

Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board

BUDGET REQUEST
Fiscal Year 2013



RECOVERY ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY BOARD

Fiscal Year 2013 Budget Request

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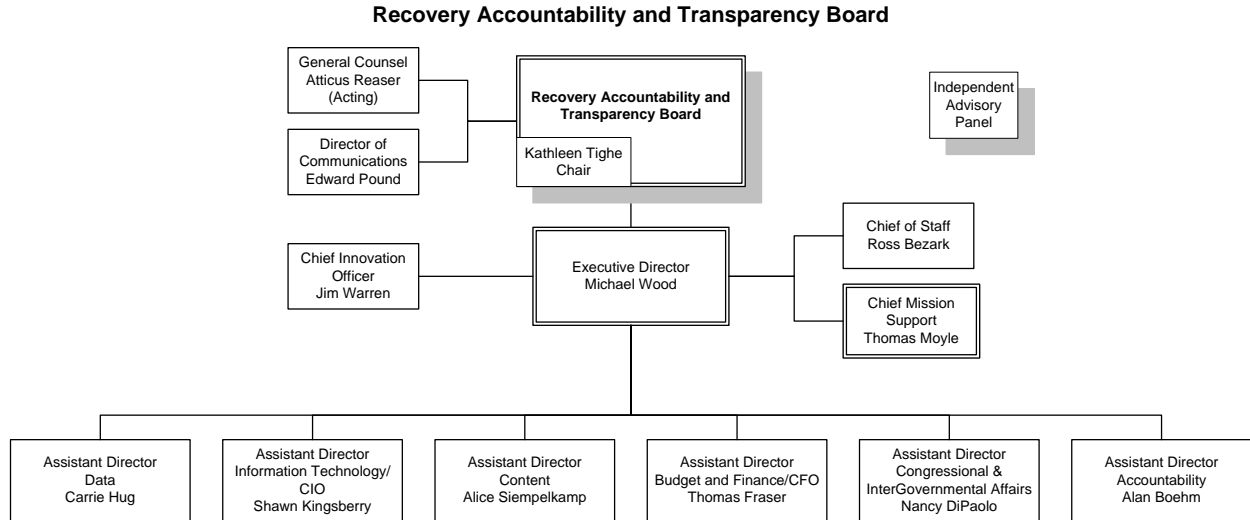
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RECOVERY ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY BOARD

ORGANIZATION CHART



RECOVERY ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY BOARD

GENERAL STATEMENT

The Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board (Board) was created by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act) to ensure accountability and transparency in the expenditure of Recovery funds and minimize fraud, waste and mismanagement.

To carry out its oversight role, the Board has been granted specific powers and functions under the Recovery Act. The Board can:

- Review Recovery Act spending either on its own or in collaboration with federal Inspectors General.
- Refer instances of fraud, waste, and mismanagement to federal Inspectors General.
- Make recommendations to federal agencies on measures to prevent fraud, waste, and mismanagement of Recovery Act funds.
- Publically display data about the use of Recovery Act funds.

The Board consists of a chair and 11 other Inspectors General. The Board receives spending reports from the 28 federal agencies that distribute Recovery monies and oversees the process in which recipients of Recovery Act funds submit reports on their spending. Working closely with the Inspector General community, the Board coordinates accountability efforts designed to guard against fraud, waste and mismanagement in Recovery Act spending.

The Board's accountability staff analyzes Recovery Act projects and refers potential problems or allegations to the federal Inspectors General who oversee Recovery Act spending for their respective agencies. The Board has implemented a series of contract review and accountability practices that provide a "value added" component to federal agencies by flagging certain high-risk projects or project areas that might warrant greater scrutiny. The Board also offers federal investigators detailed background information on the entities and principals receiving federal Recovery Act funds.

In addition to a state-of-the-art data analysis system, the Board operates a hotline that allows individuals around the country to call in with tips about possible fraud, waste or mismanagement in Recovery projects. Tips also can be submitted online, mailed or faxed to the Board. The Board takes all allegations seriously and refers any promising lead to the relevant agency's Inspector General to take whatever action is deemed appropriate.

The Board also collects information from recipients of Recovery Act money and posts that information on its public website, Recovery.gov. Recovery.gov was created by the Board with two specific missions: to provide unprecedented transparency about how Recovery funds are being used, and to increase accountability to guard against fraud, waste, and mismanagement.

Recovery.gov offers:

- The ability to see the recipients of Recovery Act money, how and where the money is being spent, and how many jobs were funded for the project. Recipients include state and local governments, businesses, non-profits, and others.
- The data displayed in easy-to-understand, user-friendly charts, graphs, and maps that allow users to see Recovery Act projects in their neighborhoods, zip codes, congressional districts and counties.
- Job-search tools in the Opportunities section that provides access to possible jobs.
- A Site Index and other resources to help navigate the website. The ability for the public to report fraud, waste, and abuse of Recovery funds through the online Complaint Form.
- An Advanced Data Search function that lets users find information on specific recipients, projects, or general types of Recovery Act projects under way around the country.
- The Developer Center with widgets, apps, and the Recovery.gov API for data users to create mashups using the Recovery data; and the Download Center with the National Cumulative File on all contract, grant, and loan awards for every recipient.
- Maps that compare Recovery Act spending programs to other needs factors, such as spending on Education to the Population over 25 Without a College Degree.
- Information on how to apply for a Recovery Act contract, grant or loan.
- Agency weekly Financial and Activity Reports and Recovery Act Plans.
- Inspectors General oversight activities of Recovery Act Tax Benefits; Contract, Grant, and Loan awards; and Entitlement programs.
- The Overview of Funding which breaks down Tax Benefits, Contracts, Grants, and Loans awards; and Entitlements, into categories, such as education, infrastructure and unemployment insurance, by program. The Recovery Explorer that allows users to customize charts and graphs based on a series of measurements and filters.
- Links to Recovery.gov Social Media, including the Recovery blog, Twitter, Facebook, and Flickr, where photos of Recovery projects are uploaded.
- Recovery projects and Inspectors General Reports featured on the Home Page..
- Recipient Profiles that provide detailed information on all prime and sub-recipients, including the relationship each recipient has to other recipients.

RECOVERY ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY BOARD

SUMMARY OF 2012 BUDGETARY CHANGES

Budget Authority	2009 - 2011 Enacted	2012 Request	2012 Actual	2013 Request	2013 Change from 2012
Discretionary (\$)	\$84,000,000	\$31,543,000	\$28,350,000	\$31,500,000	\$3,150,000
Total (\$)	\$84,000,000	\$31,543,000	\$28,350,000	\$31,500,000	\$3,150,000

The 2013 Budget Request for the Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board is \$31,500,000, a net change of \$3,150,000 from the funding for fiscal year 2012.

The Recovery Act requires recipients of contracts, grants, and loans to report quarterly on their use of the funds. Under guidance issued by the Office of Management and Budget, these reports must contain an extraordinary amount of data designed to facilitate accountability and transparency.

Recipients submit their reports on FederalReporting.gov, another website developed and overseen by the Board. To gain access to FederalReporting.gov, recipients need to have a DUNS number that is obtained from Dun and Bradstreet, and be registered in the federal Central Contracting Registration (CCR) database. Once recipient reports are filed, data from FederalReporting.gov is moved to Recovery.gov where it is available, just as it was filed by the recipient, for public review.

Federal agencies receiving Recovery Act funds also report on the distribution and implementation of those funds. In October 2009, recipients of Recovery Act funds began reporting on their use of the funds including the amount of money received, the amount of money spent, the scope of the project, and the number of jobs created.

The Board will be using the funding received for 2012 and requested in 2013 for its base program operations. This includes the following activities:

- Extensive data collection from reporting entities for compliance with Section 1512 of the Recovery Act
- Operation of FederalReporting.gov in compliance with Section 1526 of the Recovery Act. Recovery.gov is a state of the art and award winning website.
- Identification of fraud, waste and abuse by using reporting, advanced analytical tools and data analysts in the Recovery Operations Center.
- Federal accountability in coordination and conjunction with Inspectors General and other agencies.
- Providing support for Board and Board committees.
- Coordination with a wide array of governmental entities including the Government Accountability and Transparency Board, the Government Accountability Office, and State oversight entities.

- Assisting in carrying out the activities and implementing recommendations of the Government Accountability and Transparency Board, including the use by the Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board or a transfer of up to \$10 million of these funds to appropriate entities, such as the Office of Management and Budget, the General Services Administration, or the Department of the Treasury to carry out these purposes.

The Board received \$84 million dollars in 2009 and \$28.35 million dollars in 2012 to ensure accountability and transparency in the expenditure of Recovery Act funds and to minimize fraud, waste and mismanagement. Absent continued funding in 2013, the Board will be unable to take action to carry out these responsibilities to include the following:

- Operation of the Recovery.gov website that gives American citizens an unprecedented ability to see where their tax dollars are being spent.
- Operation of the FederalReporting.gov website which collects data from Recovery fund recipients, including information on how much money has been received and spent, the type of projects for which the Recovery Act funds are being used, and the number of jobs created by Recovery Act spending.
- Operation of the Fraud Hotline and the reporting of fraud, waste, or mismanagement by private citizens or individuals involved in Recovery Act fund projects.
- Operation of the state-of-the-art data analytics system used by the Board's accountability team, which analyzes vast amounts of open source and law enforcement information to uncover non-obvious relationships between entities in an effort to identify potential fraud in Federal spending.

Excepting Congressional action making the board a permanent entity, the Board will sunset on September 30, 2013 (Section 1530 of the Recovery Act). Some of the 2013 funding will be needed for shut down activities, including transition cost for archiving of records, data transfer, equipment transfer and contracts for the continuation of recipient reporting.

RECOVERY ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY BOARD

SUMMARY OF REQUIRMENTS BY OBJECT CLASS

	FY 2009 Final	FY 2010 Final	FY 2011 Final	FY 2012 Estimate	FY 2013 Estimate
11.1 FULL TIME PERM	\$ 234,354	\$ 202,668	\$ 12,604	\$ 15,000	\$ -
11.3 OTHER THAN FULL TIME PERMS	\$ 690,182	\$ 3,195,610	\$ 3,563,257	\$ 3,872,125	\$ 2,916,813
11.5 OTHER PERSONNEL COMP AWARDS	\$ 7,638	\$ 27,357	\$ 86,756	\$ 87,000	\$ 90,000
11.8 SPECIAL PERSONAL SERVICES PAYMENTS	\$ 1,699,119	\$ 3,304,363	\$ 3,378,191	\$ 3,575,150	\$ 3,772,109
12.0 BENEFITS	\$ 226,914	\$ 737,212	\$ 1,060,217	\$ 1,265,011	\$ 1,458,805
13.0 BENEFITS FOR FORMER PERSONNEL	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,591	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL LABOR	\$ 2,858,207	\$ 7,467,210	\$ 8,118,616	\$ 8,814,286	\$ 8,237,727
21.0 TRAVEL	\$ 33,410	\$ 122,965	\$ 128,066	\$ 134,728	\$ 115,491
22.0 TRANSPORTATION	\$ -	\$ 4,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
23.1 GSA-RENT	\$ 85,127	\$ 770,440	\$ 928,429	\$ 1,143,288	\$ 1,173,921
23.3 COMMUNICATIONS, UTILITIES, & MISC	\$ 494,170	\$ 31,532	\$ 332,709	\$ 297,500	\$ 306,442
24.0 PRINTING	\$ 23,160	\$ 32,763	\$ 1,963	\$ 17,363	\$ 32,763
26.0 SUPPLIES	\$ 81,227	\$ 155,040	\$ 90,836	\$ 111,938	\$ 133,040
31.0 EQUIPMENT	\$ 507,311	\$ 2,585,405	\$ 2,652,574	\$ 1,017,525	\$ 350,000
32.0 LAND AND STRUCTURES	\$ -	\$ 176,264	\$ 175,000	\$ -	\$ -
41.0 GRANTS, SUBSIDIES, & CONTRIBUTIONS	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL OTHER	\$ 1,224,404	\$ 3,878,408	\$ 4,309,577	\$ 2,722,342	\$ 2,111,657
25.1 ADVISORY & ASST SERVICE	\$ 11,898,213	\$ 5,185,194	\$ 12,160,219	\$ 10,323,484	\$ 13,391,913
25.2 OTHER SERVICES	\$ -	\$ 5,655	\$ 7,799	\$ -	\$ 7,459
25.3 GOODS & SERV OTHER GOV AGENCIES	\$ 11,759,475	\$ 3,962,991	\$ 5,682,658	\$ 6,440,760	\$ 7,654,014
25.4 OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE OF FACILITIES	\$ -	\$ 750	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
25.7 OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT	\$ -	\$ 8,327	\$ 3,301,722	\$ 33,128	\$ 97,230
TOTAL SERVICES	\$ 23,657,688	\$ 9,162,916	\$ 21,152,398	\$ 16,797,372	\$ 21,150,616
GRAND TOTALS	\$ 27,740,299	\$ 20,508,534	\$ 33,580,591	\$ 28,334,000	\$ 31,500,000

*Amounts may be off by a dollar due to rounding.

APPENDIX I: APPROPRIATION LANGUAGE CITATION

Fiscal Year 2012 Appropriation: Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board

For necessary expenses of the Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board, Title XV of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, P.L. 111-5, and to develop and test information technology resources and oversight mechanisms to enhance transparency of and detect and remediate waste, fraud, and abuse in Federal spending, \$28,350,000, to remain available until September 30, 2013.

Title XV of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, P.L. 111-5, provides for the establishment of the Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board to coordinate and conduct oversight of covered funds to prevent fraud, waste, and mismanagement.

Proposed appropriations language changes for fiscal year 2013

For necessary expenses of the Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board to carry out the provisions of title XV of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-095 111-5), and to develop and test information technology resources and oversight mechanisms to enhance transparency of and detect and remediate waste, fraud, and abuse in Federal spending, ~~\$28,350,000, to remain available until September 30, 2013~~ \$31,500,000: Provided, That the Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board may transfer up to \$10,000,000 to the Office of Management and Budget, the General Services Administration, or the Department of the Treasury for the purposes of carrying out activities and implementing recommendations of the Government Accountability and Transparency Board.