

NAVAL BASE CHARLESTON
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB) MEETING
Minutes of July 13, 1999
Live Oak Community Center
2012 Success St., North Charleston, SC

RAB Members Attending

Mr. Tony Hunt
Mr. Lou Mintz
Mr. Dann Spariosu
Ms. Wannetta Mallette-Pratt
Mr. Oliver Addison
Mr. Bob Veronee

Guests Attending

Mr. Paul Bergstrand	SCDHEC
Mr. Mihir Mehta	SCDHEC
Mr. Gabriel Magwood	SouthDiv
Mr. Larry Bowers	EnSafe
Mr. Andrew Wertz	EnSafe
Mr. Keith Johns	EnSafe
Mr. David Dodds	SouthDiv

Introduction of RAB Members and Guests

Tony Hunt brought the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Member and audience introductions were made.

Administrative Remarks, Comments of the Last Minutes

Mr. Hunt advised the attendees that the April and June minutes of the meetings were on the back table. Some of the subjects for those meetings will be discussed again tonight to bring the RAB members up to speed in this process. Mr. Hunt reminded everyone of the corrections to the April minutes brought up at the June meeting.

Arthur Pinckney had submitted a list of questions a few years ago related to the cleanup program. Those questions were addressed with the project team. Mr. Hunt will bring that list of questions as an agenda item for the August meeting.

Mr. Hunt asked for questions or comments on the minutes. No comments were made on the June minutes, and the April meeting minutes were approved as revised in June.

Subcommittee Reports

Mr. Mintz informed the audience that the Community Relations Subcommittee discussed a fact sheet about the time table and procedures leading to transfer to public entities. The RAB will be receiving information on proposed corrective measures and will need input from the public and others. Mr. Mintz also informed the board that one of the ideas suggested to build interest in the RAB meetings is to place an ad in the newspaper for new RAB members.

Mr. Hunt advised that, in the recent mail-out to the RAB members, there was a letter asking members to review their involvement with the RAB. If a member felt his or her participation was not constructive, they should let Mr. Hunt know so they can be replaced. Mr. Laney was the only respondent to that request. He asked to resign because of too many commitments, but would still like to be involved from the community standpoint. He offered his assistance to the RAB should there be a need to consult him on his experience at the shipyard.

The fact sheet Mr. Mintz mentioned will also include the method of participation that an individual can get involved in the Corrective Measures process.

Environmental Cleanup Progress Report

Mr. Hunt reported that the State has approved the Finding of Suitability to Transfer on the credit union property.

This is the first approval for property transfer. There were some conditions that have to be addressed, but they will be taken care of satisfactorily.

A couple of issues remain on the marina property that will hopefully be resolved soon. This property is approximately 16 acres at the southern tip of the base that will go to the Parks and Recreation Commission under a parks grant from the Department of the Interior. This is still on target.

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Corrective Action Status

David Dodds (Southern Division) presented a chart of the present and future events of the major items. In Zone A, a large quantity of lead contaminated soil is being removed. The Corrective Measures Study (CMS) report for SWMUs 1 and 2 was issued on June 18, 1999. That report is at the library along with the CMS report for Zone H that was submitted for review.

Mr. Addison inquired if RAB would get a copy of these reports. Mr. Hunt informed him that he, and any other members who are interested, could receive a copy.

At SWMU 8 (the former oil sludge pits), all the sludge has been removed. The holes were backfilled with gravel and stand pipes were installed to facilitate future groundwater investigation and treatment. Topsoil was placed over this area and will be vegetated. All the stand pipes will stay. Mr. Hunt advised this area is in discussion to be used for a lay down area for the breakbulk cargo and will be covered in concrete or asphalt.

Mr. Dodds is not sure how much free product is going to remain in SWMU 8. There are several options for cleanup in this area, and the source is still under investigation.

At other sites:

- ☛ SWMU 42 and SWMU 50 CMS reports will be issued at the end of July.
- ☛ Zone H reports will be issued soon.
- ☛ The Navy is working with subcontractors on the treatability study at SWMU 166.

Larry Bowers (EnSafe) stated that EnSafe is in the process of executing a treatability study for AOC 607. This study will take about three to four months. Mr. Bowers offered to take visitors to the site after the meeting.

Chicora Tank Farm Status

Gabe Magwood provided a short history of the Chicora Tank Farm. In the late 1980s and early 1990s, they found some free product (undiluted contaminant - oil or gasoline - in groundwater) in this area. Monitoring wells were installed and free product was pumped out of the manholes. The free product never returned to the site. A tracer study was done to detect free product or leaks. A form of dye is placed inside the tanks and pipelines, then traced to detect leaks. No significant contamination was found in a 1992 study.

Mr. Veronee stated there was runoff around there but from other activities, not the Chicora site. Mr. Magwood said the Chicora tanks are being demolished, but they're having trouble putting on a clay cap because of all the rain. The fuel delivery lines have been pigged and cleaned. During this process they came across pockets of contamination in the soil at places along the pipe route. They determined the problem to be a result of fuel sitting in the tanks over several years.

Tetra Tech is now working with the Navy and is trying to eliminate known petroleum contamination sites. There is an agreement with SCDHEC that allows the Navy to move quickly in remediating these sites. Instead of going through the long process of assessments, caps, approvals, remediation, it's being rolled up into one process. Once the sample results come back from the lab, the Charleston Environmental Detachment will remove the contaminated soil.

This property is due for transfer in October or at the end of the year. Tank O is the last one left to be remediated. The lines for Tank O have been foamed and cleaned. Mr. Magwood said that, at this point, he expects this schedule to be met.

Mr. Hunt advised that they are not pursuing the transfer process until the complete assessment of the property is

done. If there's any groundwater contamination, they'll be addressing that.

Mr. Magwood related that there was just one problem pigging a line. Apparently, someone attempted to clean out the line once before and left a pig (remote cleaning device) in the line. The completion date is scheduled for September.

Wannetta Mallette-Pratt asked about the applications for this property. Mr. Hunt answered that, with Mr. Addison's help, the School Board is going forward with their process.

Outsourcing Report

Mr. Hunt enlightened the RAB members on the history of the insured, fixed priced contract for these environmental investigations and remediation. A draft proposal has already been put out. At the end of July, Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) will issue the final Request for Proposals (RFP). NAVFAC expects bids back by the 1st of November. The next step after this will be to select three bids to continue to Phase 2. In Phase 2, NAVFAC looks a little more into the details of the bids in terms of the technical approach. Contractors will be reviewing all the information in the library through August.

Ms. Mallette-Pratt wondered about the cost savings. Mr. Hunt replied that the contractor will keep the cost savings. Mr. Addison commented that any savings should go back to the taxpayer. Mr. Hunt stated it's a new way of doing work, where the contractor risks the potential liability for the potential savings and earnings. NAVFAC feels it needs to be tested.

Mr. Hunt also related that DHEC has some brochures on the cancer studies in the 29405 ZIP code area on the back table. This study is only the beginning of a collection of studies to be done. He noted that the information also provides a toll free number for the Resources Office for ex-shipyard workers, since there is no longer a Office of Personnel at the shipyard.

Remaining Questions and Comments

There were no comments or questions.

Minutes approved by:

Tony Hunt
Navy Co-Chair

Louis Mintz
Community Co-Chair

NOTE: The next meeting will be Tuesday, August 10, 1999, 6:00 p.m. at the Live Oak Community Center, 2012 Success Street, North Charleston, SC.