

NASA EPSCoR Caucus Executive Committee Meeting Agenda

Date: **November 11, 2025**

Time: 4:00 PM Eastern, 5:00 PM Puerto Rico, 3:00 PM Central, 2:00 PM Mountain, 1:00 PM Pacific, 12:00 PM Alaska, 11:00 AM Hawaii, 7:00 AM (+1) Guam

Part 1 ExCom business (ExCom and invited participants)—60 minutes

Welcome, roll, agenda	C. Cole
Secretary's report (approval of minutes from last meeting)	P. Oemig
Discussion regarding Caucus meeting in February (tentative date 2/28/2026)	All ExCom
ExCom Schedule another ExCom meeting in November after shutdown is over?	All ExCom
NASA EPSCoR Advocacy	L. Katz
EPSCoR / IDEa Foundation	J. Molesworth
Other business	All ExCom

Part 2 Open session (All)—30 minutes

Comments and questions from the floor	All
Adjourn	

Meeting Notes:

Chip: Welcome everyone. We can go ahead with the secretary's report.

Paulo: Are there any corrections or edits to the minutes from September 9 as revised with Melanie's corrections? None.

Chip moved to approve, Shawna seconded. All in favor. None against.

Minutes from September 9 approved.

Chip: Next agenda item Caucus mtg for Feb. 28, penthouse at 800 Maine Ave. will host us, it's a Saturday. February 24 floated as another option.

Denise: The larger EPSCoR STARTs first, do you know the dates for the larger EPSoR MEETING?

Chip: Feb. annual meeting Feb. 23rd all day. Board mtg on Feb. 22 from 4 to 6 pm.

Denise: Big meeting on Monday and usually on Wednesdays (February 25) Hill visits.

Chip: Had an email from Melanie, but the notes are not from the EPSCoR but from SG.

Denise: I'm perfectly fine with the 28, but if it was on the 24th it wouldn't work for me. I typically do my visits the day before the Hill visits.

Toni: Badges renewal. It may work better if we use a weekday for the renewals.

Chip: If we have the NASA folks, we can bring that up.

I also heard from Cass. The room block has been extended through Feb. 28.

I understand it is a concern for those on the West Coast. Losing the entire weekend.

Paulo: I'm okay with the 28.

Chip: Should we try to meet with NASA? I'm optimistic about the government reopening soon. What does the ExCom think?

Laurie: It looks like by Thursday we will have a vote on the House.

Bundled with 3 bipartisan spending bills (Department of Agriculture, legislative branch, and Department of VA and military construction) with the CR through January 30.

Congress wants to make sure all members are back in DC.

Give NASA time to get settled after reopening.

Shawna: It will be pretty tight to get a meeting before Thanksgiving. Is there a pressing need?

Chip: Well, that's what I'm wondering.

Shawna: I don't feel a pressing need.

Paulo: Chip I would reach out to him directly after the government reopens but give it a day or two to get him situated again.

Chip: Thanks for joining us, Laurie.

Laurie: If the three bills get passed, a second minibus would address the NASA reauthorization. They are trying to move more than those three appropriation bills. It may be that we end up with a CR for a full year. For a NASA reauthorization there needs to be a NASA Administrator; Jared Isaacman has been nominated again.

Chip: Jessica has been helping us with a venue for us to meet.
Any other comments from the ExCom.

Colleen: Slight preference for Sat. Feb. 28. Our Caucus meeting is informed by all the other meetings during the week. There is value in having the meeting at the end of the week. Reaching out to NASA – making time to meet with Dave to see how they are doing and specifically ask about what will happen with the basic research and RID to update us on Dec. 9. As we're preparing for the Hill visits, I think we need to have check-ins earlier to coordinate our collective message.

Laurie: Do you mean something beyond the webinars?

Colleen: Yes. Losing the Office of STEM Engagement, how to approach it.

Laurie: Benefits/Risks factor analysis. We need to have more discussions about that. We can figure a way on how to have those conversations.

Shawna: In the chat, finishing earlier on Sat. to catch evening flights.

Chip: We can certainly try.

Any other comments/questions? Hearing none, we can adjourn. (16:32 pm EST).