

Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board
1717 Pennsylvania Ave, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20006

Minutes

A meeting of the Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board was held in Washington, D.C, on Friday, September 25, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. and continued until 3:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Board Members:

Earl E. Devaney, Chairman, Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board
Phyllis Fong, Inspector General U.S. Department of Agriculture
Calvin L. Scovel, II, Inspector General U.S. Department of Transportation
Daniel Levinson, Inspector General, US. Department of Health and Human Services
Mary Mitchelson, Acting Inspector General, U.S. Department of Education
J. Russell George, Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration
Richard Skinner, Inspector General, U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Glenn A. Fine, Inspector General, U.S. Department of Justice
Eric M. Thorson, Inspector General, U.S. Department of the Treasury
Gregory H. Friedman, Inspector General, U.S. Department of Energy
Mary Kendall, Acting Inspector General, U.S. Department of the Interior
Gordon S. Heddell, Inspector General, U.S. Department of Defense

Board Staff:

Glen Walker, Executive Director
Eric M. Lippold, Secretary
Jennifer Dure, General Counsel
Ed Pound, Director, Communications
Michael Wood, Director, Recovery.gov
Douglas Hassebrock, Assistant Director, Investigations

Executive Branch Employees:

Debbi Mayer, Assistant Special Agent in Charge, Office of Inspector General, U.S. Department of Education
David Gross, CIGIE DoD Liaison, Office of Inspector General, U.S. Department of Defense

Presenters:

Robert Groat, Team Smartronix, Program Manager (CTO, Smartronix)
Evan Burfield, Team Smartronix, Strategy Lead (CEO, Synteractive)
Lindsay Wozniak, Team Smartronix, Design Lead (Senior Vice President, TMP Government)
Joe Gerczak, Team Smartronix, Executive Sponsor (CFO, Smartronix)
Rusty Talbot, Team Smartronix, Strategy (Director, Synteractive)

Mr. Devaney called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Mr. Friedman recommended a change to the minutes and the Board, by unanimous vote of the members present, approved the September 11, 2009 minutes, as amended.

Mr. Devaney briefed Board members on the launch of the redesigned [Recovery.gov](#), and related activities including Recovery.gov demonstrations for the Vice-President, Congressional Staff, OMB officials, members of the press, and non-governmental organizations. Mr. Devaney informed members that a press release would be distributed highlighting the new [Recovery.gov](#), fraud hotline (1-877-FWA-DESK) and social media plan.

Mr. Wood informed members that more than 32,000 recipients had already registered on [FederalReporting.gov](#), including states and local governments, contractors, universities, non-profits and others. From this point forward, they must report quarterly, with the next round of reporting coming in January 2010. Mr. Wood then briefed members on the reporting timeline and summarized the following:

- September 28, 2009 – New and improved [Recovery.gov](#) goes “live”
- October 1, 2009 – Recipients begin reporting on [FederalReporting.gov](#)
- October 11, 2009 – Federal Agencies begin initial review of recipient data
- October 15, 2009 – Recipient Contract data made available for public download
- October 30, 2009 – Recipient Grants and Loans data made available for public download

Board members then discussed the recent figures from the Office of Management and Budget breaking down the \$787 billion in Recovery spending into three categories: (1) tax benefits comprising approximately \$288 billion; (2) entitlements, such as Medicaid and student financial aid, comprising approximately \$224 billion; and (3) contracts, grants, and loans comprising approximately \$275 billion.

Mr. Wood introduced the Smartronix team who provided a demonstration on the redesigned [Recovery.gov](#) including the platform implementation, design/strategy, content migration, features/enhancements, and visualized data. Board members discussed the audience segments and functional groups as well as future [Recovery.gov](#) iterative enhancements.

Mr. Skinner provided members with an update on the solicitation for the accountability module. Board members discussed the Recovery.gov website [complaint form](#), and the whistleblower provisions of the Recovery Act. Mr. Skinner explained that the tools procured, along with any personnel, would be supervised by federal fraud investigators and would be housed in the Board’s Recovery Operations Center. Mr. Skinner informed members that GSA was providing procurement services, and they had recommended that the Board use a Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business GWAC. He also said Board members would need to sign non-disclosure agreements before being briefed on the final selection process.

Mr. Devaney concluded the meeting by asking Board members to provide staff with comments on any area of the Recovery.gov website that they would like to see improved, and to contact him if they would be interested in doing media or public presentations.

Eric M. Lippold
Secretary