



MEETING MINUTES

Full Board Meeting

September 9, 2009

Atomic Testing Museum, Frank Rogers Auditorium
755 E. Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, Nevada 89119

Members Present: Dave Hermann, Chair; Walt Wegst, Vice-Chair; Kathy Bienenstein; Robert Gatliff; Robert Johnson; John McGrail; Vernell McNeal; Ted Oom; Jack Ramsey; Ted Schweitzer; Herb Spiegel; Hal Sullivan; James Weeks

Liaisons Present: Cindy Lockwood (DOE), Bob Gamble (Nye County), Tim Murphy (NDEP)

Technical Support Staff Present: Dr. Helen Neill (UNLV)

U.S. Dept. of Energy (DOE): Kelly Snyder (DDFO)

Facilitator: Denise Rupp (Navarro Research & Engineering, Inc.)

Public Present: Phil Klevorick (Clark County) and Chris Andres (NDEP)

Agenda Review

After review, Ted Oom moved to approve the agenda as written. The motion passed unanimously.

DOE Update

Kelly Snyder reviewed the EM monthly reports for August and September.

State of Nevada Notifications

Ms. Snyder reviewed the August and September State of Nevada Environmental Management Closed in Place notifications.

FY 2009 Recap

Budget Committee (Jack Ramsey)

- Reviewed and prioritized the FY 2011 budget for the Nevada Site Office (NSO) Environmental Management (EM) programs. A recommendation letter was submitted to the Department of Energy (DOE) March 12, 2009.

Environmental Management Public Involvement Review Effort (Kathy Bienenstein)

Ms. Bienenstein reviewed the recommendations made to the DOE regarding Public Involvement and the results of those recommendations.

- DOE NSO EM Website recommendation accepted/incorporated by DOE
- CAB Website recommendation accepted/incorporated by DOE
- EM Videos recommendation accepted/implement with future revisions

Membership Committee (Jack Ramsey)

- FY2010 Membership Recruitment is under way, with a September 30, 2009 application deadline

- Interviews are to be scheduled in October 2009
- A slate of candidates will be presented to the Full Board in January 2010

Outreach Committee (Hal Sullivan)

- Development of Operation Clean Desert enhancements, including science experiments
- Review of Oak Ridge *Stewardship Education Resource Kit*; with no funding available, the Committee focused on existing *Operation Clean Desert* enhancements
- Explored options for development of CAB display for outreach purposes to bring awareness to CAB activities and accomplishments
- Recommendation made to DOE to create an EM phone hotline for use by the educational community; recommendation not accepted
- CAB Road Show presentation given at May Full Board meeting in Pahrump
- Exploring possibility of CAB-sponsored science fair in conjunction with Beatty, Nevada schools; awaiting response from the school

Transportation/Waste Committee (Ted Oom)

- After review of the Sandia National Laboratories transportation study results presented at the May 2009 Full Board meeting, the Committee agreed determining the transportation route of least risk was a non-issue as the risk on all routes was extremely low. A recommendation letter to the DOE reflecting this conclusion was presented to the Full Board. Walt Wegst moved to approve the letter. The motion passed unanimously.
- RadWaste Summit (Robert Johnson)
 - The Nevada Test Site update briefing is scheduled for tomorrow
 - A new, very large commercial waste site has been approved in west Texas and is accepting waste streams
 - Christine Gelles, DOE, reported the Department is looking at commercial alternatives for storage
 - The American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) funds are being used to accelerate projects across the complex. As a result, a significant increase in waste streams is expected in the very near term. The DOE is monitoring the situation.
 - It was reported roughly 80% of waste generated is dealt with on-site. The remaining 20% is shipped off-site to either DOE (10%) or commercial (10%) facilities.
 - Bob Gamble (also in attendance) reported on the FCOG report that, with ARRA funds, they are polling all DOE sites to identify waste streams with the ultimate goal of identifying off-site treatment and disposal needs. It was suggested once this polling is complete it may be helpful for the Board to have a presentation on what might be coming to the NTS.

Underground Test Area (UGTA) Committee (Bob Gatliff)

- A majority of the CAB visited the site of the CAB well (ER-20-7). The site visit provided an opportunity to see a CAB recommendation come to fruition. The discovery of tritium in the groundwater validated the Committee's site selection. Information from the well will provide critical data to validate the DOE computer models being used to predict groundwater contamination and flow path as well as speed of frontal advance along the flow path.
- Well ER-20-8 could provide a fast track for groundwater to leave the NTS. ER-20-8 #2 was drilled to test and investigate upper contamination of the original well. These wells have been completed and work is continuing on ER-EC-11, which is on Air Force land just west of Pahute Mesa. The next three wells in the campaign are moving forward in the next fiscal year.

Full Board (Dave Hermann)

Mr. Hermann reported on the activities of the Board in general and its participation in the EM SSAB. The Board has been very functional, with no problems in reaching decisions. Mr. Hermann has been proud to represent the CAB at the EM SSAB Chairs meetings. Although he will no longer be the Chair, Mr. Hermann encouraged the Board to continue their quality work and continue in the same direction.

FY 2009 CAB Survey* (Kelly Snyder)

Ms. Snyder reviewed the results of the FY 2009 CAB Survey. Mr. Wegst expressed concern regarding responses indicating a lack of information. A discussion ensued regarding the need for ongoing education including test site history and current projects. Helen Neill offered assistance in providing education to interested board members with regard to specific project areas. In addition, Mr. Hermann encouraged member participation in the semi-annual EM SSAB Chairs Meetings.

FY 2010 Chair/Vice-Chair Election

The nominees for both the Chair and Vice-Chair positions were Hal Sullivan and Walt Wegst. Board members cast their ballots, electing Walt Wegst as Chair and Hal Sullivan as Vice-Chair for FY 2010.

EM SSAB Update – Work Plan Development*

Kelly Snyder reviewed EM SSAB guidance regarding Work Plan development, including:

- A Work Plan will be a product developed by the Full Board (rather than being developed at the committee level)
- Work Plans must be submitted in writing to the DOE for approval by the end of the previous fiscal year
- Approval must be given before Work Plans are implemented
- Changes to current fiscal year Work Plans must be submitted in writing to the DOE for approval prior to incorporation
- DOE will request recommendations on specific sub-project activities in conjunction with FY baseline
- Work Plan tasks will be selected by the Board after review of DOE requests, as well as Board suggestions
- Committees will be established to address the selected Work Plan tasks

FY 2010 DOE Baseline*

Ms. Snyder reviewed planned activities for all projected FY 2010 Environmental Management sub-projects including those planned as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

FY 2010 CAB Work Plan Development*

The DOE requested specific recommendations related to FY 2010 baseline activities. Ms. Snyder presented potential CAB Work Plan tasks related to these recommendation requests.

In addition, individual Board members made suggestions for additional Work Plan tasks. These included items carried over from the previous fiscal year as well as new items of interest to the CAB.

After discussion, the following tasks were suggested for the FY 2010 Work Plan:

DOE Task Suggestions

- CAU 371, Johnnie Boy Crater and Pin Stripe – evaluate possible closure scenarios DOE is considering and make recommendation regarding path forward for closing the site
- CAU 372, Area 20 Cabriole/Palanquin Unit Craters – evaluate possible closure scenarios DOE is considering and make recommendation regarding path forward for closing the site
- Corrective Action Unit (CAU) 114 Engine Maintenance, Assembly, and Disassembly Facility (EMAD) – evaluate possible clean up scenarios DOE is considering and make recommendation regarding path forward for remediation site
- FY 2012 Budget – provide recommendation regarding the CAB’s FY 2012 sub-project funding prioritization
- Low-Level Waste Sub-Project Funding Cut – provide recommendation regarding ~\$17 million cut in funding since FY 2009
- New Mixed Low-Level Waste Disposal Cell – provide recommendation during State of Nevada public comment period regarding CAB’s stance on Resource Conservation Recovery Act (RCRA) Permit for construction and utilization of new MLLW disposal cell
- Pahute Mesa Drilling Campaign Wells – evaluate DOE’s potential uses for offsite UGTA wells and provide recommendation regarding path forward
- Two locomotive and four train cars used in DOE activities at the Nevada Test Site – provide recommendation regarding possible use/disposal
- UGTA Approach for Lower Risk CAUs – year-long education opportunity in anticipation of future FY recommendation exploring possibility of moving from modeling to monitoring approach

CAB Task Suggestions

- CAB Outreach Display – Develop a CAB outreach display to increase CAB awareness
- CAB-Sponsored Science Fair – explore possibility of CAB-sponsored Science Fair in conjunction with Beatty schools in 2009-2010 school year
- DOE Land Withdrawal – review and make recommendation regarding DOE’s withdrawal in response to land-use issues raised by the State of Nevada Attorney General
- DOE Public Education – make recommendations to DOE regarding ongoing public education of test site activities/history
- Groundwater Models – review and make recommendations regarding DOE’s updated groundwater model flow paths
- Groundwater Wells Completion Reports – review and make recommendations on completion reports for ER-20-7, ER-20-8, ER-20-8#2, and all FY 2010 wells
- Membership Recruitment – recruit, interview and recommend potential Board members
- Operation Clean Desert Enhancement – explore and make recommendations on possible science activities to enhance EM Outreach’s Operation Clean Desert program
- Waste Volumes and Transportation - research and analyze waste volume moving along waste transportation routes as well as alternative reporting of shipments and make recommendations

Utilizing a multiple voting process, Board members selected and prioritized the tasks. Discussion followed regarding:

- Total number of tasks to be included in Work Plan
- Feasibility of meeting due dates
- Committees necessary to accomplish tasks

It was agreed all tasks would be included on the task plans and that committees would include:

- Budget
- Executive (administrative)
- Industrial Sites

- Membership
- Outreach
- Soils
- Transportation/Waste
- UGTA

Following are the tasks, total number of votes per task, Committee assignment, and task due date:

Task	Votes	Committee	Due Date
Corrective Action Unit (CAU) 114 EMAD Facility	69%(9)	Industrial Sites	Dec 2009
Two Locomotives and Four Train Cars	69%(9)	Industrial Sites	Mar 2010
New Mixed Low-Level Waste Disposal Cell	46% (6)	Transportation/Waste	Dec 2009
FY 2012 Budget	46% (6)	Budget	Mar 2010
UGTA Approach for Lower Risk CAUs	46% (6)	UGTA	n/a
Pahute Mesa Drilling Campaign Wells	46% (6)	UGTA	Mar 2010
Membership Recruitment	46% (6)	Membership	Jan 2010
Waste Volumes and Transportation	39% (5)	Transportation/Waste	TBD
Groundwater Models	39% (5)	UGTA	Mar 2010
CAU 372, Area 20 Cabriole/Blanquin Unit Craters	39% (5)	Soils	Jan 2010
Groundwater Wells Completion Reports	31% (4)	UGTA	TBD
Operation Clean Desert Enhancement	31% (4)	Outreach	TBD
CAB Outreach Display	23% (3)	Outreach	May 2010
CAU 371, Johnnie Boy Crater and Pin Stripe	23% (3)	Soils	Dec 2009
CAB-Sponsored Science Fair	23% (3)	Outreach	May 2010
DOE Public Education	15% (2)	Outreach	ongoing
Low-Level Waste Sub-Project Funding Cut	15% (2)	Budget	Mar 2010
DOE Land Withdrawal	8% (1)	Transportation/Waste	TBD

Ms. Bienenstein moved to accept the draft Work Plan recommendation letter to the DOE with the inclusion of selected tasks, committees and due dates. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

FY 2010 Full Board Schedule

The Board discussed the need to meet in addition to the previous bi-monthly schedule to ensure meeting the due dates of a number of tasks in the Work Plan. Ms. Bienenstein moved the next Full Board meeting is to be scheduled for 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 18, 2009 (with an Executive Committee meeting immediately before, at 4:00 p.m.) at a location to be determined. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Mr. Wegst moved additional Full Board (and executive) meetings be scheduled for December 16, 2009 and January 13, 2010 at a location to be determined. The Full Board will then return to meeting on the second Wednesday of every odd month. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

EM SSAB Chairs Meetings Input

In light of the newly approved Work Plan, the Committee discussed the CAB's input for the EM SSAB Chairs Meeting regarding its top three issues and one accomplishment. It was determined the top three issues should include:

- Continued characterization of groundwater contamination at Pahute Mesa and potential contamination of public drinking water
- Ensure adequate funding and resources are available for continued remediation of historic nuclear testing facilities (Industrial Sites sub-project)
- Obtain resolution on path forward for mixed low-level waste disposal operations at the Nevada Test Site beyond December 2010

The one accomplishment was determined to be the Sandia National Laboratories' completion of the CAB-recommended transportation study. The results of the study confirmed communities along Nevada transportation routes have minimal public health risk from low-level waste shipments to the Nevada Test Site.

Mr. Oom moved the CAB's updated issues and accomplishments should be submitted to the EM SSAB Chairs Meeting. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Committees

All Board members are required to participate in at least one active committee. Committee sign ups were conducted and followed by a brief meeting of each committee to determine a committee chair and next meeting date.

Committee	Meeting Date
Budget Bob Gamble (liaison) Bob Gatliff Dave Hermann Robert Johnson Jim Weeks (Chair)	TBD, Spring 2010
Industrial Sites Kathy Bienenstein (Chair) Bob Gamble (liaison) Helen Neill (CAB Tech Advisor, UNLV) Ted Oom Jim Weeks Walt Wegst	10/1/09
Membership Kathy Bienenstein (Chair) Bob Gatliff Vernell McNeal Walt Wegst	TBD October/November 2009
Outreach Kathy Bienenstein Vernell McNeal Herb Spiegel Hal Sullivan (Chair) Walt Wegst	9/30/09

Soils

9/28/09

Bob Gamble (liaison)
Robert Johnson
Dave Hermann
John McGrail (Chair)
Helen Neal (CAB Tech Advisor, UNLV)
Ted Oom

Transportation/Waste

10/21/09

Bob Gamble (liaison)
Robert Johnson (Chair)
Helen Neill (CAB Tech Advisor, UNLV)
Jack Ramsey
Herb Spiegel

UGTA

TBD

Bob Gamble (liaison)
Bob Gatliff (Chair)
Helen Neill (CAB Tech Advisor, UNLV)
Genne Nelson (Liaison)
Hal Sullivan
Jim Weeks

The next Full Board meeting is scheduled for 5 p.m. Wednesday, November 18, 2009 at a location to be determined.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

* **NOTE:** Complete details of FY 2009 CAB Survey, Work Plan Development, and DOE FY 2010 Baseline are contained in the September 9, 2009 meeting handouts at <http://www.nv.doe.gov/ntscab/MeetingMinutes.htm>