



BROOKE'S BPW BRIEF

Breaking down the Board of Public Works

Meeting Date
November 20, 2024

Summary Figures

The BPW approved 94 items, representing a total State expenditure of \$290.9 million, including:

- 11 items awarding \$12 million to prime certified small businesses.
- 9 items awarding \$8.7 million to certified Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) primes.
- 9 items awarded with established participation goals for MBEs.
- 2 items awarded with a goal for Veteran-owned Small Businesses.
- 2 item awarding \$3.2 million to an Employment Works Providers

WOMEN & CHILDREN'S CENTER

The BPW approved \$500,000 in capital grant funding to Helping Up Mission for the construction of a 145,000 sq. ft long-term residential recovery program facility to support up to 260 women and children in Baltimore City. The facility will include recovery program areas, a commercial kitchen, a primary health care clinic, space for education and workforce activities, a day care, and administrative offices.

WETLANDS LICENSE FOR U.S. WIND FACILITY

The Board approved a recommendation from the **BPW Wetlands Administrator to grant a State Tidal Wetlands license to U.S. Wind, Inc.** for a project to construct a 353 by 30-foot concrete pier and 383 linear feet of replacement steel bulkhead as part of a proposed operation and maintenance (O&M) facility for the company on the Sinepuxent Bay in Worcester County. The **legal standard** provided in State wetland regulations state that the Board shall "take into account (a) the varying ecological, economic, developmental, recreational, and aesthetic value that the project presents; and (b) the State's public policy to preserve wetlands and prevent their despoliation and destruction." (COMAR 23.02.04.09). The Wetlands Administrator determined that in evaluating this project for a wetlands license, only the immediate impacts of the proposed bulkhead replacement and pier construction should be considered; not future planned work by U.S. Wind associated with the O&M facility. The execution of project work under this license is contingent on the license receiving all other State and local approvals and permits.

UNCLAIMED PROPERTY AUDIT SERVICES

The BPW approved a request from the Comptroller of Maryland to award Audit Services U.S. (New York, NY), Kroll Government Solutions (New York, NY), EECS (Westport, CT), Specialty Audit Services (Narberth, PA), Treasury Services Group (York, PA), Kelmer Associates (Wakefield, MA), Discovery Audit Services (Baton Rouge, LA), and Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath (Wilmington, DE) a contract to provide audit services for unclaimed property. The 5-year contract was awarded at a cost of \$3.7 million. It is expected to be revenue generating for the State. The contractors will assist the Comptroller's Office in identifying and conducting compliance audits of current holders and conducting audits of potential holders of unclaimed property, particularly those outside the State of Maryland.