

Dated: February 11, 2020.

Kevin Brown,

Acting Director, Taxpayer Advocacy Panel.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Open Meeting of the Financial Research Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Office of Financial Research, Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: The Financial Research Advisory Committee for the Treasury's Office of Financial Research (OFR) is convening for its fifteenth meeting on Thursday, February 27, 2020, in the Cash Room, Main Treasury, 1500 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20220, beginning at 9:00 a.m. Eastern Time. The meeting will be open to the public and limited seating will be available.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Thursday, February 27, 2020, beginning at 9:00 a.m. Eastern Time.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in the Cash Room, Main Treasury, 1500 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20220. The meeting will be open to the public. A limited number of seats will be available for those interested in attending the meeting in person, and those seats would be on a first-come, first-served basis. Because the meeting will be held in a secured facility, members of the public who plan to attend the meeting **MUST** contact the OFR by email at OFR_FRAC@ofr.treasury.gov by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on Tuesday, February 25, 2020, to inform the OFR of their desire to attend the meeting and to receive further instructions about building clearance.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Melissa Avstreich, Designated Federal Officer, Office of Financial Research, Department of the Treasury, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20220, (202) 927-8032 (this is not a toll-free number), or OFR_FRAC@ofr.treasury.gov. Persons who have difficulty hearing or speaking may access this number via TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice of this meeting is provided in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2, 10(a)(2), through implementing regulations at 41 CFR 102-3.150, *et seq.*

Public Comment: Members of the public wishing to comment on the

business of the Financial Research Advisory Committee are invited to submit written statements by any of the following methods:

- *Electronic Statements.* Email the Committee's Designated Federal Officer at OFR_FRAC@ofr.treasury.gov.

- *Paper Statements.* Send paper statements in triplicate to the Financial Research Advisory Committee, Attn: Melissa Avstreich, Office of Financial Research, Department of the Treasury, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20220.

The OFR will post statements on the Committee's website, <http://www.financialresearch.gov>, including any business or personal information provided, such as names, addresses, email addresses, or telephone numbers. The OFR will also make such statements available for public inspection and copying in the Department of the Treasury's library, Annex Room 1020, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20220 on official business days between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Eastern Time. You may make an appointment to inspect statements by telephoning (202) 622-0990. All statements, including attachments and other supporting materials, will be part of the public record and subject to public disclosure. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly.

Tentative Agenda/Topics for Discussion: The Committee provides an opportunity for researchers, industry leaders, and other qualified individuals to offer their advice and recommendations to the OFR, which, among other things, is responsible for collecting and standardizing data on financial institutions and their activities and for supporting the work of Financial Stability Oversight Council.

This is the fifteenth meeting of the Financial Research Advisory Committee. Topics to be discussed among all members include features of the financial system where increased transparency can further financial stability and strategies that can better align private-sector incentives to improve market discipline. For more information on the OFR and the Committee, please visit the OFR website at <http://www.financialresearch.gov>.

Dated: February 6, 2020.

Alex Pollock,

Principal Deputy Director, Research and Analysis and Data.

[FR Doc. 2020-03003 Filed 2-13-20; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Rehabilitation Research and Development Service Scientific Merit Review Board, Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, that a meeting of the Rehabilitation Research and Development Service Scientific Merit Review Board will be held Wednesday, March 4, 2020, by teleconference. The meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. and end at 1:30 p.m. EST. The meeting will be partially closed to the public from 1:10 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. EST for the discussion, examination, and reference to the research applications and scientific review. Discussions will involve reference to staff and consultant critiques of research proposals. Discussions will deal with scientific merit of each proposal and qualifications of personnel conducting the studies, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. Additionally, premature disclosure of research information could significantly obstruct implementation of proposed agency action regarding the research proposals. As provided by subsection 10(d) of Public Law 92-463, as amended by Public Law 94-409, closing the committee meeting is in accordance with Title 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(6) and (9)(B).

The objective of the Board is to provide for the fair and equitable selection of the most meritorious research projects for support by VA research funds and to offer advice for research program officials on program priorities and policies. The ultimate objective of the Board is to ensure that the VA Rehabilitation Research and Development program promotes functional independence and improves the quality of life for impaired and disabled Veterans.

Board members advise the Director, Rehabilitation Research and Development Service and the Chief Research and Development Officer on the scientific and technical merit, the mission relevance, and the protection of human and animal subjects of Rehabilitation Research and Development proposals. The Board does not consider grants, contracts, or other forms of extramural research.

Members of the public who wish to attend the open portion of the teleconference session from 1:00 p.m. to 1:10 p.m. EST may dial 1 (800) 767-1750, participant code 95056.

Written comments from the public must be sent to Tiffany Asqueri,