



U.S. Government Standard General Ledger (USSGL)

Board Meeting Minutes

May 12, 2016

LOCATION: 1722 I St. NW Washington, DC 20006, Conference Room 704 (Hamilton) 7th floor

TIME: 9:30 AM to 12 PM

HANDOUTS:

- Voting Ballot #16-01
- CFO Memo Presentation
- G-Invoicing Presentation
- Financial Report of the US Government Consolidation Presentation
- USSGL Presentation
- Proposed Bylaws

Director, **Valeria Spinner (Fiscal Service)** began by welcoming participants to the Annual USSGL Board Meeting. All attendees introduced themselves and the agency represented.

Valeria introduced Deputy Assistant Commissioner, **Michael D. Linder (Fiscal Service)** to the meeting attendees. **Mike** highlighted several of the innovative projects and accomplishments of the Bureau Fiscal Service from 2015 as presented in the recent Memorandum for All CFOs, DCFOs, and CIOs from Commissioner, **Sheryl R. Morrow (Fiscal Service)**. Some items of interest included implementing the Central Accounting and Reporting System (CARS) and establishing the General Fund of the U.S. Treasury as a significant reporting entity. By May 2017, federal agencies will be required to report financial and payment information in accordance with the Digital Accountability and Transparency Act of 2014 (DATA Act). In response to this requirement, the Department of Treasury has launched a beta website allowing stakeholders to view, test, and provide input regarding the new DATA Act website.

Keith Jarboe (Fiscal Service) was introduced to the attendees. **Keith** provided an overview of the G-Invoicing application which is not a new system, but rather the expansion of an earlier collaboration between the Department of Treasury and the Department of Defense (DoD). The driving force behind G-Invoicing is the mitigation of the material weakness reported by the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) in its opinion on the Financial Report of the U. S. Government for the past nineteen years resulting from the difficulty of the government to



account and reconcile intra-governmental activity and balances between federal entities. The application is intended to be used as a tool to facilitate communication between trading partners in the federal arena. The plan is to implement the G-Invoicing application governmentwide in several releases with the first scheduled for September 2016.

Valeria then introduced **Luke Sheppard (Fiscal Service)** who discussed upcoming changes to the Governmentwide Financial Reporting System (GFRS) and the Governmentwide Treasury Account Symbol Adjusted Trial Balance System (GTAS). Beginning in Fiscal 2017, agencies will begin using data submissions in GTAS to provide the majority of their GFRS data. One of the major goals of this change will be a reduction of the burden upon federal agencies to manually report their data for the compilation of the Financial Report of the U.S. Government (FR). This process is intended to improve the data quality and integrity as well as streamline financial reporting guidance.

Teresa Tancre (OMB) was introduced to the attendees. **Teresa** provided updates on the release of both the OMB Circular A-136 and OMB Circular A-11. Currently, both circulars are being vetted in the draft stages of review. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) plans to target the release of these documents by the latter part of June 2016. There are no significant changes planned other than minor crosswalk updates. **Teresa** also stated she had been working with agencies to correct any differences seen in the GTAS data submitted into MAX, with the goal being for all differences to be resolved by the end of third quarter reporting for 2016.

Valeria then introduced **Michele Crosco (Fiscal Service)** who provided an overview of the new USSGL accounts and updates to existing USSGL accounts for Fiscal Years 2016 and 2017. These account changes are presented on the U.S. Government Standard General Ledger (USSGL) Voting Ballot 16-01 for the consideration of the voting Board Members.

Manager, **Chris Beck (Fiscal Service)** was introduced to the attendees. **Chris** provided an overview of the technical updates proposed to the United States Standard General Ledger Board Bylaws. These changes are included on the Voting Ballot 16-01 for the consideration of the voting Board Members. **Chris** provided a statistical summary of USSGL Issues that were logged since May 2015. Lastly, **Chris** reported on the loss of USSGL Advisory Division staff member **Lisa D. Smith**. **Lisa** passed away unexpectedly on April 21, 2016, and will be missed by her family, co-workers, and contacts throughout the federal financial reporting community.

An opportunity for questions was provided to the attendees after which, **Valeria** adjourned the meeting.



PARTICIPANTS:

Bruce Henshel, Commerce
David Surti, DHS
Joseph Doyle, DOD
Diane Washington, DOI
Valerie Grant, DOJ
Webster Coleman, DOL
Drena McDaniel, DOT
Michele Crosco, Fiscal Service
Jonnathan Diaz Olivo, Fiscal Service
Keith Jarboe, Fiscal Service
Michael Linder, Fiscal Service
Kent Linscott, Fiscal Service
Luke Sheppard, Fiscal Service
Valeria Spinner, Fiscal Service
Jeff Taberner, Fiscal Service
Kathy Wages, Fiscal Service
Marlana White, Fiscal Service
Melanie White, Fiscal Service
Michael Ward, GSA
Karen Brown, HUD
Rita Hebb, HUD
Teresa Tancre, OMB
Joseph Henry, SBA
Deron Smallwood, SBA
Karen Hunter, SSA
Alfred Buck, USAID
Hisham Abelaziz, USDA