



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

**September 10, 2010 Minutes**

A meeting of the Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board was held in Washington, D.C. on Friday, September 10, 2010, at 1:30 p.m. and continued until 2:15 p.m.

**ATTENDEES**

**Board Members:**

Earl E. Devaney, Chairman, Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board  
Richard Skinner, Inspector General, U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
Todd Zinser, Inspector General, U.S. Department of Commerce  
Kathleen S. Tighe, Inspector General, U.S. Department of Education  
Calvin L. Scovel III, Inspector General, U.S. Department of Transportation  
Eric M. Thorson, Inspector General, U.S. Department of the Treasury  
J. Russell George, Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration  
Mary Kendall, Acting Inspector General, U.S. Department of the Interior

**Proxy Attendee (Non-Voting):**

Robert Young, Special Assistant to the IG for the Recovery Act, U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Lynne Halbrooks, Principal Deputy, U.S. Department of Defense  
Herbert Richardson, Principal Deputy Inspector General, U.S. Department of Energy  
Paul Johnson, Assistant Inspector General, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Cynthia Schnedar, Deputy Inspector General, U.S. Department of Justice

**OIG Staff:**

Gary Cantrell, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Keith West, U.S. Department of Education

**Board Staff:**

Glen Walker, Executive Director  
Ed Pound, Director, Communications  
Michael Wood, Director, Recovery.gov  
John Higgins, Director, Accountability  
Jennifer Dure, General Counsel  
Douglas Hassebrock, Assistant Director, Investigations  
Cynthia Williams, Board Secretary

**DISCUSSION**

Mr. Devaney called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. By unanimous vote of Board members present the August 13, 2010 minutes were approved.

Mr. George, Chair, Recovery.gov Committee, reported that the Committee met via teleconference prior to the Board meeting to discuss the latest developments and key Recovery.gov issues. Mr. George noted that the information relayed a good news story, with upgrades scheduled for release and increases in IG and Agency reports on the site. Mr. Wood

commented on the three categories of non-compliers data posted on Recovery.gov. Mr. Wood also briefed the members on the planned redesign of the home page of Recovery.gov and the new features planned for the website. Mr. Devaney commented on the project underway to build the architecture for the website to track the \$10 billion in federal funds allocated for the Department of Education Jobs Fund. Mr. Devaney informed the members of the dialogue with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to release the domain name, Transparency.gov, currently owned by the General Services Administration (GSA).

Mr. Scovel, Chair, Recovery Funds Working Group Committee, advised the Board of the completion of the IG-led Board Review of Recipient Efforts to Report Reliable and Transparent Information. A comprehensive overview of the draft report, which was forwarded to the members in advance of the meeting, was presented by Keith West, Assistant Inspector General for Audit, Department of Education. Ms. Tighe commented that recent OMB guidance addresses two of the issues identified in the report's recommendations but only partially addresses two additional issues. Mr. Devaney commented on the recommendation that the Board consider conducting a comprehensive review of recipient reported information on the number of jobs using statistical sampling methods. Mr. Devaney requested that the Recovery Funds Working Group Committee lead the effort to provide options for implementation of a follow-up review and present them at the next Board meeting. Mr. Scovel presented the motion to submit the final report to the Board for publishing on Recovery.gov. The motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Skinner, Chair, Accountability Committee, provided the members with an Accountability Committee Update. Mr. Skinner reminded the members of the decision to pursue use of a new analytical tool. Mr. Hassebrock presented an overview of the August 31, 2010, CMS Fraud Pilot Exit Briefing, noting that the summary findings supported the use of the ROC Analysis Instrument as a value-added tool in the identification of risk patterns using open source documents. Mr. Hassebrock commented that the data generated by the ROC analysts had been forwarded to the HHS-OIG and that the next steps would be determined by Dr. Peter Budetti, CMS' Deputy Administrator for Program Integrity. Mr. Devaney added that the Board has a responsibility for guarding approximately \$100 billion in Recovery funds allocated to the Medicaid program and that the Board needs to determine the best oversight approach.

Mr. Devaney and the members discussed pro-active investigations and audits. Mr. Walker reported that the next public meeting of the Recovery Independent Advisory Panel is scheduled for November 22, 2010, in Phoenix, Arizona. Mr. Devaney thanked the members who attended the Panel meeting in Boston and encouraged participation in the upcoming meeting. Mr. Devaney provided an update on the upcoming national fraud conference in Philadelphia and reminded members of the importance of their staff's attendance at the conference.

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for October 8, 2010

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**Cynthia Williams**  
Secretary