

1 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
2 INDIAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANT FORMULA
3 NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING COMMITTEE

4

5 Friday, April 25, 2014

6 8:53 a.m.

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20 Washington Hilton Hotel

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22 Washington, D.C. 20009

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

2 MS. BRYAN: Good morning. It looks like we have
3 enough people here to get started. Thank you all for
4 your patience this morning.

5 We would like to call the meeting back to order
6 and start with an opening prayer from Sandra Henriquez.

7 MS. HENRIQUEZ: First of all, good morning, and
8 I'd like to say this. As I was driving in, I have a
9 favorite song that I listen to. And generally, when I
10 hear it on the radio, as I did this morning driving
11 here, it reminds me of just how great the Lord is and
12 what we owe him.

13 The song is by Hezekiah Walker. It is called
14 "Every Praise," and it starts out with, "Every praise
15 is to our God. Glory hallelujah to our God. Every
16 praise. Every praise is to our God."

17 And with that, let us bow our heads.

18 We come before you this morning, Lord, to say
19 thank you, to say thank you for all of your grace and
20 all of the mercies you have rained down upon us, that
21 which we do not deserve and have not earned yet. You
22 have loved us before we were, and you have ordered our

1 paths, and you have guided us to be here today, for you
2 knew this day would come.

3 I want to say thank you, Lord, for all of your
4 mercies and all of your grace. If we were all to start
5 saying thank you now until our last breath, it would
6 not be enough to sing your praises. So guide us, as
7 you have done in the past, guide us today and guide us
8 for whatever days we have remaining.

9 Let us remember you. Let us remember those of our
10 family and relatives who have given us this
11 opportunity. For those that we serve, we serve you, we
12 serve them, we serve each other.

13 Let us do our best work as you have ordained it.
14 Let us make sure that as we do our work and live our
15 lives that those of us who believe in you, others will
16 come to see our belief in you through the work we do,
17 through how we act, through what we say.

18 Let us continue to make sure that we always,
19 always do what's right. Help us to make sure we make
20 those right decisions. Continue to order our hearts
21 and our minds so that we will always make sure that we
22 do your work here on Earth and so that our reward may

1 not be here, but is before us.

2 Thank you for this opportunity to serve you, to
3 serve others. And in Jesus' name, we pray and say
4 amen.

5 MS. BRYAN: Thank you.

6 (Pause.)

7 MS. BRYAN: All right. So housekeeping for the
8 morning. Remember to check out by I think it's 11:00
9 a.m. or, if you got late checkout, noon. Or some of
10 you have already checked out, if you are checking out
11 today.

12 Also I know there are several of us from the
13 Northwest on a 6:40 p.m. flight. So we're told we
14 should leave here by 3:30 p.m. because it's Friday with
15 traffic. So can I see by a show of hands how many
16 folks need to leave early?

17 (Show of hands.)

18 MS. BRYAN: Because I know Jason is going to be
19 here. I know the FCAS has -- group stated yesterday
20 during report-out they'd like to accomplish some
21 business this afternoon. So it looks like just a few
22 of us will be gone. You'll have plenty of people to

1 finish the work. So that's that.

2 Also I wanted to acknowledge two birthdays I'm
3 made aware of. Joe Williams turned 70 yesterday. Did
4 he walk out of the room? Where is he? He moved on me.
5 Happy birthday.

6 (Applause.)

7 MS. BRYAN: And Teri Nutter has a birthday today.

8 (Applause.)

9 MS. BRYAN: So I want to wish you a happy
10 birthday. Grateful to the Creator for the gift of your
11 lives today.

12 Okay. We're going to break into workgroups this
13 morning. Just wanted to open it up briefly if there
14 are any comments for the good of the order. And I
15 think we're ready to roll our sleeves up and get to
16 work.

17 MS. VOGEL: Good morning. Sharon Vogel, Cheyenne
18 River Housing Authority.

19 I did have a question that I think is important
20 that we -- before we break out into our workgroups.
21 And the question would be for HUD.

22 Since the ACS data is going to -- appears that

1 it's going to be used, and we -- the ACS data you can
2 get updates on an annual basis, is -- is the plan to
3 run an annual report and use that data for every fiscal
4 year allocation?

5 And I just need to know so that if the trend
6 continues, I can go back and explain to Rosebud or Pine
7 Ridge or even my own tribe that we can expect to see
8 decreases. Thank you.

9 MS. HENRIQUEZ: We're going to have several people
10 present information.

11 MR. WINTER: Hello. I am Ben Winter from Policy
12 Development and Research at HUD.

13 We purchase the special tabulations from the
14 census to plug into the formula. As you know, the data
15 that we would be using are the 5-year averages of the
16 ACS. So I don't think that we've made a final decision
17 on how often we would update the data. Obviously,
18 these data do come out from the census every year.

19 So, for instance, the first one that we would use
20 might be 2006 to 2010 5-year average. Then, but the
21 standard tabulations, the next one would be 2007 to
22 '11, then '08 to '12. But we are considering the

1 option of only waiting until a brand-new cycle of 5-
2 year data become available. So we'd only purchase new
3 tabulations once every 5 years.

4 So long answer -- the short answer to this is it's
5 still under consideration of how often we would update
6 the data. It could be every year, but I think that
7 folks are leaning towards once every 5 years. I think
8 that's up for discussion.

9 MS. BRYAN: Thank you. Earl Evans?

10 MR. EVANS: Thank you. Earl Evans, Haliwa-Saponi
11 Indian Tribe.

12 I just simply wanted to make a suggestion, if I
13 could, for future meetings. I wanted to suggest to the
14 workgroup chairs to consider at some point in time at a
15 future meeting placing alternative variables and
16 datasets, the presentation of those on the workgroup
17 agendas for folks to be able to present their ideas
18 about what they think works better.

19 And then, at some point in time after those
20 working groups have had the chance to debate those, to
21 also have them on the committee agenda at some point in
22 time after that to get the recommendation from the

1 workgroups as far as what they -- and I'm sure that's
2 probably already in the works, but I just simply wanted
3 to make it a point that we have that on the agenda for
4 the full committee at a future meeting that we
5 specifically consider the recommendations from the
6 working groups as it relates to alternative datasets
7 and alternative variables.

8 Thank you.

9 MS. BRYAN: Thank you. Raymond Gonzales?

10 MR. GONZALES: Thank you. I had a question
11 procedurally, I guess, because I'm looking at the
12 agenda, and it says 4:45 p.m., logistics for future
13 meetings. But if several of our committee members are
14 leaving at 3:00 p.m. today, one, are they going to be
15 upset if there is any discussion after 3:00 p.m.? If
16 the committee convenes, are they okay with that?

17 Or are we actually just going to end the meeting
18 today at 3:00 p.m.? And if that's the case, then we
19 probably should just take the time to take care of the
20 last couple of items on the agenda.

21 MS. BRYAN: Thank you, Raymond.

22 I have no problem with the future meeting. So

1 there's the meeting coming up in July in Denver has
2 been set. Again, just for your information, the
3 alternate, if you have an alternate, please just notify
4 Jason and I in writing with who you're going to pick
5 and the length of time they're going to sit at the
6 table for you under your signature. That's what the
7 protocols say.

8 So we don't need a resolution from your council,
9 and I know that's much more significant than your own
10 signature, but that's what we require. So even if you
11 do get a resolution, if you're required to do that
12 through your process, please just write us a simple
13 letter and turn it in to us. Otherwise, we're going to
14 be pretty sticky about people at the table. But we've
15 been -- so far everything has been going really well
16 with that.

17 So the next meeting, we're in the works looking
18 for something, and I'm going to let -- well, I don't
19 want to go out of turn here. So we'll have this
20 conversation.

21 Carol?

22 MS. GORE: I just have a process question that

1 relates to the schedule, and that is if we're in work
2 sessions all day, is there a process for which we can
3 call for regional caucuses?

4 So these are some pretty deep topics for a number
5 of us, and we want to check in with each other. I
6 didn't want to schedule a time because we may or may
7 not need it. I'm just asking if there is a process?
8 Because the committee is not in session, so there is no
9 way for us to actually call a caucus without the
10 committee coming together. So how do we do that?

11 MS. BRYAN: Rodger?

12 MR. BOYD: Thank you. I'm not answering the
13 question, but --

14 MS. BRYAN: We'll get back to it.

15 (Laughter.)

16 MR. BOYD: But, thank you. We got our heads
17 together yesterday evening, "we" being the HUD staff,
18 and we really appreciate the momentum that has really
19 picked up in the last couple of days and some great
20 discussions in both committees. We want to make sure
21 that this momentum is sustained, and so what we're
22 looking at is perhaps trying to fit in a meeting in

1 July -- or June, excuse me.

2 So we're looking at right now the weeks of June
3 8th and the following week, which I think is maybe the
4 15th. And our contractor is now looking around to see
5 where we can have this meeting, and again, it's one to
6 maintain this momentum that you all have developed
7 right now. And we think it would be very timely, and
8 personally, I really think also that we will have Madam
9 Secretary with us at that meeting as well.

10 So, and but -- and which we greatly appreciate
11 certainly on the HUD, and I'm assuming -- can't speak
12 for the committee, but I hope you feel the same way.
13 But anyhow, we're trying to get everything settled on
14 that, and we'll continue working with the co-chairs on
15 the dates and the location. And hopefully, we'll have
16 all that within the week, and then we can make the
17 announcement to the committee when and where.

18 Thank you.

19 MS. BRYAN: Thank you. Jack?

20 MR. SAWYERS: (Off-mike.)

21 MS. BRYAN: Okay. Thank you.

22 That's the alternate meeting we were kind of

1 talking about yesterday, and HUD is working on that,
2 hopeful that it will happen. So one of those two
3 weeks, and hopefully, everybody can make it. It's
4 short notice but, like Rodger said, really helpful to
5 keep the momentum going. So we'll keep you posted as
6 soon as we hear anything, or HUD may know more before
7 we leave.

8 In terms of Carol's question, let's get back to
9 that. Breaking into caucuses, would you propose that
10 we get back after lunch just to maybe call the meeting
11 to order and check in as a committee, and would that be
12 helpful for us all to check in where we're at in our
13 workgroups and see if the regional caucuses would like
14 to meet? Or because you said you didn't want to
15 schedule one right now.

16 How does that sound to the group? Checking in
17 after lunch, maybe reconvening at 1:30 p.m. as a
18 committee? Okay. So let's modify the agenda. We'll
19 reconvene at 1:30 p.m. as a committee, and then see
20 where we're at. Very good.

21 Mr. Sawyers?

22 MR. SAWYERS: Thank you. So we have established

1 that we are going to look at different sets, different
2 -- excuse me -- different datasets, and that's all I
3 really wanted to know is that we've committed to look
4 at all of the datasets that we can, right?

5 Thank you.

6 MS. BRYAN: Yes, sir. And one of the things I
7 would like to say for the record and with everyone in
8 the room is if you have a set that you'd like to
9 present, we did have the ACS presentation. But get
10 with Jason and I. We do these agendas, and we'd like
11 to welcome all information.

12 Information was kind of presented at the table
13 yesterday. And so, if you want to present information,
14 we can work on getting you on the agenda so that
15 everyone can hear what else -- what other options are
16 out there for us to be thinking about.

17 Thank you. Raymond?

18 MR. GONZALES: Thank you. So just to confirm then
19 that we all agreed on the agenda. So it looks like
20 we're leaving it at 4:45 p.m. for logistics. So
21 anybody who's leaving early has the opportunity to have
22 their alternate here. So everybody is agreed to that.

1 My guess is, is that's how we're going to be
2 handling this so that we're not debating this the next
3 meeting that something was discussed when somebody
4 wasn't in the room?

5 MS. BRYAN: Yes, sir. I think we were all aware
6 that this meeting went through the end of the day, and
7 you know, me, personally, when I leave, I'm taking my
8 vote with me. I can't leave it with anybody.

9 But that's our responsibility as committee
10 members. If you -- it just says we have to start at
11 the table. It doesn't say we have to end at the table.

12 So, yeah.

13 And if you want to leave an alternate, and I have
14 to leave, but Jason will be here, please get him the
15 notice in writing.

16 Sharon?

17 MS. VOGEL: Sharon Vogel, Cheyenne River.

18 Just so I'm understanding, again this is not -- we
19 haven't had a lot of regional caucuses, I guess. So if
20 we have a caucus in the afternoon, then we -- to not
21 short the people that are here to participate in the
22 workgroups, are we then going to make sure that we

1 continue quality time into the evening, if we have to,
2 for the workgroups?

3 Because I would hate to have people come all this
4 way and then not have sufficient time to participate
5 because we quit at 5:00 p.m. or whatever. And if we
6 have regional caucus in the morning, regional caucus in
7 the afternoon, then it really is unfair to people to
8 not have that time spent in the workgroup.

9 So I'm just asking for a clarification. Do we
10 then ensure that we will have time for workgroups later
11 in the evening then?

12 MS. BRYAN: That's a good question, and I think
13 I'm not certain what rooms we have for how long this
14 Friday evening. Can someone answer that question?

15 MS. FIALA: We have the rooms through --

16 MS. BRYAN: So as with the last two evenings, the
17 rooms are available to us?

18 MS. FIALA: I think it's 11:59 p.m.

19 MS. BRYAN: Until 11:59 p.m. Carol?

20 MS. GORE: I just wanted to say that, you know,
21 it's really important that we have the opportunity to
22 talk to the tribal members that are in the room who are

1 not physically sitting at the table, and that's really
2 -- I think typically the regional caucuses have allowed
3 us to work together as regions to make sure that we're
4 sharing and that we're making the right decisions at
5 the table based on the people we represent, because
6 we're not here to represent ourselves.

7 And so, that's just the purpose. We may or may
8 not need a regional caucus, but they've been very
9 helpful to move conversations along and are not
10 intended to take away from the conversation. I've
11 found them very helpful because sometimes people need
12 to talk to folks before they can actually make a
13 decision in a workgroup.

14 So I just want to make sure that I'm clear. It's
15 not intended to take away from workgroup engagement,
16 and I think it's been up to the workgroups whether they
17 work in the evening or not. So I know that Jason has
18 been pushing for that all along. So I respect that.

19 MS. BRYAN: Thank you. Any other logistics,
20 comments, questions for the good of the order?

21 (No response.)

22 MS. BRYAN: So, with that, we will be sticking to

1 our public comment period this afternoon. So those of
2 you in the room if, after a culmination of 3 days, you
3 have something for the record, that time will be
4 allowed for you this afternoon. We already went over
5 logistics, and we'll just be back here at 1:30 p.m.,
6 and I wish you all good, good work.

7 Thank you. We'll adjourned. Recess. We will
8 recess, for the record.

9 (Recessed at 9:14 a.m.)

10 (Reconvened at 1:36 p.m.)

11 MS. BRYAN: We'll go ahead and call the meeting
12 back to order, and I want to bring to your attention up
13 on the screen here are the new caucus rooms. And
14 visiting, revisiting the charter and protocols, any
15 member of the committee can call at a caucus at any
16 time.

17 So just, you know, for your information, if we're
18 not in a formal meeting in the future, and you say,
19 "Hey, I want a Northwest caucus," then I can call my
20 caucus members, and we can go to the Oaklawn Room.

21 So we have -- I'm having the agenda pulled up for
22 today. I believe we agreed to reconvene at 1:30 p.m.

1 just to see where we're at and see where people are
2 feeling that they are. So I don't know if that means
3 report-outs from the workgroup chairs at this time or
4 people want to call for committee while we're all in
5 the same room?

6 Carol?

7 MS. GORE: I would just say from Alaska, we see
8 pretty good momentum in both the workgroups and no
9 topics that are worthy of a caucus. So we're prepared
10 to move back into the workgroups, if that's the
11 pleasure of the committee.

12 But I thank you for the opportunity.

13 MS. BRYAN: Okay. Just be patient with me. I'm
14 working on one more thing, and then I think we'll go
15 back into workgroups. Any other comments before we do
16 that?

17 (Pause.)

18 MS. BRYAN: Are any other regions -- thank you,
19 Alaska. Any other regions wanting to go into caucus
20 while you have all your group here in one room?

21 (No response.)

22 MS. BRYAN: Okay. Just wanted to provide that

1 opportunity.

2 Okay. At this time, I would like you all to join
3 me in a happy birthday to Teri and Joe. We have cake.

4 Ready?

5 (Singing Happy Birthday.)

6 (Applause.)

7 MS. BRYAN: Thank you all for making this happen.

8 That was wonderful. So please enjoy some cake. It
9 will be your afternoon sugar to keep us going.

10 And we will meet back here at 3:30 p.m. for
11 reports from the workgroups, followed by public
12 comment, any updates on logistics if we have any, and
13 then next steps, selection of co-chairs and closing
14 remark and prayer.

15 So we are all adjourned to workgroups -- we are
16 recessed to the workgroup.

17 (Recessed at 1:40 p.m.)

18 (Reconvened at 3:44 p.m.)

19 MR. DOLLARHIDE: All right. Thank you. We will
20 go ahead and reconvene this meeting. I would like to
21 go ahead and ask for reports from the workgroups. I
22 believe that Jason Adams is going to go first.

1 MR. ADAMS: Well, good afternoon, everyone. Jason
2 Adams, Salish Kootenai Housing Authority.

3 Our FCAS workgroup did get back to work here today
4 as far as the list of issues that we had before us, and
5 the first issue we tackled this morning was in regards
6 to the rebuild language. And we discussed at length
7 the demolition, definition of demolition. And we did
8 have our drafting group from our workgroup. We had
9 some folks assign themselves to a workgroup to work on
10 language.

11 And so, our work, we are at a point now we
12 finished this morning with this language, and it's
13 actually 1000.318(d) is the new language that we are
14 going to be proposing to you. And so, we will show
15 that to you now, but I don't think we're on the agenda
16 yet to negotiate these items at the committee level.

17 But we are -- do you want to move that up a little
18 so -- Yes? No? Okay.

19 I will go ahead and read the language to you. Can
20 you move it up just -- I can't see. There you go.
21 There we go. Thank you.

22 I want to read what's up there because I'm not

1 sure my notes match what you have there, and so this is
2 the new language that will be included and that we are
3 proposing to add to 1000.318(d)(1).

4 "Any unit that is demolished may continue to be
5 considered formula current assisted stock if, (i), the
6 recipient certifies in writing to HUD within 1 year
7 from the date the demolition is complete that it has
8 taken action commencing the rebuilding of the unit and,
9 (ii), the construction of the unit is completed within
10 4 years of the date the demolition is complete."

11 And (2), "At the end of the 4-year period, the
12 unit shall not be considered formula current assisted
13 stock unless and until the recipient notifies HUD that
14 the unit has been completed as provided in paragraph
15 (d)(1)(ii). If the recipient fails to complete
16 construction of the unit within 4 years of the date
17 that the demolition is complete, HUD will not require
18 the recipient to repay amounts allocated to the
19 recipient for such unit during that period."

20 So, again, we are proposing that, and we will
21 present that in the appropriate time on the committee
22 agenda when we come to negotiation time. So just

1 wanted to report that out.

2 If you want to take a look at this, we have this
3 available, and if you want to take it, those that are
4 in the needs workgroup, and take a look at it, prepare
5 your comments and questions, we can maybe answer those
6 at the next meeting before we get to the full committee
7 level.

8 And after we finished the work on this, then we
9 went back to the home ownership issue on FCAS units,
10 and we continued to work on the concepts, trying to
11 framework language for that issue. We discussed the
12 issue of nonconveyance of the units, when that should
13 happen and the reasons that they're not being conveyed.

14 And really, the main issue that we kept coming
15 back to in our discussion on the issue is how long do
16 you get to count the unit and receive money for it?
17 That's really the heart of the issue.

18 Now however long it takes you to convey that unit,
19 it's really not the genesis of the issue. It's really
20 how long you get to count it and receive money for it.

21 And so, we kept coming back to that, and so that's
22 really the main issue that we're trying to address.

1 We talked about the idea of a certification, such
2 as we have as part of this recommendation on this
3 language where the recipient certifies something to
4 HUD. We were talking about that still.

5 It's a very complex issue, and we are working on
6 the list of issues still that HUD is providing to us
7 through FirstPic because they oversee this process.
8 We're trying to get the -- I guess the parameters of
9 really what issues they are addressing when people are
10 not conveying their units, and they submit the issue to
11 HUD. So we're -- I think the breakdown of issues that
12 were coming from FirstPic, there's like 53 issues that
13 they're going to break into categories for us.

14 We agreed, the workgroup agreed to have a sub-
15 workgroup, and we had sign-up for that sub-workgroup to
16 take a look at that issue of all of the list of issues
17 coming from HUD and FirstPic and agreed to a
18 teleconference to work on that issue between now and
19 our next meeting.

20 Then from that, we went back to our list of nine
21 issues and agreed that it was, you know, in the interim
22 we can continue to work on other issues. And so, we

1 went back to our list of nine, and the next issue that
2 we agreed to pick up was the FCAS factors and
3 definitions, and so we started our discussion on that
4 issue.

5 From that issue, we discussed -- we had a very
6 good presentation from the FirstPic people on the
7 mechanics of the FCAS formula, from AEL and the unit
8 counts, how much money you get for each unit type, the
9 factors of the FCAS formula.

10 And we, of course, you know, in my experience in
11 the past, we've always had to park on the issue of AEL,
12 and so we again got that far. And it was pointed out
13 to us that from the last negotiated rulemaking on this
14 issue that we did ask for and that committee asked for
15 a report and a study be done. And so, that report and
16 study is done. It was done in 2008, and so that is out
17 there.

18 We are -- and I think it's on the Web site now
19 under the documents, the workgroup documents there.
20 And so, if anyone is interested in reading that, our
21 workgroup is going to begin to study that issue because
22 that -- from what we understand from that study, there

1 is the study of what AEL is, the history of it, and
2 then some recommendations on what to do with a local
3 cost factor such as AEL.

4 And so, we are -- that's the hallmark for the
5 workgroup for the next meeting is studying up on that
6 issue and being ready to come back to the table and
7 talk about the limitations of AEL as it currently
8 exists and what the recommendations could be as another
9 local cost factor adjustment.

10 We did review -- the next factor in the FCAS
11 formula that we took a look at was FMRs because in the
12 formula process, you can use the greater of AEL or FMR,
13 fair market rents. And so, we are now reviewing
14 because I think that's -- is that up there yet, or
15 because we are going to put a link together for our
16 workgroup to have access to the HUD data that's out
17 there on FMR, how it's calculated and some of the
18 issues there that's raised in -- that have been raised
19 by tribal groups as far as the shortcomings of FMR.

20 It's interesting because we have, you know,
21 certain areas of the country, we heard from Alaska and
22 other areas, where that figure is all over the place.

1 And so, in our region, I know we have areas where if
2 it's taking a survey of the private market rent market
3 out there, there is none. Affordable housing provided
4 by the housing authority is the only game in town. So
5 how can you come up with a fair market rent when the
6 only housing provided is subsidized?

7 So those are the issues that we're going to take a
8 look at in the fair market rent study. And again, more
9 homework, and we've got a dedicated bunch of folks that
10 are committed to doing the homework and coming back to
11 the table, having these lively discussions.

12 From that, then we moved on to the next item on
13 our list of nine was the data challenge procedures
14 discussion, and that issue is specifically contained in
15 current regulation 1000.336. And that area covers more
16 than just FCAS data challenge, and I understand that
17 needs is having just a small discussion on census.

18 But, no?

19 (Laughter.)

20 MR. ADAMS: But the other factors in there that we
21 are taking a look at is under that 1000.336(a)(4), (5),
22 and (6) specifically talk to FCAS data issues. And

1 also it's worth pointing out that (b) under that area
2 talks specifically about you can't challenge AEL or
3 inflationary factor.

4 And so, there's not much we can do about that. I
5 guess we can have a good discussion whether that moves
6 on as a recommendation to come back to the committee.

7 There is a HUD document that we're going to take a
8 look at in regards to our asking for a TA document to
9 be produced of the current challenges that exist for
10 fair market rent and TDC I believe was the other part.

11 And so, once we get that, again, the whole idea there
12 is to really take a look at what is the parameters or
13 what are the issues that HUD is dealing with with these
14 challenges? And if we can help in regulation to give
15 more guidance on how decisions are made, that's kind of
16 what we're looking at.

17 So I think that I've pretty much covered where we
18 are at. We got finished up here just a few minutes
19 ago, and it's been a lot of good, hard work, and I
20 really appreciate all the hard work of the committee
21 members, the workgroup members that have been at the
22 table because they've been really committed to having

1 good discussions, good, open, honest discussions and
2 respectful discussions on these issues.

3 And we are -- you know, we do have differing
4 opinions at the table, but we are being respectful with
5 one another's opinions, and it's been a good process.
6 So I've enjoyed it so far, and hopefully, when we get
7 back together here soon, we'll be back at the table
8 working through this list and be able to come back to
9 you right away with some proposed language, regulation
10 language for you.

11 So is there any questions of the workgroup because
12 I know Jack would answer those for you. Oh, you're
13 awake?

14 (Laughter.)

15 (No response.)

16 MR. ADAMS: Again, thank you for your
17 participation and allowing us to work on this issue.

18 That's all I have, Mr. Chairman.

19 MR. DOLLARHIDE: Thank you, Jason. Carol, are you
20 ready for yours?

21 MS. GORE: Yes, I am. I think I can safely say
22 the needs workgroup has liftoff.

1 So this is a very difficult topic, and I think
2 we're all trying to deal with the idea that data is
3 really money, and we're really talking about people who
4 come from a variety of different regions who have
5 different conditions. And trying to deal with that
6 whole conversation with respect and a way to mitigate
7 harm to anyone is really the framework within which
8 we're having our conversation.

9 There was just fabulous engagement today, and I
10 want to thank all the committee members and the HUD
11 staff who were in the room. I also want to especially
12 thank Christine, who -- I'm telling you what. She's a
13 miracle. You say the words, and she's crafted a
14 sentence and told you what you just said in a much
15 better way.

16 And also Ben Winter, who has really helped us
17 navigate some of those harder discussions in a way that
18 we've tried to take it from a really more broad,
19 general place, knowing that we have to get to the hard
20 work. But we really want everyone to have some
21 participation that reflects their region, that reflects
22 their people, and reflects either their perceived or

1 real knowledge about their situations and the impact of
2 the data.

3 I think that's incredibly important before we
4 really begin to talk about those details. Our goal is
5 that we're working based on knowledge rather than
6 assumptions. So you're going to see we have four TA
7 requests that we're going to send in that will help us
8 really more focus our work in the next meeting, whether
9 that's June or July.

10 So I want to go over just a couple of the
11 substantive things that we went over. This is the TA
12 requests, and Christine, could you put up just the
13 running list of comments?

14 So we began by just sort of collecting commentary
15 about datasets in general, about ACS specifically,
16 about tribal enrollment. We found a 2001 document that
17 was produced by the HUD contractor that compared
18 datasets pros and cons, whether it was BIA, IHS,
19 administrative records. It was incredibly helpful and
20 got us moved beyond the matrix that we showed to the
21 committee yesterday.

22 What it did not compare because it was 2001 was

1 ACS. So that's really the missing component in that
2 analysis of pros and cons, but it was incredibly
3 helpful.

4 I think what we all agreed on was that no dataset
5 was perfect. So we're not prepared to say what is the
6 right thing to use, but we're certainly prepared to
7 roll up our sleeves and look at all datasets to see
8 what still fits today, what doesn't fit today, what we
9 haven't looked at that might respond to the statutory
10 requirements of the formula.

11 So just a couple of takeaways, if you bear with
12 me, I just want to give you some sense of the
13 conversation that was in the room. So one of the
14 things that was pointed out to us was that the
15 simulation, even though if you think of it this way,
16 between -- if you just use decennial, which is the AIAN
17 factor, that first factor, the difference between that
18 first factor in 2000 and 2010 is going to be different.

19 It's a 10-year change. That's a long period of time.

20 In the middle of that, the data -- the formula
21 uses IHS and other data to estimate what your projected
22 growth or shrinkage factor is. So now we have ACS that

1 has 2010 real count, not saying it was a good count.
2 I'm just saying it is a new count of the same data.
3 And now you're comparing what were projections to what
4 is the count in decennial.

5 So this is not intended to deliver an opinion, but
6 just information that we received that was of interest
7 to the group because, you know, we go along thinking
8 everything is real, and we kind of forget that it's
9 been 10 years since anybody really counted.

10 Now I'm not taking into account those that did
11 their own census challenges and know their numbers to
12 be real, and they were successful in that. So those
13 would obviously be exceptions.

14 We talked a little bit about census challenges and
15 the idea that they're expensive for some, especially
16 the smaller tribes, to conduct, and that really the
17 value of those census challenges, I suspect that will
18 be a conversation that we take up more specifically in
19 future meetings.

20 We talked about the idea of bringing in other
21 experts. You'll see one of the TA requests actually
22 requests that HUD invite Census ACS experts to future

1 meetings. I think Census is prepared to do so, and at
2 least the workgroup would benefit from having their
3 expertise in the room so that we could not just ask the
4 questions but have an immediate answer, or at least a
5 nearer-term answer than sending them something in
6 writing and who knows where that goes, right?

7 We talked a lot about the validity of ACS data and
8 the migration loss to tribes. And what that really led
9 us to was a conversation about the concept of a hold
10 harmless of some sort. The workgroup is certainly not
11 ready to bring anything to the committee that would
12 recommend that, but as a workgroup, we want to explore
13 what that could look like in the case that the
14 committee wants to consider something that's a hold
15 harmless.

16 When we get to that TA request, I'll try to
17 explain the couple of ideas that we had to propose in
18 that request and that we're asking HUD to help us
19 identify a few others.

20 I think the other thing that we talked about more
21 specifically was if data is imperfect, then how do we
22 improve it? And there is, of course, a variety of ways

1 to do so. One is to work more strongly with Census.

2 Another is to work more strongly with tribes.

3 I don't think these are either/or. I think they
4 are "ands." So I think that we could potentially have
5 two partnerships to help us improve the data as we go
6 along, and that's going to be a more significant
7 discussion.

8 If we could get the TA requests up, Christine?
9 And then when we get down to Number 4, I'm going to ask
10 you to also pull up the list, if you don't mind?

11 So we actually have -- well, it looks like we have
12 two 4s. So maybe we have five. Maybe we're not good
13 at this simple math.

14 So you'll see that the first TA request is what
15 we're describing as a "hold harmless." What we're
16 really intending is what can we do to mitigate that
17 shift, that change that happens in that 10-year period,
18 no matter what, whether it's real or not. If what
19 happens at the end of this negotiation is we're using
20 some dataset, it's going to change the outcome, and how
21 do we soften the blow to tribes that would otherwise
22 have to close down programs to make those drastic

1 shifts?

2 So two ideas that we had. The first is we're
3 already doing a "better of" combination between single
4 race/multi-race. This would add another "better of" to
5 that, which would give you the better of decennial
6 versus ACS. So you would get to do two blends, if you
7 will, and come up with your "better of."

8 We don't know what that will look like, whether or
9 not that's really going to make a significant
10 difference. But we wanted to take a look at it.
11 You'll see that we've actually asked for a run related
12 to that so that we can see it. That would be based on
13 the ACS simulation that this committee already has in
14 their hand. We don't want to change the data. We just
15 want to look at it and see what it does.

16 The other is that HUD has looked at other programs
17 that have shifted to ACS as a base, and they've used
18 some certain criteria to mitigate the harm in that
19 shift, and we've asked them to, number one, identify as
20 primarily on the public housing side what they've
21 already done for another program and what that would
22 look like if it were used in our IHBG.

1 And then, lastly, we've asked them to come up with
2 some other ideas, but no more than five. We don't want
3 to overwhelm the workgroup or the committee, but we're
4 just trying to get a sense of where the stakes might
5 be. You know, does any of this even make any sense?
6 And we won't know until we actually see the data.

7 The second request, in the ACS estimates of AIAN
8 population, there is a different number of AIAN than in
9 the 2010 decennial. So we want HUD to ask Census why,
10 and we know Census has studied it, but we want them to
11 tell us why there is a difference in the estimate
12 that's in the ACS count as compared to the 2010
13 decennial AIAN count. So we just want to ask that
14 question.

15 The third one, I'm probably going to have a hard
16 time framing this, but I'm going to give it my best
17 shot. There is -- in the ACS data, single race is a --
18 is a lower count than multi-race, and it's not growing
19 at the same rate as multi-race.

20 So this will look at whether or not if you compare
21 the multi-race to single race, you'd come up with a
22 mathematical equation which will then adjust the AIAN

1 number within the ACS variables so that they are
2 adjusted up for those that have a single race count.
3 So, again, it's intended to adjust the AIAN number on
4 the ACS side because it's believed to be too low, so
5 that it at least comes up to the 2010 census number.

6 Did I say that right, Glenda? Ben?

7 MR. WINTER: Half right.

8 MS. GORE: Half right? Is it half right? Do you
9 want to take a cut at it? Yeah. I thought I was doing
10 great.

11 (Laughter.)

12 MS. GORE: I sounded believable, didn't I?

13 MR. WINTER: You did really well. You did really,
14 really, really well. But it was -- it was -- you got
15 51 percent right.

16 MS. GORE: Good.

17 MR. WINTER: Which rounds up to right.

18 (Laughter.)

19 MS. GORE: I got a C-plus.

20 MR. WINTER: So the question is -- so, as you
21 recall, the formula, the ACS runs -- this is confusing.
22 The terminologies are confusing. The ACS runs that

1 were provided to you replaces the count of AIAN people
2 with decennial 2010 census count, right? That's 100
3 percent count of the population. The rest of the need
4 variables were populated by the American Community
5 Survey.

6 Now the American Community Survey also produces an
7 estimate of the AIAN population. So the suggested run
8 here is to see what is that difference between the
9 census -- decennial census count and the ACS AIAN
10 estimate? And that estimate, that difference there
11 will apply to all the other ACS need variables to try
12 to account for a potential undercount of the AIAN alone
13 population and the potential undercount of the AIAN
14 multi-race data, if it exists. So --

15 MS. GORE: Thank you, Ben. We're all going to be
16 data works by the time this is done, let me tell you.
17 I'll at least have the language, right?

18 And then the fourth TA request is really around
19 the list. So if we could put the list up?

20 So we spent a lot of time today just
21 brainstorming, not trying to put ourselves in a box of
22 what's already in the formula. But really, the

1 statutes are pretty broad, and we wanted to make sure
2 that we have the opportunity to brainstorm what is a
3 need. How would we describe a need, and what need do
4 we want to meet within our regions?

5 This list is incomplete. So we are going to post
6 this list on the Web site. We've asked the workgroup
7 members and I'm asking the committee members to take a
8 look at the list, take it home, and populate it with
9 other needs. And you'll get a sense of the needs.

10 I think what we're going to try to do is set a
11 parameter, a deadline within which to do that work so
12 that we can then categorize them, which is the other
13 part of this request, and bring it back to the
14 workgroup and to the committee, of course.

15 So these are some of the things that we talked
16 about, some of which are already in the formula, we
17 think, but maybe not as robustly or at the same
18 specificity as what was discussed in the workgroup.
19 Age of housing, as an example, was one thing we
20 discussed. And I won't go over the list because you'll
21 have that on the Web site. it's available to you, and
22 it's not intended to be complete.

1 So the rest of the TA request, if we could go back
2 to that, Christine?

3 So we've asked HUD, as part of this request, to
4 tell us what variables are already in the formula,
5 which ones are not. Those that are not, are there data
6 sources that could be used to measure them? And for
7 those that are in the formula, but perhaps the
8 conversation was about we'd like to see them dealt with
9 in a more detailed way.

10 Overcrowding was a huge conversation. And so, is
11 it really bedrooms? Is it bathrooms? So if you have
12 20 people in a house, and there's 1 bathroom, is that -
13 - how do you talk about that?

14 And I think Marlene was here. One of the things
15 that she said that really struck me was when they did
16 their needs assessment on their reservation, when they
17 asked people if they were homeless, they said no. But
18 if they asked them if they were houseless, they said
19 yes.

20 And so, this is an interesting idea to help us
21 populate a census question that I think they would
22 welcome, and that was kind of an "aha moment" I think

1 for all of us in the room. And I thank Marlene for
2 that.

3 So we're asking the HUD staff to look at those
4 specific things because it's really difficult to do in
5 a group of what is 40 or 50 people, and that will be
6 really helpful.

7 The last one is to ask HUD to formally invite
8 Census ACS representatives to attend our negotiated
9 rulemaking committees. We could have moved some things
10 today I think if we'd had someone from Census in the
11 room who could answer some of our questions.

12 Otherwise, we're all sort of grasping. And we can
13 instruct HUD to ask, but that means time, and that's
14 not a luxury we have.

15 Thanks to the committee members. I'm happy to
16 answer any questions. Welcome the feedback.

17 Maybe the last thing that I'll say is in our TA
18 requests, we also asked HUD to check with FirstPic to
19 see if the committee could get a notification by email
20 when these TA requests are complete and posted on the
21 Web site so that we'll know when we can start looking
22 at the data. We don't want to wait until we get to the

1 next meeting. We really want to encourage people to
2 look at the data, give us your feedback.

3 Sami is really the chair of this workgroup. So
4 when she comes back, we'll work together to try to
5 figure out a point of contact. We'll try to accumulate
6 any questions or concerns or lists that you have so
7 that we can get them repopulated back on the Web site
8 for you.

9 So we're going to try to find a way to do that, to
10 keep it moving in between meetings. But otherwise, I
11 thank everybody and hope this was helpful. It was a
12 big day for us.

13 Thank you.

14 MR. DOLLARHIDE: Is there any questions of Jason
15 or Carol that come out of the workgroups?

16 (No response.)

17 MR. DOLLARHIDE: Seeing none, we're a few minutes
18 ahead on the agenda, but we will go ahead and open this
19 up to public comment.

20 Okay. All we ask is that you state your name,
21 please, for the record.

22 MS. BASSETT: Good afternoon. Elena Bassett,

1 Yakama Nation Housing Authority.

2 At the beginning of the week, we received that ACS
3 information, and in there for our particular category,
4 because of that, we were going to receive a big
5 reduction. And of course, that alarmed me. So what is
6 going on here? What happened? But of course, that
7 applies to all of us on a national level that a
8 reduction was received.

9 But when I was looking at that listing, there is a
10 very, very small tribe in our area that is like 350
11 people, they were going to receive a reduction of
12 \$77,000. And when I saw that, oh, wow, do you think
13 I'm going to go back to my region and tell that
14 particular tribe that they were going to receive that
15 much? You know, that's not even, you know, half a
16 bedroom for TDC costs, you know, these days.

17 So at the beginning of the week, you know, I saw
18 that, and I was so concerned, so alarmed. But thanks
19 to the group that I was in today and as you can see,
20 from the TA requests, looking at all that data -- AIAN,
21 decennial -- like Carol says, this was a matter of
22 education for us. And so, I feel a little bit more at

1 ease, but of course, I am not going to be more
2 comfortable until we get all that other data.

3 So I just wanted to say thank you as far as being
4 able to be part of the group, and the report will go
5 back. There are several of us here that are from the
6 Northwest. So, you know, go back to tell that little
7 tiny tribe that being here in this NegReg group this
8 past couple of days, that going to fight like heck not
9 to have them lose that amount of money.

10 So thank you.

11 MR. DOLLARHIDE: Thank you. Do we have any other
12 comments from the public?

13 (No response.)

14 MR. DOLLARHIDE: Seeing none, we'll go ahead and
15 move on to the next item on the agenda, which is
16 logistics for the future meetings. As several folks
17 know that there has been a discussion amongst the --
18 amongst HUD and amongst the committee members about
19 having another meeting in June. And if I'm not
20 mistaken, that would be our fourth meeting.

21 It looks like that's a very strong possibility. I
22 don't think that it's written in stone yet, according

1 to some of the HUD folks. But it is tentative for the
2 week of June 8th, and it's looking like it's going to
3 be possibly somewhere down in the Southwest part of the
4 country, perhaps maybe Phoenix.

5 Once again, they're still working on that, and
6 also along with that, they are still working on the
7 dates. They just know tentatively that it will be the
8 week of June 8th. Whether that will be the 9th, 10th,
9 or the 11th, or the 10th, 11th, or 12th, or 11, 12, 13,
10 that's still up -- still up for discussion, along with
11 the hotel.

12 Then meeting five is still proceeding as scheduled
13 July 29 through the 31st, I believe, in Denver. And
14 from my understanding, correct me if I'm wrong, that
15 will be the end of the meetings for the fiscal year.
16 Is that correct or --

17 MS. HENRIQUEZ: As we now have the funding
18 available, and I will tell you that the TBD on the
19 August meeting probably should stay there. We're going
20 to take the money from August and move it to June, if
21 we can have a June session.

22 And I just sent an email on the hunt, with the

1 subject line "Money Hunt," looking for money to fund
2 the August meeting. And so, we're still on for trying
3 to do that. I think we should be able to pull that off
4 financially if we can.

5 MR. DOLLARHIDE: Is there any discussion from this
6 committee on those dates? Carol?

7 MS. GORE: Yeah, first a question to the Assistant
8 Secretary. Will you be able to participate in June and
9 July if we're able to do that?

10 MS. HENRIQUEZ: Yes to June. I may be in and out
11 because my calendar is filling up a lot. No to July.
12 After June 30th, I am off the payroll, and you will
13 have a new Acting Assistant Secretary as of July 1.

14 MS. GORE: I have a second comment, Jason. Just
15 that I think everybody here knows that NCAI is that
16 same week. I just want to acknowledge that for the
17 record and that, you know, that it really happens the
18 first part of the week. It happens to be in Anchorage.

19 So I kind of have a full calendar for NCAI, but my
20 commitment is to this group. So the sooner you can set
21 those dates, the easier it will be for me to sort of
22 mitigate those commitments. I appreciate that.

1 And then I have a last question. There was a
2 question in our workgroup that we spent way too much
3 time on trying to figure out how many meetings this
4 committee has left in total. So maybe someone from HUD
5 could answer that?

6 MS. HENRIQUEZ: So I might as well take a stab at
7 that one, too. As you know, we sort of had joked about
8 this going back, about "subject to appropriations" was
9 the catch phrase of the day then. It still is subject
10 to appropriations.

11 It costs about \$300,000, maybe a little further
12 north of that, for each of these sessions. The money
13 comes from two pots in the ONAP budget, out of HUD.
14 One is our salary and expenses line item, and one is on
15 some of the technical assistance training line items.

16 And I know we had talked before about how many
17 more, and I guess I'm a little torn because I'd like to
18 be able to have you continue to work intensely, as
19 opposed to working toward the number of meetings,
20 working toward the end goal. And it depends on when
21 you start the count because I think we did talk about
22 anywhere from six to eight. We had budgeted for six.

1 I think there had been discussion about eight.

2 I would encourage you, given we don't know what
3 2015 will look like and given the fact that in 2015, in
4 October, much like we did this past October, you don't
5 know when the budget is going to get passed. And
6 therefore, you don't know when -- how much of a lag
7 time you're going to have between the last meeting in
8 2014, before September 30, and before you could have
9 your next meeting in the new calendar -- or the new
10 fiscal year.

11 So I would encourage you that if we can get this
12 June meeting in, and July and August, you're looking at
13 then a total of five. Is that right? Six? Is it five
14 or six? It will be six. And I'm hoping that the bulk
15 of the work is done by then.

16 I will be, in my own direct, candid way, I
17 understand that some in the room might want to go and
18 prolong this as much as possible, and others would like
19 to do it appropriately but get it into a meaningful
20 number of six meetings and not eight.

21 I'm a little -- I'm hedging purposefully because I
22 don't have a good answer for you because I don't know

1 what the finances will be. And in some ways, that will
2 be left in some ways to negotiate with my successor to
3 figure out what the budget is and what the timing is.

4 So I would ask you to think about finishing as
5 many this year as we can, as planned, and count on one
6 more next year or next fiscal year. But I just don't
7 know when you're going to be able to schedule it
8 because we won't know when the money will come in.

9 I'm sorry. I would also say the reason we wanted
10 to try and get June in was to avoid, since you've got
11 momentum, avoid a 2-month gap before you come back to
12 the table to see each other and negotiate. If we get
13 June in and then July and I can find the money for
14 August, you're then going to have a several-month gap
15 as well because you've got September, and then you've
16 got to figure out when the money is going to come
17 forward to be able to plan sometime after October 1st.

18 And so, you're going to be back in the same spot.

19 So, hopefully, you'll get as much work done now
20 through the next several months, the main ticket items,
21 so that you don't have to feel like you've fits and
22 starts and done a bunch of work, and then you've got to

1 step back a couple of paces and come forward again.

2 MR. DOLLARHIDE: Thank you, Sandra and Carol. Do
3 we have any questions of Carol or Sandra on their
4 comments that they just made?

5 (No response.)

6 MR. DOLLARHIDE: Seeing none, I will move down to
7 Marlene and then Jack.

8 MS. LYNCH: Thank you. We have a conflicting
9 schedule the week of June 9, and if it's possible to
10 schedule another NegReg session during the week of June
11 16, that would be greatly appreciated.

12 MR. DOLLARHIDE: Thank you. Jack?

13 MR. SAWYERS: I'm going to say this nice. Yeah,
14 why would I change? Yeah, why would I do that? No,
15 I'm not.

16 You know, we spend -- and this is in line with
17 what you're talking about, spend a lot of time and
18 money to be here. We set our sessions for from 1:00
19 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. or from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and I
20 can get enough rest in between to make it later. I'm
21 saying let's encourage each other to be to all of our
22 sessions for all of the time and not worry so much

1 about 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and all of these kind of
2 things because we've got a lot of work to do, and it
3 costs a lot from HUD. It costs a lot for us.

4 And can we encourage all of the members, not just
5 part, but all of the members to be here? In fact, I
6 think that we should schedule from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00
7 p.m. each day. That means that last day, you can
8 travel home, but not until after 10:00 at night.

9 And so, I really do encourage you to do that
10 because we have a lot of work to do, and there's a lot
11 of folks back home depending on the work we do. And
12 we've made a commitment.

13 So I guess I would really encourage us to lengthen
14 our days and, you know, we can go into subcommittees
15 and a whole bunch of other things, but let's schedule
16 from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. or 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.,
17 and then maybe take a break in between and have dinner.

18 But if we don't need it, that's okay. But let's
19 schedule it that way, and let's just say there we are
20 from this day to this day.

21 Thanks.

22 MR. DOLLARHIDE: Thank you, Jack. Any comments?

1 MR. DELGADO: Pete Delgado. Just to follow up on
2 what Jack said, as a native Arizonan, there is no
3 better place to be in June than in Phoenix, Arizona.
4 So --

5 (Laughter.)

6 MR. DELGADO: -- no one is going to want to go
7 outside when it's 120 degrees. So --

8 MR. DOLLARHIDE: Any other comments before we move
9 on to the next item on the agenda?

10 (No response.)

11 MR. DOLLARHIDE: Seeing none, the next item on the
12 agenda is the selection of the co-chairs. As you're
13 aware, we do have the -- according to the protocols and
14 charters, we can change those after every meeting, have
15 new co-chairs for every meeting. So I will leave that
16 up to the committee for discussion, and -- go ahead,
17 Leon.

18 MR. JACOBS: Mr. Chairman, I would recommend the
19 two co-chairs that we have for -- because of the
20 continuity of the meetings and so forth. But I would
21 like to ditto what Jack has said about the agenda,
22 making sure that we start on time.

1 This meeting, we had a couple of times when we
2 were late, and I think it's important that the co-
3 chairs make sure that we start on time. So my
4 recommendation is to keep the same ones.

5 MR. DOLLARHIDE: I appreciate your comments, Leon.
6 Just to, you know, I can make sure that we can see
7 that that tries to happen. You know, obviously, all I
8 can do is come and say, okay, we're ready to start the
9 meeting, and whether everybody wants to sit down is
10 really their decision. But I guess we can start it,
11 and the folks can carry on their conversations outside
12 or however they see fit.

13 So I would --

14 MS. GORE: Jason, I'll bring my mom next time.

15 (Laughter.)

16 MR. DOLLARHIDE: I believe Sara has a couple of
17 comments pertaining to the Web site. While I have --
18 while we're on that, I would like to make one comment,
19 and I believe that it was brought up in the needs
20 workgroup. Whenever something is put up on the Web
21 site, if there could be an email notification sent out
22 to all of the members once that becomes available?

1 I guess we were under the understanding that that
2 was supposed to already be happening, but it hasn't
3 been. So if we can make sure that that does happen for
4 all the committee members once something gets posted,
5 that it does -- does send out, lets the committee
6 members know that it has been posted.

7 Thank you. Okay, Raymond?

8 MR. GONZALES: Raymond Gonzales. Question to
9 that, and I guess it's also a question for the
10 committee chairs, because you do have people in those
11 workgroups that aren't actually committee members but
12 are participating and providing input and working hard
13 for the committee.

14 So is it just going to be response just to the
15 committee members on the email from the Web site, or is
16 it everybody who's been participating? Since when I
17 sign in, I give my email address, and I'm assuming
18 everybody else who is signed in does the same.

19 So are we providing that courtesy to everybody
20 else who is attending?

21 MS. FIALA: Hi, everyone. So I'm going to go over
22 the Web site first, and to answer the questions about

1 notifications when new items are posted, I can
2 definitely start doing that for our committee members
3 as soon as a new document is up. You may get multiple
4 emails a day as things are posted up. For example,
5 today we had -- or yesterday, I think I posted up five
6 or six documents. So there may be multiple documents a
7 day coming from the IHBG rulemaking Web site, notifying
8 you that a new document has posted.

9 Right now, I can send that to all committee
10 members, the co-chairs. We are working on a way to
11 notify the workgroups and then the general public, and
12 we're figuring out the easiest way to get that done.
13 But starting on Monday, as soon as things are posted,
14 the committee members will be notified by email of
15 that.

16 So what I wanted to do is just, again, really
17 quickly go over the Web site and let you know where
18 things are going to be posted. So the Web site address
19 is ihbgrulemaking.firstpic.org. I think most people
20 have been on the home screen. Again, pretty self-
21 explanatory, the "abouts."

22 Most of the documents that you're going to want to

1 see are going to be under this public site, which is
2 "documents." And then you can sort of go down the
3 list. There's the committee-approved documents. For
4 example, when we get back on Monday, I will post up the
5 approved final agenda.

6 Things that are approved by the committee are
7 going to go up under this documents committee approved.

8 Public documents, such as you can -- I'm sorry. I
9 think I downloaded a virus onto the computer. Such as
10 the statute and regs are under this public section.

11 And then we get into session-specific documents,
12 transcripts, presentations are going to be posted up in
13 this section. And then you'll see under the
14 workgroups, we broke it down into FCAS, needs, and
15 special projects.

16 So, as you can see, we already posted up a lot of
17 the documents that have been produced from this session
18 in both of the workgroups, and as well, we've also
19 received some TA requests, which have also been posted
20 up on the Web site as well.

21 For the general public, who is not going to be
22 notified right away, we're working on that. Because

1 there are several tabs, instead of having to click and
2 see if something new has been added to each tab, if you
3 go under "documents" and just click the main documents
4 tab, you'll see that there is -- sorry about that -- a
5 Web site document library, which I have a confession to
6 make. The new documents that were posted during this
7 session, I have not been able to update the library,
8 but it will be done on Monday.

9 So a very easy way to see if new documents has
10 been added is to come to this Excel document, and it's
11 done by order, and I will even add in a date as to when
12 the document was posted up so you can just go and
13 filter by that. So for the general public who does not
14 receive notifications and for workgroup members, this
15 Excel document will probably be the quickest way to
16 find out if new documents have been posted. And then,
17 as you can see, you can link to the actual document
18 back onto the Web site.

19 So, in the meantime, I think that's probably the
20 easiest way and quickest way to determine if a new
21 document is up.

22 For committee members, again, you do have your

1 log-in area, and if you need assistance with that, you
2 can just ask me. I'm happy to help you out, get a log-
3 in. The log-ins are for committee members only. But
4 for those of you that are not members, there are really
5 not that many documents on the Web sites that are not
6 available to the general public.

7 So, really, a lot of the documents that are up on
8 the committee member portion of the Web site are
9 information about travel reimbursement, hotel
10 information for committee members, and occasionally,
11 there are documents which need to be reviewed by the
12 committee that have not been yet -- for example, before
13 this session, I posted up the minutes from September
14 that were going to be approved by the committee during
15 this session.

16 So things that need committee approval would not
17 be on the public site, but the majority of the
18 documents and all of the workgroup documents will be on
19 that public site.

20 Moving on, just a couple of housekeeping things.
21 For the July session in Denver, I will be sending out
22 information about how to book your hotel rooms. I've

1 done something very similar as we did for the past
2 three sessions in which I made reservations for you,
3 and you can just call and confirm that information with
4 the hotel.

5 The general public can also start making their
6 hotel reservations, and if you go to "sessions," and
7 right now, it's currently session four, but I guess it
8 will probably end up being session five. But if you
9 click on this page, it gives all the information about
10 how to make your hotel reservation for the July Denver
11 session. So if you have any problems, as always, you
12 can call myself or any of my staff, and we can help you
13 with that process.

14 For the committee members, travel, if you go onto
15 your members, travel documents, you will see that the
16 HUD forms required for reimbursement are posted up onto
17 that site, and I was asked to remind everyone that
18 before you can book travel to July Denver, you have to
19 turn in your expense forms for the April session.

20 So those, I believe, gets in to Keith Giarrusso?
21 Is that right? To Keith. So if you have any questions
22 about the reimbursement process, that will go to Keith.

1 And finally, if you have not signed in into either
2 the workgroups or to the general session, if you would
3 not mind, there are sign-in sheets outside. And we
4 maintain those, and we post them up, and that way we're
5 able to get information out to you, and we can keep a
6 record of the different workgroup members.

7 So I don't know if anyone has any questions, but -
8 -

9 (No response.)

10 MS. FIALA: Well, thank you very much. Looking
11 forward to seeing everybody in a couple of months.
12 Thanks.

13 MR. DOLLARHIDE: Thank you. Any questions for
14 Sara? Leon?

15 MR. JACOBS: Mr. Chairman, I have a question for
16 Rodger. Do you have a possible date when the Indian
17 Community Development Block Grant NOFA will be
18 published?

19 MR. BOYD: I've been told the 1st of June. But
20 hopefully, they're also going to try to expedite that
21 to the middle of May. So I guess what that really says
22 is no later than the 1st of June.

1 MR. DOLLARHIDE: Questions, comments of the
2 committee?

3 (No response.)

4 MR. DOLLARHIDE: Seeing none, I will ask Jason
5 Adams if he would give us a closing prayer?

6 MR. ADAMS: Thank you, Jason. Before I close with
7 a word of prayer, I just wanted to offer a couple of
8 things.

9 In my prayer time this morning, I was reminded of
10 a couple of things that I think are appropriate to
11 share.

12 I was hoping to yell. Thank you.

13 I guess what I was reminded of this morning was a
14 couple of things, and I just wanted to share those with
15 us before we close here in a word of prayer.

16 The first thing is that, you know, in reading the
17 word of God, it talks about his mercies are new every
18 day, and I needed to hear that today because that was
19 just so appropriate because it reminds me of who our
20 God is. And so, I just wanted to share that with you.

21 And the other thing is I was reminded of those
22 that have come before us, especially those of us that

1 had great-grandmas and grandmas in our lives that were
2 on their knees in prayer on a daily basis for their
3 people looking forward, and I was reminded and humbled
4 by that this morning because I did have a great-
5 grandmother who reminded me of that all the time as I
6 was growing up. She would be in prayer for us, our
7 family, our large family.

8 And so, that humbled me this morning as far as
9 that's why I'm here, because I have what I have as far
10 as my family and the ability to share those things.
11 So, with that in mind, I just wanted to share that and
12 remind us, some of us, especially myself, that that's
13 where we come from.

14 And so, with that in mind, I want to share a word
15 of prayer with you. So please join with me.

16 Heavenly Father, we thank you once again, Lord,
17 for this time that we have here together while we come
18 many miles from all corners of our nation here and our
19 nations to be here and to come together to work because
20 we have those that who prayed for us from time
21 immemorial, that came long before us, that prayed for
22 our people to be where they're at today. And in some

1 cases, those situations are tough, but remind us and
2 hold us accountable, Lord, that we need to come to you
3 first. And so, we pray that again today.

4 We thank you for all that you provide for us, for
5 the many blessings that we have, this beautiful day
6 that we have here today. We thank you for all that you
7 have given us. I'm thankful for those that came before
8 us that were in prayer, that brought us to where we are
9 today.

10 I'm thankful for our elders back home, that we
11 have those that remind us all the time that we need to
12 be about the important business and the business right
13 here that we're working at this table. We have so much
14 to be responsible for back home, our elders, our
15 children, our families. We thank you for that awesome
16 responsibility.

17 And so, Lord, I just pray for everyone here as we
18 go from this place, as we return to our homes, that we
19 embrace our families, and we thank you for the many
20 blessings that you've given us, and we continue to work
21 hard for those things that there is still need.

22 And I thank you for our soldiers and those that

1 are in harm's way that provide freedom for us today.

2 For all these things, Father, I thank you. I

3 thank you for our leadership around this table.

4 For all these things, I pray in Jesus' name, amen.

5 MR. DOLLARHIDE: Thank you, Jason. With that, we

6 will adjourn this meeting.

7 (Whereupon, at 4:46 p.m., the meeting was

8 adjourned.)

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