



FULL BOARD MEETING MINUTES – January 28, 2009

Location: Atomic Testing Museum, Frank Rogers Auditorium
755 East Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, Nevada 89119

CAB Members Present: David Hermann, Chair; Walter Wegst, Vice Chair; Bob Gatliff; Robert Johnson; Bill Lindsey; John McGrail; Vernell McNeal; Ted Oom; Jackson Ramsey; Ted Schweitzer; Herb Spiegel; Stacy Standley; Hal Sullivan

CAB Members Not Present: Kathy Bienenstein; Ron Salzano; Jim Weeks

Liaisons Present: Bob Gamble, Nye County; Genne Nelson, NPS; Tim Murphy, NDEP

Technical Support Staff: Dr. Helen Neill, CAB Technical Advisor, UNLV; Jennifer Ward, Graduate Student, UNLV

U.S. Department of Energy (DOE): Kelly Snyder, Deputy Designated Federal Officer (DDFO); Gary Pyles, Bill Wilborn, Rob Boehlecke

CAB Facilitator: Denise Rupp, Navarro Research and Engineering, Inc.

Public Present: Phil Klevorick, Department of Comprehensive Planning, Clark County

Approval of Agenda

Dave Hermann asked that two additional bullets be added to Item #7:

- EM SSAB Chairs Meeting Representatives
- Membership Forfeiture – Ron Salzano

Stacy Standley moved to approve the minutes with the additions. Motion was seconded by John McGrail and passed unanimously.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Presentation: Transuranic (TRU) Waste Sub-Project Update, Gary Pyles

- Recent TRU Waste Activities
- TRU Waste Inventory
- TRUPACT-II Mobile Loading
- Shipments
- Future Shipments
- VERB and TRU Pad Cover Building Decontamination and Decommissioning

In response to questions from the Board, Mr. Pyles clarified the following items:

- The number of containers shipped differs from the number of containers in inventory due to repackaging. Similar waste streams were able to be combined and some debris went directly into the box from the drums.
- The macroencapsulation process used was to seal the waste by putting the oversized box into another box, filling it with vermiculites, recapping, and running electrical current through to complete the seal.

- The Visual Examination and Repackaging Building decontamination and decommissioning is planned for April 2009.
- The project will not be completed until additional funding is received. It is currently funded through mid-February and there has been some funding support from other Nevada Site Office Environmental Management (EM) projects.
- Carlsbad Field Office approved published revised packaging guidelines in mid-September 2008. The Nevada Site Office had a shipment containing five drums packaged under the old standards prior to approval of the new guidelines. Upon review by the Carlsbad Field Office, these five drums required repackaging.

Presentation: Underground Test Area (UGTA) Transport Model Overview presented by Bill Wilborn

- Nevada Test Site (NTS) Groundwater Activities
- Pahute Mesa Groundwater Model
- Drilling
- Communication

In response to questions from the Board, Mr. Wilborn clarified the following items:

- A tour of the well site will be arranged for the CAB and an agreeable date will be determined after review of the work schedule. Denise Rupp will work with Mr. Wilborn to coordinate.
- The week of February 9 the Pahute Mesa Flow Transport Model and Corrective Action Investigation Plan (CAIP) documents will be available to the public. They will be distributed to the CAB members, reading rooms and the UGTA Open House scheduled for February 18. Kelly Snyder announced that a CAB poster is being developed for the Open House outlining the CAB involvement in the project. She also asked for volunteers to staff the poster.
- The remaining wells are budgeted but funding is not guaranteed. Needs and priorities are always being evaluated.

Walt Wegst suggested the CAB send a letter to Vince Adams (DOE Headquarters) or Mark Gilbertson (DOE Headquarters) to update them on the UGTA sub-project. Ms. Snyder suggested the CAB write a letter to Mr. Wilborn requesting the UGTA team communicate the activities with the above mentioned individuals. Mr. Wegst volunteered to prepare a draft letter outlining the groundwater movement and soils remediation issues. The draft will be reviewed at the March 11 Full Board meeting.

Genne Nelson requested a CD copy of the Flow Transport Model and CAIP as well as copies of the press release for distribution in Death Valley National Park as well as a larger map of the area. Ms. Snyder will provide these.

Committee Updates:

Budget Committee, Jackson Ramsey, Chair

- A budget committee meeting has been scheduled for February 25 where the committee will receive updates from each of the EM Federal Sub-Project Directors and formulate recommendations for the FY 2011 budget
- Committee members include Mr. Ramsey, Bob Gamble, Bob Gatliff, Robert Johnson, John McGrail and Jim Weeks.

Environmental Management Public Information Review Effort (EMPIRE) Committee, Walt Wegst, Chair

- The committee had completed their review of the CAB web site and submitted their draft recommendation letter for approval
- The EM website is currently being reviewed and completion of this final task is expected during the next committee meeting at which time the EMPIRE Committee will formally merge with the Outreach Committee
- Herb Spiegel commented the recommendation letter was easier to evaluate when viewing the actual web site printout
- Mr. Herman expressed full confidence in the work of the committee

Mr. Standley moved to approve the CAB web site recommendation letter as submitted. Motion was seconded by Mr. Spiegel and passed unanimously.

Outreach Committee, Hal Sullivan, Chair

- The committee members are continuing work on suggestions to improve lesson plans in conjunction with *Operation Clean Desert*
- Mr. Sullivan attended a recent math and science conference for Clark County teachers at which the Nevada Site Office had set up the *Operation Clean Desert* display and was pleased to witness teachers requesting the existing lesson plan

Transportation/Waste Committee, Ted Oom, Chair

- The committee had a conference call with Frank Marcinowski, DOE Deputy Assistant Secretary for Regulatory Compliance to discuss the State of Nevada Attorney General's letter to the DOE dated August 12, 2008. The DOE responded to the Nevada Attorney General on December 18, 2008.
- A new site-wide Environmental Impact Study (EIS) will be conducted on the Nevada Test Site (NTS)
- DOE is pursuing a land withdrawal to resolve the issues regarding land use at the NTS
 - The Department of Interior (DOI) will determine if approximately 700 identified acres can be returned to public use
 - If it is determined the land cannot be returned to public use, it will be relinquished to the General Services Administration at which time the DOE would pursue ownership
- The DOE will be meeting with all involved parties in February 2009.
- The Waste Transportation Study is nearing completion and Dr. Ruth Weiner would like to present her findings at the May 2009 Full Board meeting. An abstract of the study was requested and Ms. Snyder will check on availability.
- The committee has cancelled their next regular meeting set for February 18 and will re-schedule when more information is available concerning the DOE/Nevada Attorney General issue.

Underground Test Area (UGTA) Committee, Bob Gatliff, Chair

- Mr. Gatliff deferred to Mr. Wilborn's update
- The DOE is holding a Groundwater Open House on February 18 in Beatty and committee members were encouraged to participate.

DOE Update, Kelly Snyder

- Ms. Snyder encouraged CAB members to read the December 2008 and January 2009 Environmental Management Monthly Updates. Ms. Snyder noted that one of three Perma-Fix locations was approved to ship waste to the Nevada Test Site.
- As no formal appropriations bill has yet been signed, the Federal Government is continuing to operate under a continuing resolution in affect until March 2009.
- The Environmental Restoration contract at the Nevada Site Office is currently under protest. A resolution is anticipated by April 2009.

Other CAB Business

EM Site Specific Advisory Board (SSAB) Chairs Meeting

- Scheduled for March 16 – 19, 2009 in Augusta, Georgia, hosted by Savannah River CAB
- Mr. Herman's schedule may not allow him to attend and volunteers for alternates were requested
- Bill Lindsey and Vernell McNeal volunteered to attend
- An alternate will be determined to ensure full representation
- In preparation for the March SSAB meeting, the CAB was asked to identify the top three issues and one significant accomplishment;
 - Prior to the full board meeting, the Executive Committee proposed the following top three issues
 1. Assuring continuing funding for the timely completion of the UGTA project
 2. Obtaining sufficient funding to complete the legacy TRU waste sub-project
 3. Resolution of the conflict between State of Nevada and DOE regarding land use issues at NTS

After discussion, Mr. Lindsey moved to accept the top three issues. Mr. Wegst seconded the motion with the condition the final, precise wording would not change the substance; motion was passed unanimously.

- The Executive Committee proposed the following significant accomplishment:
 1. The first recommended CAB UGTA well location will be drilled in May 2009

After discussion, Mr. Wegst moved to accept the significant accomplishment. Mr. Oom seconded the motion; motion was passed unanimously.

A draft EM SSAB letter to new Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management was reviewed. Mr. Wegst reported the purpose of letter was to ensure the new Assistant Secretary was aware of the SSAB.

The next Full Board meeting will take place at 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, March 11, 2009 at the Atomic Testing Museum, Frank Rogers Auditorium, Las Vegas, Nevada.

At that meeting, Linda Cohn, Nevada Site Office, will give a presentation regarding the NTS and cultural resources including interaction with Native Americans, history of the regional settlers, etc. Mr. Sullivan requested an invitation to attend the meeting be sent to all affected Native American tribes. Ms. Snyder advised there is a Native American CAB liaison position open and the CAB may want to see if there is an interest in attempting to fill it again. The DOE has a gentleman who acts as liaison to the Native American tribes. Ms. Snyder and Ms. Rupp will make contact with him regarding the March meeting.

Mr. Oom suggested the May 2009 Full Board meeting be held in Pahrump since Dr. Weiner will be presenting the Waste Transportation Study which will be more directly affect stakeholders in the Pahrump area.

- To encourage public attendance, it was suggested the meeting be widely advertised (via newspaper articles; Nye County office posting; National Park Service posting, etc.)
- A pre-meeting CAB introduction (CAB Roadshow) was suggested to familiarize the public with the CAB; Mr. Sullivan volunteered to give the presentation and Ms. Rupp will review it for accuracy and updating
- A thorough discussion was held regarding the merits of hosting a meeting in Pahrump due to traditionally low attend at CAB meetings

Mr. Wegst moved the May 11, 2009 Full Board meeting be held in Pahrump, Nevada at a location to be determined with an anticipated start time of 6:00 p.m.. Mr. Johnson seconded and the motion was passed unanimously.

Mr. Herman informed the board Ron Salzano had missed three consecutive Full Board meetings. According to the NTS CAB's Standard Operating Procedures, this is grounds for dismissal. A Forfeiture of Membership letter will be created and delivered to Mr. Salzano.

December and January State of Nevada Notifications, Kelly Snyder

Notifications for Corrective Actions, dated December 2, 2008 and January 7, 2009 were provided. The DOE will submit, to the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP), final Corrective Action Decision Documents (CADDs), CADD/Corrective Action Plans (CAPs), CADD/Closure Reports (CRs), Streamlined Approach for Environmental Restoration (SAFER) Work Plans, proposing closure-in-place; or a Post Closure Inspection Report (PCIR) for the following Corrective Action Units (CAUs):

<u>CAU Number</u>	<u>CAU Description</u>	<u>Document</u>	<u>Approximate Submittal Date</u>
CAU 546	Injection Well and Surface Releases	CADD/CR	December 19, 2008
CAU 116	Area 25 Test Cell C Facility	SAFER	January 2, 2009

Comments regarding these decision documents are to be submitted to Tim Murphy (NDEP) within 30 days of the document's release. If requested, Denise Rupp will provide the Board with additional information on the Corrective Action report.

A list of all documents submitted to the Public Reading Room in December and January is included in this Notification. These include CADDs, CAPs, CRs, SAFER Plans, PCIR's and CAIPs. Requests for documents can be made to Denise Rupp at the CAB Office

<u>CAU Number</u>	<u>CAU Description</u>	<u>Document</u>	<u>Approximate Submittal Date</u>
CAU 107	Low Impact Soil Sites	SAFER	November 6, 2008
CAU 134	Aboveground Storage Tanks	SAFER Addendum	December 3, 2008
CAU 92	Area 6 Decon Pond Facility	CR Addendum	December 22, 2008
CAU 127	Areas 25 and 26 Storage Tanks	Final Letter Report	December 22, 2008
CAU 224	Decon Pad and Septic Systems	Final Letter Report	December 22, 2008

With all CAB business concluded, Mr. Oom moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Sullivan seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 P.M.