

DEFENSE BUSINESS BOARD

Meeting Minutes

November 3, 2021 / November 4, 2021
8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. / 8:15 a.m. – 4:10 p.m.

The Defense Business Board (DBB) is a Federal Advisory Committee of the Department of Defense (DoD) operating pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972, the Government in the Sunshine Act of 1976, and other appropriate federal regulations. The DBB meets quarterly and held its first session for fiscal year 2022 on November 3 and 4, 2021 in the Secretary of the Air Force Conference Room (4E869). The meeting was a partially closed session with an open (public) meeting held from 10:45 – 11:45 a.m. on November 4. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, registered public participants joined via a dedicated conference telephone line.

DBB Members (voting) (13 present)

Deborah Lee James (Chair)

Joseph Anderson

Sally Donnelly

Christopher Gopal

Erin Hill

Oscar Munoz

Johnnie Wilson

David Beitel

Cheryl Eliano

Linnie Haynesworth

Jennifer McClure

David Van Slyke

David Walker

DBB Members Not Present

None

DBB Staff (non-voting)

CAPT Jeff Plaisance, USN, U.S. Navy Military Representative to the DBB and Alternate Designated Federal Officer (ADFO)

Webster Bridges III, Director of Research and Analysis

Col Chuck Brewer, USMCR, U.S. Marine Corps Military Representative to the DBB

Leah Glaccum, Staff Assistant

Public Attendees

The DBB received one request from the public to participate in the open meeting held from 10:45 – 11:45 a.m. on November 4. Ms. Angela Rey was the only participant from the public to attend.

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ADMINISTRATIVE WORK

At 8:30 a.m., Ms. James welcomed the 12 nominated members of the Defense Business Board. Ms. Cita Reid then administered the oath of office as Special Government Employees (SGE) to make them new members of the DBB.

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CLOSED MEETING

At 8:55 a.m., CAPT Plaisance, acting as ADFO due to the absence of the DFO, called to order the closed meeting and provided opening administrative remarks. At 9:10 A.M., Ms. James outlined her four themes for the DBB members to consider: (1) World-wide security environment; (2) Fiscal challenges for the Country and the Department; (3) DBB's focus should be on shifting resources from the Tail to the Tooth; and (4) Department is focused on carrying out the President's direction as well as Congressional requirements. At 9:30 a.m., the Honorable Lloyd Austin, Secretary of Defense, delineated the Department's three major priorities: (1) Defending the Country; (2) Taking Care of People; and (3) Teamwork. The Honorable Kathleen Hicks, Deputy Secretary of Defense, then thanked the DBB members for their time and service to the Department and summarized the area where she thought their expertise would be helpful.

ADMINISTRATIVE WORK

At 10:00 a.m., the Board members provided short introductions of themselves, their background, and their families. At 10:30 a.m., the Board members traveled to Pentagon Room 1F1084 to complete their badging requirements.

CLOSED MEETING

At 11:30 a.m., the Board conducted a working lunch and received a classified Audit / Planning, Programming, Budgeting, and Execution (PPBE) Presentation from the Honorable Michael McCord, Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)/Chief Financial Officer. Mr. McCord covered the scope of DoD's fiscal responsibilities and how the Department plans for, manages, and allocates its financial resources in support of the President's direction. At 12:30 p.m., Mr. Dave Spirk, Chief Data Officer, DoD Office of the Chief Information Officer, provided a classified briefing on DoD's Data Strategy. Mr. Spirk stated DoD was making great strides in access to data and familiarity with data within the work force, but much work remained. He summarized how DoD was using its ADVANA platform (ADVanced ANALytics). At 1:30 p.m., the Board received three classified briefings on DoD Business Operations. Mr. Robin Swan, Director, Office of Business Transformation, Office of the Secretary of the Army, briefed the current state of the Army's Business Operations. Ms. Robin Tomlin, Director, Office of the Chief Management Officer, Office of the Secretary of the Navy, briefed the current state of the Navy's Business Operations. Mr. Richard Lombardi, Deputy Under Secretary of the Air Force, Management and Deputy Chief Management Officer, Office of the Secretary of the Air Force, briefed the current state of the Air Force's Business Operations. At 2:45 p.m., General Mark Milley, U.S. Army, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, conducted a classified briefing on world-wide DoD military operations. Due to time constraints, the classified briefing from Dr. Kelly Fletcher, Performing the Duties of the DoD Chief Information Officer, on Information Management / Information Technology was postponed to the next DBB meeting. At 4:00 p.m., Mr. Greg Kausner, Performing the Duties of Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, provided a classified briefing on Acquisition Strategies / Contract Reform / Supply Chain and Sustainment / Energy Resilience. Mr. Kausner talked at length about his focus on integrated deterrence and integrated acquisition portfolio reviews. His office was conducting these reviews along the entire kill chain for each system and platform that contributed to a kill chain. He also mentioned his office was working on Adaptive Acquisition Policy. At 4:45 p.m.,

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Ms. James summarized the briefings for the day for the board members. At 4:55 p.m., CAPT Plaisance adjourned the meeting.

NOVEMBER 4, 2021

CLOSED MEETING

At 8:15 a.m., CAPT Plaisance called to order the closed meeting and provided administrative remarks for the day. At 8:20 a.m., Ms. James outlined her expectations for the day, in particular how the board members should conduct their breakout sessions in the afternoon. At 8:30 a.m., Mr. Greg Little, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)/Chief Financial Officer provided a classified briefing and demonstration of DoD's ADVANA platform. At 9:30 a.m., the Honorable Gilbert R. Cisneros, Jr., Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness provided a classified briefing on Upskill / Reskill Workforce / Deputy's Workforce Council. At 10:30 a.m., the Board took a break to set up for the Open Meeting at 10:45 a.m.

OPEN MEETING

At 10:45 a.m., CAPT Plaisance called to order the open meeting and provided administrative remarks for the session. At 10:50 a.m., Mr. Farooq Mitha, Director of DoD Office of Small Business Programs, provided an overview briefing of the DoD Small Business Programs and specifically focused on the Mentor Protégé Program (MPP). A DBB assessment of DoD's MPP is required by § 872(d) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116-92), to the Congressional Defense Committees no later than March 31, 2022. At 11:40 a.m., CAPT Plaisance asked for any public comments or questions. As there were no comments or questions, he adjourned the open meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE WORK

At 11:45 a.m., Ms. Karen Dalheim, Senior Attorney, Standards of Conduct Office, Office of the General Counsel of the Department of Defense, gave the members a briefing on the required ethics and the expected standards of being an SGE and DBB member, in light of their SGE status.

SUBCOMMITTEE WORK

At 12:45 p.m., the DBB broke up into its subcommittees for a Breakout Session. The Business Operations Subcommittee discussed the previously approved Mentor Protégé Program Assessment. The Business Transformation Subcommittee discussed an approved upcoming assessment on Executive Analytics. The Talent Management, Diversity, and Culture Subcommittee discussed a possible upcoming assessment on Reskilling / Upskilling the DoD's civilian workforce.

CLOSED MEETING

At 2:00 p.m., CAPT Plaisance called to order the closed meeting and provided administrative remarks for the session. Deputy Secretary Hicks directed a classified Board Member Roundtable

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Discussion focused on business challenges of the Department in light of current strategic competition. Ms. James and the other Board members provided feedback on briefings presented.

ADMINISTRATIVE WORK

At 3:15 p.m., the Board took a group picture with Secretary Hicks and the DBB staff. At 3:45 p.m., Ms. James made final remarks and thanked the DBB members for their time and effort. At 4:00 p.m., CAPT Plaisance provided final administrative remarks and adjourned the closed meeting.

By my signature, certified to be accurate and complete.



Deborah Lee James
Chair, Defense Business Board