***[You will gavel in the hearing]***

The committee will now come to order.

We’re coming together at an important time for the Postal Service, where postal workers just successfully delivered ballot mail during a busy election season and are now ramping up for “peak” holiday season.

One key issue we will discuss today is the Postal Service’s proposed service changes, which are currently under review by the Postal Regulatory Commission.

We will continue to examine these plans and their potential impacts on mail delivery service for our constituents—– as well as their implications for Postal Service finances.

The Postal Service connects Americans everywhere—delivering critical mail like prescription drugs, Social Security checks, rent payments, small business packages, and more.

Americans rely on the Postal Service every day, so it’s criticalthat we understand its plans for service, operations, and finances.

Our last hearing with you was in April – where we discussed the significant, nationwide changes the Postal Service has begun making to its operational network.

These include plans to consolidate facilities and reduce truck trips – and other changes to how mail is delivered.

These changes have raised concerns about service quality and cost-effectiveness, particularly in rural areas, like at the Iron Mountain Processing Center in my home state of Michigan.

At our last hearing, and afterward, my colleagues and I urged you to pause and further study these changes before moving forward – to fully understand their impacts on service and costs.

As a result, the Postal Service paused a number of facility consolidations until January 2025.

The Postal Service also requested an “Advisory Opinion” from its regulator, the Postal Regulatory Commission, to further study these changes. This is a positive step to fully understand the impacts, through a transparent public process.

However, since our last hearing, the Postal Service also announced new changes – including changes to its service standards, which dictate the speed of mail delivery.

Members of Congress – including Members of this Committee – have continued to raise questions about these changes and their service impacts.

Two years ago, I led the passage of the bipartisan Postal Service Reform Act – the first major reforms to the Postal Service in over 15 years.

This legislation set the agency on a more stable financial footing – providing over $50 billion in financial relief over ten years. The Postal Service is not on the brink of financial crisis, but it needs to make careful decisions about how it moves forward.

While the Postal Service is making changes intended to save costs, questions remain about how well the Postal Service is tracking actual cost reductions – and the potential for service cuts to hurt the bottom line.

Above all, the Postal Service must continue to focus on its public service mandate to deliver to every American.

That’s why we are here today—to ensure the Postal Service remains accountable to Congress and the American people. The Members of this Committee – and other Senators I have heard from – are looking for transparency and an open discussion.

Mr. DeJoy, thank you for being here today and answering Member questions. I look forward to hearing from you and hope it is a productive discussion.

With that – I will turn things over to Ranking Member Paul.

***[Ranking Member Paul Opening]***

Thank you, Ranking Member Paul.

**[\*\*SWEARING IN WITNESS\*\*]**

It is the practice of this Committee to swear in witnesses, so if you will please stand and raise your right hand.

Do you swear that the testimony you will give before this Committee will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

***[Witness will respond “I do.”]***

Please be seated.