

## FEDERAL PREVAILING RATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

590th FPRAC

**SHELDON FRIEDMAN**, Chairperson, Presiding

Thursday, January 16, 2014

Room 5526  
Office of Personnel Management  
Washington, D.C. 20415**ATTENDANCE:****Members/Alternates:**Management Members:Mark Allen, OPM  
Pamela Sokol, ArmyLabor Members:Bill Fenaughty, MTD  
Robert Shore, NAGE  
Steven Landis, ACT (via phone)**Staff Specialists and Visitors:**Brenda Roberts, Designated Federal Officer, OPM  
Madeline Gonzalez, OPM  
Brittney Manchester, OPM  
Brenda Stovall, OPM  
Luis Lynch, AF  
Jim Brady, DoD  
Karl Fendt, DoD  
Gary Kistner, DoD  
Adair Gregory, NAGE**Recording Secretaries:**Mike Eicher, OPM  
Terri Wallace, OPM

[Transcript prepared from digital audio produced by FPRAC.]

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## P R O C E E D I N G

CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN: Good morning everyone, and welcome to this, our 590th meeting of the Federal Prevailing Rate Advisory Committee. My name is Sheldon Friedman, Chair of the Committee.

As usual, why don't we go around and introduce ourselves. We'll start with you today, Bill.

MR. FENAUGHTY: Bill Fenaughty from NFFE, representing Metal Trades.

MR. SHORE: Rob Shore from NAGE.

CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN: Steve, you're on the phone, right?

MR. LANDIS: Yes. Steve Landis, Association of Civilian Technicians.

MR. ALLEN: Mark Allen with OPM.

MS. SOKOL: Pamela Sokol, Department of Army.

CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN: Thank you.

And if the people around the edge of the room could also introduce themselves?

MS. GONZALEZ: Madeline Gonzalez with OPM.

MS. ROBERTS: Brenda Roberts, OPM, Designated Federal Officer.

MR. LYNCH: Luis Lynch, Air Force.

MR. KISTNER: Gary Kistner, DCPAS, Wage and  
Salary.

MR. FENDT: Karl Fendt, DoD.

MR. BRADY: Jim Brady, DoD.

MR. EICHER: Mike Eicher, OPM.

MS. STOVALL: Brenda Stovall, OPM.

MS. MANCHESTER: Brittney Manchester, OPM.

MS. WALLACE: Terri Wallace, OPM.

MR. GREGORY: Adair Gregory, NAGE.

CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN: Thank you, everyone.

The only announcement I have is that we received a communication from Captain Hanrahan concerning our deliberations at the last meeting, and I have circulated that to everyone. We are preparing a response, which I will also share once we have that ready.

I should also mention that the Work Group meeting that's going to be held after the FPRAC meeting is not in the usual place. It's going to be on the seventh floor in 7H31, so we can accommodate the mapping software demonstration.

Any questions or discussion about the

communication from Captain Hanrahan?

[No audible response.]

CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN: If not, can we move on to the review of the transcript of our last meeting?

MR. ALLEN: Mr. Chairman, I have one announcement that's not on our agenda.

CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN: Sure.

MR. ALLEN: It has to do with the Prevailing Rate Adjustments for FY 2014, which has been of keen interest.

The House of Representatives passed legislation, I believe yesterday, that would provide for a 1 percent uniform pay adjustment for prevailing rate employees in FY 2014, retroactive back to the wage area's normal effective date.

I believe the Senate is supposed to pass it this weekend. Once that happens and the President signs the legislation, OPM will issue implementing guidance to the heads of agencies and the Department of Defense will begin issuing wage schedules.

CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN: Thank you, Mark. I know that is of interest to everyone.

Any questions about that?

MR. SHORE: Is there a time table, roughly, as to when the increases will kick in, assuming it passes?

MR. ALLEN: OPM will most likely get the guidance out next week, and then the Department of Defense will begin issuing wage schedules.

As I mentioned, some of the wage schedules would be retroactive. For instance, The Washington, DC, wage area has a wage schedule that is normally effective in October of the new fiscal year. So the FY 2014 wage schedule would be retroactive to its calendar year October 2013 effective date.

MR. FENAUGHTY: Mark, are the effective dates different for all the wage areas?

MR. ALLEN: Yes. There are some FY 2014 wage schedules that are normally adjusted, say, in February or March or April, and therefore those schedules won't be adjusted until their normal effective dates.

MR. FENAUGHTY: So there won't be any retroactivity for those?

MR. ALLEN: No. There will be no need for a retroactive pay adjustment for those schedules.

CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN: Okay. Anything else on that?

[No audible response.]

CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN: Regarding the transcript of our last meeting, are there any other corrections that people would like to bring to our attention?

[No audible response.]

CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN: If not, is there agreement to adopt the transcript of our last meeting? Anyone who disagrees with that idea?

[No audible response.]

CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN: Hearing no disagreement, the transcript of our last meeting is adopted.

Any Old Business items that people want to bring up this morning? A couple of them are pending work that's under way in the Work Group.

MR. LANDIS: Sheldon, may I ask a question?

CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN: Sure thing, Steve.

MR. LANDIS: Okay. I'm just bringing up some other old stuff. When Congress, when both the House and Senate have passed the bill and the wage freeze is officially over for the FWS employees, will that have an impact on getting FPRAC's report and recommendation approved by the Director of OPM? It was sent to the

Director almost 2 years ago.

CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN: I don't personally have anything new to report on that, but perhaps others do.

Mark, do you have any information on that?

MR. ALLEN: The FPRAC recommendation to use GS locality pay areas when defining Federal Wage System wage area boundaries is still under review by OPM.

MR. LANDIS: Okay. That's the same information we've been getting for a while now. Any idea on how long it's going to be under review before they make a decision?

MR. ALLEN: No. I can't say that.

MR. LANDIS: Okay.

CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN: Is there any other Old Business item people would like to bring up this morning?

[No audible response.]

CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN: If not, I'm not aware of any New Business items, but if people have any new business, this would be the time to say so. Any new business?

MR. SHORE: I have a question.

CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN: Sure.

MR. SHORE: And if I missed it, then I apologize. Did we end up putting something in writing after our



discussion last week regarding the recommendation for Motor Vessel *Ranger III* employees? I know we orally made a decision. I don't remember if anything was officially written down in terms of the recommendation.

CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN: There is a draft letter in progress communicating OPM's decision in this matter. It has to be approved by the Director of OPM before the letter is sent to the Department of the Interior.

Do you want to add to that, Mark?

MR. ALLEN: No. That pretty much covers it.

CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN: It will be public information that we can share.

So if there's no new business, we can move on to our Work Group meeting. It would be in order for us to adjourn if there's no objection.

[No audible response.]

CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN: Hearing no objection, we're adjourned, and we'll reconvene in about 10 minutes upstairs in 7H31.