

GSA Acquisition Policy Federal Advisory Committee (GAP FAC)

Full Committee Meeting

September 21, 2023

The GSA Acquisition Policy Federal Advisory Full Committee meeting convened for a virtual public meeting at 3:00 PM on September 21, 2023, with Troy Cribb, Chair presiding.

In accordance with FACA, as amended, 5 U.S.C. App 2, the meeting was open to the public from 3:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. EST

Committee Members Present:

Troy Cribb, Chair	<i>Partnership for Public Service</i>
Cassius Butts, Co-Chair	<i>Global Leader Group</i>
Luke Bassis	<i>Port Authority of New York & New Jersey</i>
Richard Beutel	<i>George Mason Center for Government Contracting</i>
Leslie Cordes	<i>Ceres</i>
Darryl Daniels	<i>Jacobsen Daniels Assoc.</i>
Nicole Darnall	<i>Arizona State University</i>
Antonio Doss	<i>Small Business Administration</i>
Mark Hayden	<i>New Mexico General Services Department</i>
Mamie Mallory	<i>Mallory & Associates LLC</i>
David Malone	<i>City of St. Petersburg Florida</i>
Dr. Amlan Mukherjee	<i>Michigan Technological University</i>
Anne Rung	<i>Varis, LLC</i>
Steven Schooner	<i>George Washington University</i>
Kristin Seaver	<i>General Dynamics Information Technology</i>
Anish Tilak	<i>Rocky Mountain Institute</i>
Keith Tillage	<i>Tillage Construction, LLC</i>
Dr. David Waggoner	<i>Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries</i>
Dr. Kimberly Wise White	<i>American Chemistry Council</i>

Absent: Farad Ali, Denise Bailey, Gail Bassette, Susan Lorenz-Fisher, Deryl McKissack, Jennie Romer, Stacy Smedley, Nigel Stephens, Clyde Thompson

Guest Speakers & Presenters: n/a

GSA Staff Present:

Boris Arratia	<i>Designated Federal Officer</i>
Stephanie Hardison	<i>Deputy Designated Federal Officer</i>
David Cochennic	<i>GAP FAC Support</i>
Skylar Holloway	<i>GAP FAC Support</i>
Katie Arioli	<i>Closed Captioner</i>
Lia Angeli	<i>ASL Interpreter</i>
Steven Smith	<i>ASL Interpreter</i>

Call to Order

Boris Arratia, the Designated Federal Officer, opened the public meeting by welcoming the group before reminding the public that there will be time for comments and statements at the end of the meeting. He also encouraged the public to submit comments via regulations.gov and via email to gapfac@gsa.gov. Boris then performed a roll call to confirm attendance and a quorum. After the quorum was met, he turned the meeting over to Chair Troy Cribb.

Welcome & Opening Remarks

Troy Cribb welcomed the committee and thanked them for their time. She emphasized the importance of the committee's work, including the committee's consideration of the implications of the proposed FAR rule on sustainable procurement. The proposed FAR rule aims to rewrite FAR Part 23, and the discussions in the committee have emphasized the need for the committee to officially support this rule and offer practical suggestions for its implementation. The agenda for the meeting was to discuss comments on the FAR rule concerning sustainable procurement and offer considerations for future implementation of the rule.

Discussion and Vote

Troy elaborated on the significance of the FAR rule's rewrite, emphasizing its role in making government procurement processes more understandable, transparent, and supportive of sustainability. She noted that the rule touches on the goals of all three of GAP FAC's subcommittees: establishing policies that encourage innovation while streamlining acquisition processes; designing purchasing practices that make it easier

for the acquisition workforce to carry out their responsibilities; and helping industry better understand the needs of the government and making it easier for businesses to engage with the government. She acknowledged the efforts of the GSA and the FAR Council in this regard and encouraged the committee to endorse the proposed rule.

Troy noted that FAR Part 23 was in danger of becoming a “messy closet” and praised the rewrite for reserving Part 23 for sustainability while moving other important but unrelated provisions to other parts of the FAR. The revisions send an important message to both the business community and the acquisition workforce on what the government expects in the area of sustainability and makes requirements easier to understand.

Nicole Darnall and Anne Rung discussed the committee's recommendations for future consideration by the FAR Council and GSA as the rule is implemented. Specifically, the committee should propose that GSA develop and implement a plan to establish stronger federal data standards and protocols for ecolabel certifications, which would require cross-agency coordination. The aim is to make procurement more sustainable and transparent, and to support the acquisition workforce across functional areas.

Kristin Seaver commended the FAR Council’s efforts to clarify and streamline procurement regulations. The other committee members discussed the importance of acknowledging the efforts made by the FAR Council in sustainability. They emphasized the need to maintain a high level of communication and transparency in these efforts. The members recognized the significance of the proposed FAR rule and its potential impact on improving procurement processes.

The 19 members present voted to approve submitting the committee’s comments on the FAR Rule on Sustainable Procurement (FAR Case 2022-006).

Public Comments

The meeting was opened to public comments, but no comments were received.

Closing Remarks

Troy Cribb thanked all participants for their engagement in the meeting. She also expressed concerns about a potential government shutdown and its adverse effects on government contracts and procurement, emphasizing the importance of government

stability for the procurement community. She flagged this as a potential topic of conversation for the GAP FAC should there be a shutdown.

Adjournment

Boris Arratia adjourned the meeting.

I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the foregoing minutes are accurate and complete.

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3/21/2024
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Troy Cribb
Chairperson
GSA Acquisition Policy Federal Advisory Committee

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3/19/2024
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Cassius Butts
Co-Chairperson
GSA Acquisition Policy Federal Advisory Committee