

## FEDERAL PREVAILING RATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

567th FPRAC

**SHELDON FRIEDMAN**, Chairperson, Presiding

Thursday, September 15, 2011

Room 5526  
Office of Personnel Management  
Washington, D.C.

## ATTENDANCE:

## Members/Alternates:

Management Members**MARK ALLEN**, Office of Personnel Management**SETH SHULMAN**, Department of Defense**ANN MARIE HANNON**, Department of Veterans AffairsLabor Members**BILL FENAUGHTY**, NFFE**J. DAVID COX**, AFGE**JACQUELINE SIMON**, AFGE**SARAH SUSZCZYK**, NAGE**STEVE FISHER**, ACT

## Staff Specialists and Visitors:

**JEROME MIKOWICZ**, Designated Federal Official,

Office of Personnel Management

**VANNESSA BROWN**, Office of Personnel Management**MADELINE GONZALEZ**, Office of Personnel Management**TERRI AVONDET**, Office of Personnel Management**ALLEN BROOKS**, Office of Personnel Management**TEMPLE WILSON**, Office of Personnel Management**CHRIS WALLACE**, Office of Personnel Management**TAMMY VANKEUREN**, U.S. Air Force**JIM BRADY**, Department of Defense**H.L. "Hank" ROVAN**, Department of Defense**KARL FENDT**, Department of Defense**BECKY CHAVES**, Department of Defense**CRAIG JERABEK**, Department of Defense**DAWNA POWELL**, Department of Defense**JESSICA TAYLOR**, NAGE**THURSTAN HUNTER**, VA**SHARISSE BROWN**, VARecording Secretary: **FEBBIE R. GRAY**

[Transcript prepared from digital audio produced by FPRAC.]

## C O N T E N T S

	<u>Page</u>
I. <u>Opening/Announcements</u>	
• Introductions.....	3
• Announcements.....	4
II. <u>Review of the Minutes of 565th and 566th Meetings....</u>	4
III. <u>Old Business</u>	
a. Review of Lee County, Virginia, 557-MGT-2	
- Total Employment in the Eastern Tennessee	
Wages Area by County, 566-OPM-1	
- List of FWS Wage Areas with Fewer than 500	
Employees, 566-OPM-2	
- Review of Criteria for Defining Appropriated	
Fund Wage Areas, 545-OC-1 [REPRINT]	
b. Discussion of Survey Issues/Concerns	
- FPRAC's Chairman's Memorandum to Members on	
Survey Issues Work Group, 561-OC-1	
c. Special Wage Schedule Pay Practice for Federal	
Wage System Lock and Dam Employees, 562-MGT-1	
d. Definition of South Bend-Mishawaka, IN-MI	
Metropolitan Statistical Area, 562-MGT-2	
e. Abolishment of Montgomery, Pennsylvania, as a	
Nonappropriated Fund Federal Wage System	
Wage Area, 564-MGT-3.....	5
f. Letter from the American Federation of Government	
Employees, dated June 6, 2011, requesting FPRAC	
review a proposal to redefine Monroe County, PA	
from the Scranton-Wilkes-Barre, PA wage area to	
the New York, NY wage area, 564-AFGE-1.....	7

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

**CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN:** Good morning, everyone, and welcome to this 567th meeting of the Federal Prevailing Rate Advisory Committee. My name is Sheldon Friedman. I am the Chairman of the Committee, and as usual, why don't we go around and introduce ourselves. Bill, starting with you.

**MR. FENAUGHTY:** Bill Fenaughty from NFFE.

**MR. COX:** J. David Cox, AFGE.

**MS. SIMON:** Jacque Simon, AFGE.

**MS. SUSZCZYK:** Sarah Suszczyk, NAGE.

**MR. FISHER:** Steve Fisher, ACT.

**CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN:** Mark?

**MR. ALLEN:** Mark Allen with OPM.

**MR. SHULMAN:** Seth Shulman, Department of Defense.

**MS. HANNON:** Ann Marie Hannon, Department of Veterans Affairs.

**MR. MIKOWICZ:** Jerry Mikowicz from OPM, the Designated Federal Official this morning.

**CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN:** People around the sides of the room?

**MS. GONZALEZ:** Madeline Gonzalez with OPM.

**MS. AVONDET:** Terri Avondet, OPM.

**MR. HUNTER:** Thurstan Hunter with the VA.

**MS. BROWN:** Sharisee Brown, VA.

**MR. BROOKS:** Allen Brooks, OPM.

**MS. WILSON:** Temple Wilson, OPM.

**MS. VANKEUREN:** Tammy Vankeuren, Air Force.

**MR. BRADY:** Jim Brady, Department of Defense.

**MS. POWELL:** Dawna Powell, Department of Defense.

**MR. JERABEK:** Craig Jerabek, DoD.

**MR. FENDT:** Karl Fendt, DoD.

**MS. CHAVES:** Becky Chaves, DoD.

**MR. ROVAN:** Hank Rován, DoD.

**MS. BROWN:** Vannessa Brown, OPM.

**MS. GRAY:** Febbie Gray, OPM.

**MR. WALLACE:** Chris Wallace, OPM.

**MS. TAYLOR:** Jessica Taylor, NAGE.

**CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN:** Okay. Well, thank you,  
everyone.

I don't have any announcements, so that's going to  
make that a short part of the agenda. Does anyone else?

[No audible response.]

**CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN:** If not, we actually have two  
sets of minutes or transcripts to approve. I apologize for  
the typo -- oh, it got corrected. Okay. I had an earlier  
version. Never mind. From the two meetings ago and the

prior meeting, I guess we should discuss these separately.

Has everyone had a chance to review the transcript from the 565th meeting, and are there any other changes beyond those that have already been sent in to us?

[No audible response.]

**CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN:** If not, is there agreement to adopt the transcript?

**MR. SHULMAN:** Yes.

**CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN:** I see nods. Okay. It's agreed. Excellent.

And has everyone had a chance to review the transcript of the last meeting? Are there any other changes beyond those that have already been sent in to us?

[No audible response.]

**CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN:** So, hearing no objection, that transcript is adopted, too. Thank you very much.

We have a number of old business items. I think all but one are really in the -- well, all but possibly two are in the purview of the work group, but (e) is something we could talk about today, abolishment of Montgomery, Pennsylvania, as a nonappropriated fund wage area.

We've been pondering this for a couple of meetings now. The Management side has informed me, they're going to

be a little short-handed today. So, if we actually came to a vote on something, we'd have to wait until next month to vote, but we can certainly discuss this one if anyone wants to.

**MR. ALLEN:** I do have something to update everybody on. At our last meeting, OPM staff were asked to look back at some of the rationales for previous nonappropriated fund wage area abolishment. We're still in the process of doing that, but at this point, we've gone back to around 1994 to identify which counties were redefined to which wage areas. Now the next part of this is to figure out what the rationale behind each one actually was.

What I've looked at so far seems to indicate that FPRAC has been very flexible. I wasn't actually surprised with that. There have been different rationales at different points for different wage areas that we need to take a closer look at to see if there are really any discernable patterns between how counties are defined to other survey areas once a wage area is abolished.

**MS. SIMON:** Are you specifically looking for cases where the cluster of counties that had previously been together was retained as a cluster?

**MR. ALLEN:** Yes.

**MS. SIMON:** Okay.

**CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN:** Any other discussion today on this one?

[No audible response.]

**CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN:** If not, I would suggest we defer it to the next meeting.

**MR. ALLEN:** We should have more information at the next meeting on this.

**CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN:** Is there anything that AFGE wants to bring up about item (f) under old business at this point?

[No audible response.]

**CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN:** Defer that one? Okay.

This could be a record, in my short tenure anyway.

Well, I don't have any new business items. Does anyone else?

[No audible response.]

**CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN:** If not, we could adjourn, if we would like to do so.

**MR. ALLEN:** I would just like to note for the record that we do have a working group meeting --

**CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN:** Yes.

**MR. ALLEN:** -- after this meeting, so we'll probably be in there for quite a while.

**CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN:** And I think it's a good day for us to have a lot of time for that. After we adjourn, we'll take a 5-minute break and reconvene in the Small Pendleton Room for the working group meeting.

Is there a motion to adjourn?

**MR. SHULMAN:** Motion to adjourn.

**CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN:** Second?

**MS. SIMON:** Seconded.

**CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN:** Okay. And hearing no objection -- is there no objection?

[No audible response.]

**CHAIRMAN FRIEDMAN:** I don't hear one, so we are adjourned. Thank you. See you in 5 minutes.

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