MINUTESA FOR 13 JANUARY 2015 CIC MEETING

I.   Follow-up and New Discussion Items

A. Follow-up: The Small Business Administration (SBA) has issued new rules on efforts being performed under a multiple award contract (MAC), including an IDIQ, a GSA Schedule Contract, a GWAC, or a multiple award task or delivery order contracts.

   1. **Question:** Has this SSC LANT SBO had an opportunity to follow-up on this item with SPAWAR HQ SBO? If so, has any additional guidance been provided?

   2. **Response:** Nothing has been published in Federal Registry or FAR. There is a FAR case out for review (Robin Rourk briefed at Feb 2015 SBIOI). SPAWAR cannot update its contracting process(es) until rules have been published in FAR / DFAR.

B. Use of MAC IDIQ CPAR / Past Performance Citations on RFP responses.

   1. During the December 2014 CIC meeting there was discussion on what step(s) a company should take when citing a MAC IDIQ contract on an RFP response when Task Orders on the contract being cited do not have a CPARs submission requirement. SSC LANT responded that Past Performance Questionnaires should be submitted. Steve Harnig took for action to discuss this with the Pre-Awards Contracts group to ensure going forward on *future* contracts that the proper language regarding the use of Past Performance Questionnaires on non-CPARs reported Task Orders is included.

      a. **Question:** Has this been briefed and or steps taken to update RFP templates to ensure the proper language is included?

      b. **Response:**

         i.   CPARs are now required on Task Orders (TO) with a total value greater than $1.0M . SSC LANT is looking into how many TOs fall below the $1.0M total value threshold and lack CPAR reporting. SSC LANT feels that with the growing value of future TOs this problem will go away and requires no further action other than language in process of being added to RFP template that permits customer Questionnaires when CPARs are not available.
         ii. When using an IDIQ contract reference with multiple TOs with CPARs, list all applicable TOs when referencing your experience for the Government to evaluate based on the PWs Subfactors / elements. The Government will then average the scoring of the CPARs across the TOs you referenced.

C. Task Order Process / RFP Template Language–

   1. Task Orders requiring Cyber Security Work Force (CSWF) positions are not identifying IA Baseline and OS/CE certification requirements as required by DOD 8570.1-M Paragraph C1.4.4.5. which states, " Identify all IA function requirements to be performed by contractors in their statement of work/contract…" nor are they identifying what labor categories require CSWF certifications.   This adversely effects the way industry bids since they are unable to price proposals correctly based on the IA certifications required.

a. **Question:** Has SSC LANT contracts had an opportunity to review this issue since the December 2014 meeting? If so, when might industry expect to see changes in those RFPs that require CSWF positions?

b. **Response:** SSC LANT is working this issue. RFP template is being updated to include CSWF position requirements. Contracts is working with Code 5.8 to get the correct language.

2. During the October 2014 CIC meeting discussion on the use of actual IGEs on RFP solicitations and the concerns this leads LPTA price shootouts SSC LANT responded that they, "Will fix the IGE issue in FY15 and will issue standard criteria for LPTA vs Best Value."

a. **Question:** Has SSC LANT contracts had an opportunity to do an in depth review of this issue since the October 2014 meeting? If so, when might industry expect to see a standardized criteria for LPTA vs Best Value in RFPs?

b. **Response:** Steve Harnig has FORAC to work initiative to fine tune evaluation criteria. SSC LANT has in-house training underway for key members of Contracts staff who work LPTA/Best Value issues in developing Contract and Task Order RFPs.

D. Advanced Notifications, Market Surveys, etc. on Seaport-O

1. During the October 2014 CIC meeting discussion on Advanced Notifications, Market Surveys, etc. on Seaport-O SSC LANT responded that, "… executing a process improvement initiative that is focused on reducing waiting time of market surveys by standardizing advanced notification format and content, and processing for Market Surveys and Advanced Notifications. Expected completion is end 2nd Qtr FY15."

a. **Question:** How is this initiative progressing and will it be completed by end 2nd Qtr FY15 as previously stated?

b. **Response:** The SPAWAR MAC Working Group is working on standardization across the command on what information will be provided. SSC LANT is awaiting the WG's final report before updating to a standardized advanced notification format, etc.

E. Forecasting

1. During the October 2014 CIC meeting discussions on forecasting SSC LANT responded, "The outputs of the PPSMs will provide the input to be shared by SSC LANT with industry concerning TO forecasting (posted on e-Commerce). SSC LANT will provide an update to the inaugural – Jul 2014 – 6 month Forward Looking Task Order Forecast prior to the Nov 2014 SBIOI. SSC LANT is planning by end 2nd Qtr FY15 to provide a monthly update to the 6 Month Forward Looking Task Order Forecast."

a. **Questions:**

i. What is the status on SSC LANT's plan to provide monthly updates to the *6 Month Forward Looking Task Order Forecast* by 2nd Qtr FY15 coming along?

ii. Will the *6 Month Forward Looking Task Order Forecast* actually consist of three parts – (a) *Seaport-O Advanced Notification*, (b) *Advanced Notification Work in*

> *Progress (WIP)*, and (c) *Advanced Notification PPSM*, or is it considered a separate Forecast?

     iii.   For the foreseeable future – say through FY15 - can CIC Industry team be notified when forecast updates are release so we can inform our respective memberships. This should allow companies to ensure they are registered to receive automatic notification when updates are released?

     iv.   **Response:** SSC LANT published updated Project Procurement Strategy Meeting (PPSM) report on 05 Feb 2015.

F. 50% Rule for Set Aside Contracts

    1. Section 1651 of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), P.L. 112-239 amended the criteria for complying with the 50% rule for set aside contracts (see attached)

       a. **Question:** When can industry expect to see these changes, specifically that section as it regards Small Businesses subcontracting to other Small Businesses in the same socio-economic category, be implemented in SSC LANT's contracting strategy?

       b. **Response:** There is Federal Registry Notice with Small Business Administration rule change out for comment. (Robin Rourk briefed at 06 Feb 2015 SBIOI).

G. Additional Topic –

    1. **Question:** What is SSC LANT's current view and receptivity to Prime Contractors on the same Pillar contract teaming in response to a specific Task Order RFP as this is sometimes an attractive option for industry and SSC LANT in those cases where the efforts on several existing Task Orders are consolidated into a new, larger Task Order to be released on a specific Pillar?

    2. **Response:** While there are no FAR nor contract restrictions that prevent / forbid this type of teaming, SSC LANT discourages it due to the additional workload required by the Source Selection Evaluation Board (SSEB) and Contracts in validating capabilities, qualifications, and financials for the new bidding team. SSC LANT is also concerned about the appearance of both industry collusion and the possible reduction in competition. SSC LANT Contracts did acknowledge there might be specific circumstances in which Pillar Prime Contractor teaming on a specific Task Order might be advantageous to the government. Justification would have to be given provided, and SSC LANT would have to weigh considerations about competition vs. solution for the government's best interest.

II. SBIOI Related Standing Action Items:

A. CIC Industry Representatives have standing action to provide prospective SBIOI Agenda Items for discussion at CIC meetings per William Paggi's request at the April 2014 CIC Meeting.

B. It was reiterated at the April 2014 CIC Meeting that there would be no indiscriminant 'walking the halls' and the main NON-Task Order related communications with the government will be at SBIOIs. William Paggi took as a standing action to get a representative from each Portfolio / Competency to attend SBIOIs.