local Parks and Playgrounds Infrastructure Program and putting the funds towards Frederick County and supporting improvements in three outstanding parks: the Ballenger Creek Park, the Remsburg Park, and the Lucas Village Park. This funding is important and it's going to go towards providing site improvements and amenities to these parks. And we are incredibly excited to be able to advance this funding here today and the impact that it's going to make on the communities.

We're also excited to be joined virtually by Ms. Victoria Venable, who is the Director of Government Relations and Strategic Partnerships for County Executive Jessica Fitzwater. Is Ms. Venable -- is she pulled up?

SECRETARY GONTRUM: Ms. Venable, can you hear us?

MS. VENABLE: Yes, can you hear me?

GOVERNOR MOORE: Good morning. We hear you great.

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MS. VENABLE: Good morning. Thank you so much for having me here today, and I'm very excited as well about these projects. Thank you for the opportunity to speak briefly on behalf of the County Executive.

Program Open Space is incredibly important to Frederick County. As you mentioned, I am the Director of Government Affairs and Strategic Partnerships. And one of the key partnerships that we have here in Frederick County are with our 12 municipalities. You'll see two of these projects are within our two wonderful municipalities here in Frederick County. We work very closely with our municipalities on Program Open Space projects.

The funding for the Remsburg Park in the Town of Middletown will help us install water lines. They will be working on installing water fountains and field irrigation systems, and then of course bathroom facilities at an 88-acre park in the Middletown Valley. And I have to say, if you want to see some fall colors, I highly recommend coming out to the Middletown Valley. It's a beautiful place, particularly at this time of year.

And then I want to also highlight the Ballenger Creek Park rehabilitation project. This includes preservation of a historic building called the Wildrick House. And it was built in the mid-1700s and it's actually praised as one of the best examples of Federal Period trim work and interior design in the entire country. It's on the National Register of Historic Spaces and Places and it's one of our gems here in Frederick County. The Ballenger Creek Park is one of our most visited parks in Frederick County and it serves not only our Frederick City residents, being only two miles outside of city limits, but also our county residents. We're going to be addressing some of our ADA and restroom needs in

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this park. So it's incredibly important that we are moving forward with some accessibility needs here for county and city residents.

So we're extremely excited about the future of this project and appreciative of the support from the State. So thank you so much.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Thank you, Ms. Venable. You should be excited, and as are we. And we are thankful for your leadership. Please tell the County Executive also that we said hello. And I look forward to seeing you next week.

MS. VENABLE: Awesome. We look forward to it as well. Take care.

GOVERNOR MOORE: And I want to thank you also for highlighting that Maryland does have the best foliage in the entire country.

(Laughter.)

MR. KURTZ: What a plug for the DNR fall foliage report --

(Laughter.)

GOVERNOR MOORE: Here we go, right on cue. Right on cue.

MS. VENABLE: We are beautiful out here at this time of year.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Yes, you are. Yes, you are. Thank you.

Is there any further discussion on the DNR Agenda?

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: No.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Okay. May I have a motion to approve?

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Motion to approve the DNR Agenda.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Is there a second?

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TREASURER DAVIS: Second.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Outstanding. Thank you so much, Mr. Secretary. Next up, University System of Maryland. Mr. Hickey, good morning. Good to see you.

MR. HICKEY: Nice to see you. Good morning, Mr. Treasurer and Madam Comptroller. Tom Hickey representing the University System of Maryland. There are two items for your consideration this morning and I am happy to answer any questions.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Wonderful. Is there any discussion on the USM Agenda?

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: No.

GOVERNOR MOORE: May I have a motion to approve?

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Motion to approve.

GOVERNOR MOORE: And is there a second?

TREASURER DAVIS: Second.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Outstanding. Thank you so much, Mr. Hickey. Good to see you.

MR. HICKEY: Thank you.

GOVERNOR MOORE: And we will proceed with MDOT. Ms. Radomsky, good morning. Good to see you.

MS. RADOMSKY: Good morning, Governor, great to see you. Good morning, Madam Comptroller and Mr. Treasurer. For the record, my name is Valerie Radomsky, Chief Procurement Officer for the Maryland Department of Transportation. Today we are presenting 22 Agenda items for your consideration.

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MDOT is seeking approval of six contract actions equaling \$7.2 million that are awarded to certified minority, small, or dually certified businesses. We have representatives available to answer any questions you may have.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Wonderful. Thank you so much. Any comments on the MDOT Agenda?

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Yes, could I just talk about some of the SHA items?

GOVERNOR MOORE: Absolutely.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Thank you, Ms. Radomsky. I just wanted to go over a couple of comments on MDOT maintenance Items 16 to 20. We, you know, I've spoken sort of on similar contracts from SHA before due to my concern about the relatively low MBE percentages. And over the past few months, I know my team and I, and we have talked very frequently with SHA and with you, thank you, Ms. Radomsky. You have done, you know, a great job in adding additional detail to the Agenda items to explain why subcontracting opportunities are limited on these types of contracts and I wanted to see if you could explain a little bit of that today.

MS. RADOMSKY : Sure. We actually have the Administrator --

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Great.

MS. RADOMSKY : -- Will Pines here with us. We have dug into this.

MR. PINES: Thanks, Valerie. Well, good morning, Governor, Madam Comptroller, Mr. Treasurer. Thank you for your questions. As was mentioned, I'm Will Pines, Administrator for Maryland State Highway

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Administration. And some background information: at SHA we have a procurement review group, or what is referred to as a PRG. This team evaluates each contract for opportunity and establishes the goals in accordance with the BPW advisory.

The PRG evaluates opportunities based on several factors. These include availability of firms; scope of work, including the specialty nature and any limitations on the specific scope for those contracts; the compliance history on similar contracts; and also bidding history. So that's things like did we get no bids on certain projects, which I will talk a little bit about because that has been an issue for maintenance contracts.

Related to your question, Items 17-M through 20-M are maintenance contracts for mowing, trimming, and litter. These contracts have had a number of successes, but also some challenges. On the successes, under State Procurement Law, the SBR program directs participating agencies to spend at least 15 percent of its fiscal year procurement expenditures on qualified small businesses. And so once a solicitation has been designated as an SBR, an award can only be made to those certified firms.

These four contracts were designated SBR to help us meet that statewide goal. And I'm happy to report that in FY '23 we did exceed the 15 percent goal that the State has for SBR contracts in terms of payments. And a lot of that is based on these types of maintenance contracts.

Additionally, you'll note that the contracts 16-M and 20-M have MBEs that have been selected as primes. So 100 percent --

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: -- counted there, yes.

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MR. PINES: -- so that's a really good strategic approach there with those SBRs, that those forms really contribute 100 percent.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Yes.

MR. PINES: Many MBEs are also small businesses. So we have a good track record, where nearly 50 percent of our SBR contracts are bid by MBEs as primes. So you know, our contract history is really good on that.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: So even though there is not subbing opportunities, we're meeting that because the actual general contractor, the prime, is an MBE and a small business at the same time, correct?

MR. PINES: Exactly.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Okay.

MR. PINES: Related to the MBE programs on SBRs, we have had a number of challenges with these mowing, trimming, and litter contracts. For example, you'll note that the contracts, there is no requirement for a payment bond listed on the Agenda. And that's, we found that to be an important element to make sure that these have a competitive bidding environment for those SBR designations. However, it is problematic to have no bonding requirements. While it encourages bidding, MBE firms, we want to make sure that they get paid when they do the work and not having a payment bond can create real challenges there.

So bonding is not included, but -- it helps us get more bids. But we really want to focus expanding our outreach with MBE companies to help get more of them to bid these types of projects to do even better on our overall statewide goal. And so we have had a number of outreach events that we have

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participated in to try to boost that further, including the Governor's Elevate and Engage Initiative, GOSBMWBA's Ready, Set, Grow Event, the annual MBE Summit, and the Maryland-Washington Minority Companies Association. This is really important because we have had a number of challenges with getting competition on these projects. Out of the 55 maintenance contracts that we have had bid openings on up through October, four of those solicitations had no bids and ten had a single bid. So there has just generally been not a lot of competition.

So we're working hard to have outreach out to get more MBEs to bid. There is somewhat limited scope here, and that is really considered a lot when they do the PRG evaluations. So with that, thank you for the opportunity to speak on this and I'm happy to take any further questions.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Sure. Thanks for clarifying that, and I think especially thank you for doing the outreach. You know, it is encouraging to see that there are two of the contracts. But you know, I understand that there really isn't subcontractable work as part of this and that's why there is the limitation. So just, you know, please continue to outreach. I'm sure -- I'll volunteer the Treasurer -- I also, you know, we're happy to help in any way to make sure that we can get the word out. And it's certainly also great to see that these are designated Small Business Reserve so that these are going to small businesses to help create, you know, grow our small businesses around the State as well. Thanks.

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GOVERNOR MOORE: And thank you, Madam Comptroller.

And you know, and I just want to once again say thank you to the team as well. You know, as you all know, you know, we share both the Comptroller's and the Treasurer's commitment to getting this right and to being very intentional and deliberate about it. And you know, and knowing that that is going to be a benchmark of our success, is you know, are we able to make a marked and a measurable difference in short order, and a long lasting impact on the idea of actually creating equitable growth in the way that we do our work. And also, I just want to thank you, Comptroller, and also echo her points. It's both about how are we thinking about contract allocation, while simultaneously continuing to be intentional about strengthening the pipeline.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Yes.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Going out for the outreach. Because that has actually been one of the bigger challenges that we have had for individuals, is for a lot of our, you know, small businesses and MBEs and veteran owned businesses, women owned businesses, is to know how exactly to get involved in the process, how to actually get inside the pipeline for procurement. And the intentionality about doing that outreach, it matters, it's meaningful. And it's working. So I just want to say thank you for the work that's being done, for the progress that is being made. We have a lot further to go and we're going to keep on doing it. So to the entire team, Ms. Radomsky, thank you. And also, by the way, thank you to Secretary Wiedefeld and the Assistant Secretary of Transportation Equity and Engagement Tony Bridges as well for the great work in pushing on this. I know you are all committed to it and we're grateful. So --

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: I --

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MR. PINES: Absolutely. Thank you. And I'm happy to travel if there are any other events that we've missed. We get around. So let us know and we're happy to attend, so --

GOVERNOR MOORE: Absolutely.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Yes.

TREASURER DAVIS: I actually have a non-MBE question. It's on Item 19-M. I think it's page 78 in the notebooks. It's regarding the State Highway, the roadside mowing, trimming, litter pickup in Prince George's County. I was looking at the bids. The incumbent bid was nearly double the, you know, the one who actually awarded it. And even the one who had, you know, the second lowest bid was like 33 percent higher. I guess I'm asking and quite frankly my concern is, is there any chance that they could have low-balled the bid just to get it and we may have a problem later? I know roadside grass cutting and so forth is a bid deal in the county, you know, all of that. And so I know they are going to be called upon a lot to, you know, to maintain those medians and so forth. And it's just, it just sort of strikes me as odd that the incumbent bidder would be that far off, I mean, literally double. And even the next lowest bidder would be 33 percent off. And so it just sort of begs the question, do we think they could have low balled it? And don't get me wrong, I'm all for low bid and us saving money. But not at the expense of someone just trying to get the contract and then we hear back later, you know, maybe they are not doing it as frequently and so forth because it's not financially beneficial to keep coming out and regularly maintaining the medians and so forth in that area, you know, for the money that they are getting. So yes, the question is, do we think or is it even our concern that this was a legitimate bid and legitimate meaning they will be able to

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do it to the satisfaction of the community?

MR. PINES: Absolutely. We do evaluate that. Especially, I mean, this is a good case where we actually got four bids. That has not been the case on most of these maintenance contracts. The pricing fluctuates quite a bit depending on how far the bidders have to travel to cover the region. We have certain specific equipment requirements that we specify to limit debris getting tossed in the roadway. These aren't your mowers that you have at your house. They are a little more specialty. So they may have to rent some equipment. You know, it can be a matter of how efficient the equipment is that they own. So we do look at those kinds of factors and bidding history to see if this vendor has worked for us before and the likelihood of success. And so the team looks at that and makes sure that we feel comfortable that we can move forward with the bidder. That's not to say we've never had contracts that end up having challenges when they get into the actual work. But I think we feel good here to move forward with this bid.

TREASURER DAVIS: Yes, that was the other thing, was distance. Owings Mills from this location is like an hour and 15 minutes. Forestville is 20 minutes, 15 minutes. Silver Spring is like 30 or 35, and I'm not sure how far White Plains is. But if you guys are comfortable, that's good enough. It just stood out that the bids were so starkly different in terms of from the highest to the lowest.

MR. PINES: It could be everything from they are busy, so if they get it at the right price they will do the work, if not they don't want to. So that can justify some of the higher pricing. We see a lot of different reasons for different pricing.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: -- I'm sorry, I know we're all very

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interested in mowing. How can you -- this is by area within the county, you don't do the whole county at a time. And I was wondering if you had a schedule that you could share with us at some point for how you divide up the county. So, you know, for 20 it's at various locations in Howard County. So it's not specified. But here in Prince George's County it's for the Marlboro Shop area. But since you cover the whole county, I'm just curious, you divide up the county into different areas, and then you have a different contract for each area. Is that on a set schedule, since this is a one-year, seven-month, and one-day contract? If you could sort of share how you divide up the counties, and what the schedule is at some point, it would just be helpful. Because it would let us know when different -- and also, I mean, actually it would be helpful publicly, too. Because then it would be more clear to small businesses what the schedule was for when they could expect a new contract to come out in which areas. And that might help, you know, going out to small businesses, going out to MBEs, to let them know, hey, this contract is going to be up soon and here is where they are going to be. So I was just curious if you could share that with us at some point.

MR. PINES: Sure. I think I know most of the answer now. But typically between our State forces that do mowing and the contracted forces, we try to hit areas on a four- to six-week schedule. That's weather dependent, if we have to work around other construction operations. So if you can't get to a certain area because there is a lane closure that is blocking the area or what not, we will make adjustments. So it's hard to say this specific point is going to get mowed at a certain time frame. But we do try to target that four- to six-week time frame for overall through the areas.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Sorry, and I didn't actually mean

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when you were going to be mowing. I meant when the contract term was. So it's like we know that the Marlboro shop area has a one-year, seven-month, one-day contract from 11/30 to 6/30/2025. We know that that area is going to be up again in 2025, or early 2025, you'll probably do an RFP. So and I don't know which area you do with State employees versus contracted out or how transparent that is. I don't know. This is something that actually comes up a lot with constituents. People really care about mowing and litter on the roads, and so it's something that is very visible to Marylanders. And so it's I'm sure of interest to people to understand how this works and to make sure they know who to contact and, you know, who to blame, who to thank when things are going right or wrong.

MR. PINES: We, annually we submit the planned upcoming procurement schedule to GOSBMWBA to look --

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Okay.

MR. PINES: -- opportunities. I will go back and make sure we work with the team to make sure the mowing contracts are included on that schedule, if they are not already.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Okay. Thank you.

MR. PINES: Thank you.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Are there any further comments or questions? May I have a motion to approve the Agenda?

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: So moved.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Is there a second?

TREASURER DAVIS: Second.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Great.

MS. RADOMSKY : Thank you.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Thanks, Ms. Radomsky. Thank you. We will conclude with the DGS Agenda. Secretary Chaudhry, good morning.

MR. CHAUDHRY: Good morning, sir. Good morning, Mr. Governor, Madam Comptroller, Mr. Treasurer.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: -- contracts about mowing at all?

(Laughter.)

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: -- one area not covered by DGS.

MR. CHAUDHRY: We do mowing at all our State facilities.

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: There you go, they do mowing, too.

MR. CHAUDHRY: -- involved in the mowing business. Yes. For the record, I am Atif Chaudhry, Secretary of the Maryland Department of General Services. Today the department is presenting 26 items on our Agenda. We are including \$2.2 million in capital grants and loans. I just wanted to highlight two very quickly.

Item 8-CGL, which provides \$250,000 in State support to Wide Angle Youth Media to support its first ever state of the art community center, learning lab, and production studio space. This new center will build out over 9,000 square feet of space, production studio, flexible meeting and classroom space, and two state of the art media labs. This program enables youth ages 10 to 24 from historically under-invested neighborhoods to gain access to both civic engagement and wider artistic educational and career opportunities to assist with production of various media projects through media arts education and training.

I also wanted to highlight Item 10-CGL, which provides \$100,000 to the Middle River Volunteer Fire Company for much needed repairs, for a new



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roof, boiler repairs, repairs to bathrooms, and some other ADA upgrades.

As we continue to keep an eye on our minority business participation in our contracts and our Agenda, today we have five contracts with certified MBE primes totaling over \$9 million in contracts. We have agency representatives here to answer any questions you may have.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Great Agenda. Are there any questions?

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: No.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Okay. May I have a motion to approve the Agenda?

COMPTROLLER LIERMAN: Motion to approve the DGS Agenda.

GOVERNOR MOORE: And is there a second?

TREASURER DAVIS: Second.

GOVERNOR MOORE: Outstanding. Thanks, Mr. Secretary. Well done. This concludes today's meeting of the Board of Public Works. Our next meeting will be November 29th. And since I will not get a chance to see everybody before Thanksgiving, I just want to wish you and all your families and wonderful and a joyous holiday. So thanks again and we are adjourned.

(Whereupon, at 10:35 a.m., the meeting was concluded.)