

# 1999 Current Fiscal Year Report: Department of Veterans Affairs Wage Committee

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<b>1. Department or Agency</b>	<b>2. Fiscal Year</b>		
Department of Veterans Affairs	1999		
<b>3. Committee or Subcommittee</b>	<b>3b. GSA Committee No.</b>		
Department of Veterans Affairs Wage Committee	1336		
<b>4. Is this New Fiscal Year?</b>	<b>5. Current Charter</b>	<b>6. Expected Renewal Date</b>	<b>7. Expected Term Date</b>
No	04/18/1997	04/18/1999	01/01/1999
<b>8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?</b>	<b>8b. Specific Termination Authority</b>	<b>8c. Actual Term Date</b>	
Yes		01/01/1999	
<b>9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year</b>	<b>10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?</b>	<b>10b. Legislation Pending?</b>	
Terminate	No		
<b>11. Establishment Authority</b>	Agency Authority		
<b>12. Specific Establishment Authority</b>	<b>13. Effective Date</b>	<b>14. Committee Type</b>	<b>14c. Presidential?</b>
5 CFR 532.227	05/11/1981	Continuing	No

**15. Description of Committee** Non Scientific Program Advisory Board

**16a. Total Number of Reports** 9

<b>16b. Report Date</b>	<b>Report Title</b>
12/02/1998	Cedar Rapids-Iowa City, IA, 2.75%
12/02/1998	Des Moines, IA, 3.37%
12/02/1998	Pittsburgh, PA, 3.35%
12/16/1998	Boston, MA, 3.50%
12/16/1998	Champaign-Irbana, IL, 2.77%

12/16/1998 Charlotte, NC, 3.63%  
 12/16/1998 Chicago, IL, 3.62%  
 12/16/1998 Roanoke, VA, 3.63%  
 12/16/1998 Southwestern Michigan, 3.01%

**Number of Committee Reports Listed: 9**

**17a.** 0 **17b. Closed** 2 **17c. Partially Closed** 0 **Other Activities** 0 **17d. Total** 2  
**Open**

**Meetings and Dates**

Purpose	Start	End
Discuss private industry pay data to establish FWS pay schedules	12/02/1998	12/02/1998
Discuss private industry pay data to establish FWS pay schedules	12/16/1998	12/16/1998

**Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 2**

	Current FY	Next FY
<b>18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members</b>	\$116.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff</b>	\$3,000.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18d. Total</b>	\$3,116.00	\$0.00
<b>19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)</b>	0.10	0.00

**20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?**

The Committee discussed each of the 9 staff recommendations for revised wage schedule paylines, based upon a survey of private industry pay for blue-collar work in each locality, against the alternatives allowed by 5 CFR 532, and then made its recommendations to the Undersecretary for Health. Wage schedule changes were then approved by the Undersecretary for Health and applied to the 25,000 Federal Wage System (blue-collar) employees of VA and other agencies in the localities. The average increases in the wage schedules ranged from 2.75 percent to 3.63 percent.

**20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?**

As required by 5 CFR 532.227, the Committee membership is balanced between labor organizations (2 members) and management (2 members and the chairperson). The regulation implements the general requirement in 5 USC 5343 for the participation of labor organizations in setting Federal Wage System rates of pay.

**20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?**

The Committee usually met every two to four weeks in order to review one or more of the 23 annual FWS wage surveys for which VA was the lead agency. Annual surveys and wage schedule adjustments are required by 5 USC 5343, and the completion dates of the surveys are spread throughout the year. As of January 1, 1999, OPM designated DOD as the Lead Agency for all FWS wage areas that VA has previously been the Lead.

**20d. Why can't the advice or information this**

**committee provides be obtained elsewhere?**

5 CFR 532.227 requires each FWS Lead Agency, such as VA, to establish an agency wage committee, including management and labor members, to review the results of wage surveys and recommend pay changes to the approving agency official. The VA Wage Committee, in advising the Undersecretary for Health, thus carries out this regulatory requirement imposed by the Office of Personnel Management. The regulation in turn, is a part of the implementation of Subchapter IV, Prevailing Rate Systems, of Title 5, USC.

**20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?**

All meetings are closed to the public because the matters considered are related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of the Department of Veterans Affairs and because the wage survey data considered by the Committee have been obtained from officials of private establishments with a guarantee that the data will be held in confidence.

**21. Remarks****Designated Federal Officer**

William (Bill) L. Soultis DFO

<b>Committee Members</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Member Designation</b>
Bernhardt, Charles	10/01/1998	09/30/1999	Wage Specialist, American Federation of Government Employees	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Curley, Dennis	10/01/1998	09/30/1999	Group Leader, Customer Advisory & Consulting Group, Human Resource Mgmt., Dept of Veterans Affairs	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Panther, Barbara	10/01/1998	09/30/1999	Team Leader, Customer Advisory & Consulting Group, Dept. of Veterans Affairs	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Price, Thomas	10/01/1998	09/30/1999	Staff Director, Management Support Office, VHS, Dept of Veterans Affairs	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Tchirkow, Peter	10/01/1998	09/30/1999	Statistician/Analyst, American Federation of Government Employees	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Walsh, William	10/01/1998	09/30/1999	Director, Medical Service, Ofc of Dep Secy for Budget, Dept of Veterans Affairs	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Wasyluk, O.	10/01/1998	09/30/1999	Budget Analyst, Capital budgeting & Oversight, Dept. of Veterans Affairs	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

**Number of Committee Members Listed: 7**

## Narrative Description

**What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?**

Checked if  
Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Outcome Comments

**What are the cost savings associated with this committee?**

Checked if Applies

None	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cost Savings Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Cost Savings Comments

**What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?**

0

## Number of Recommendations Comments

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?**

%

## % of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?**

%

## % of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

**Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?**

Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable ☒

### **Agency Feedback Comments**

**What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?**

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

### **Action Comments**

**Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?**

No

### **Grant Review Comments**

**How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?**

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

### **Access Comments**

