



**Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board**  
**1717 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 700**  
**Washington DC 20006-4614**

**March 16, 2012 Minutes**

A meeting of the Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board was held in Washington, D.C. on Friday, March 16, 2012, at 1:30 p.m. and continued until 2:40 p.m.

**ATTENDEES**

**Board Members:**

Kathleen S. Tighe, Chair, Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board  
Gregory Friedman, Inspector General, U.S. Department of Energy  
Phyllis K. Fong, Inspector General, U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Russell George, Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration  
Calvin L. Scovel, III, Inspector General, U.S. Department of Transportation  
Eric M. Thorson, Inspector General, U.S. Department of the Treasury  
Todd J. Zinser, Inspector General, U.S. Department of Commerce  
Charles Edwards, Acting Inspector General, U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
Lynne M. Halbrooks, Acting Inspector General, U.S. Department of Defense  
Mary Kendall, Acting Inspector General, U.S. Department of the Interior  
Cynthia Schnedar, Acting Inspector General, U.S. Department of Justice

**Non Proxy Attendee:**

Gloria Jarmon, Deputy Inspector General for Audit, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

**Board Staff:**

Michael Wood, Executive Director  
Carrie Hug, Director, Accountability  
Ed Pound, Director, Communications  
Atticus Reaser, General Counsel  
Cynthia Williams, Board Secretary

**DISCUSSION**

Ms. Tighe called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. and provided an overview of the agenda. She informed the members that an abbreviated demonstration of Recovery Operations Center (ROC) capabilities was scheduled for the latter part of meeting. By unanimous vote of the Board members present, the February 10, 2012 minutes were approved.

Ms. Kendall, Chair of the Recovery Funds Working Group (RFGW) Committee, provided the members with an update on the Grant Fraud Guide (Guide) and the Lessons Learned Review. She informed the members that due to the science-grant specific nature of the Guide, the RFGW Committee and the National Science Foundation (NSF) OIG determined that the Guide should be issued as an NSF OIG work product. The Guide is scheduled to be issued by NSF OIG shortly and will be made available to IGs as a resource guide. Ms. Kendall reported that the Lessons Learned Review project had its official kickoff on March 13, 2012. Fifteen IGs committed to participate and one IG is expected to render a final decision shortly. She noted that the project is proceeding as anticipated and is on schedule.

Mr. George, Chair of the Recovery.gov Committee, updated the members on several Committee activities. These included the latest statistics on IG reports published on Recovery.gov and featured stories. There was a question regarding the count of IG reports. Mr. Wood commented that the list included in the meeting materials may not include reports in the queue.

Mr. Wood also discussed the upcoming recipient reporting cycle. He noted that the schedule of activities remains consistent with previous cycles. The FederalReporting.gov system will be open from April 1 -14 for recipient reporting and the data will be published on Recovery.gov on April 30. There was a brief discussion regarding the contracting obligations for FederalReporting.gov and Recovery.gov. Mr. Wood informed the members that the current contracts provide support for Recovery.gov through the life of the Recovery Board.

The members then engaged in a brief follow-up discussion on the analysis of agency obligated and unobligated ARRA funds. Mr. Wood reported that members of the Board's staff have met with personnel from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) on the issue. A discussion with staff from the Government Accountability Office is also planned. Ms. Tighe commented that the Department of Education Office of Inspector General is conducting reviews to determine the status of ARRA funding at the state level.

Mr. Edwards, Chair of the Accountability Committee, provided an update on the ROC surveys and the ROC Review. He informed the members that meetings occurred with representatives from 24 of the 29 OIGs with ARRA oversight responsibility. He noted that the feedback has been positive and that most IGs consider the ROC services beneficial. Meetings with representatives from the remaining OIGs are scheduled for the coming weeks. Mr. Edwards reported that the ROC Review is being modified. The Committee anticipates completion in the April-May time frame. Ms. Hug informed the members of a proposal for a Board sponsored symposium focusing on existing data and methods for sharing data across federal agencies.

Ms. Tighe provided the members with the status of the Board's amended Systems of Record Notices (SORNs) for FederalAccountability.gov and oversight support. Ms. Tighe discussed the recent reorganization of the Accountability Section. A copy of the revised organization chart was provided in the meeting material for the Board's review.

There was a detailed discussion of the OMB proposal to explore combining, in some fashion, the Board's FastAlert and Treasury/OMB's GoVerify initiatives. The members discussed the pros and cons of several approaches. Most members agreed that the final decision should consider all short-term and long-term strategic goals. Ms. Tighe agreed to draft a response to OMB Controller/Deputy Director of Management, Danny Werfel, outlining the Board's position. The draft will be circulated to the members for review and comment prior to dissemination.

The members exited the conference room at 2:20 p.m. and proceeded to the Recovery Operations Center for the ROC demonstration. The ROC demonstration concluded at 2:40 p.m.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 13, 2012.

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**Cynthia Williams**  
**Secretary**