



MEETING MINUTES

Full Board Meeting

December 16, 2009

Centennial Hills Library
6711 N. Buffalo Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89131

Members Present:	Walt Wegst (Chair), Hal Sullivan (Vice-Chair), Kathy Bienenstein, Dave Hermann, Robert Johnson, John McGrail, Ted Oom, Ted Schweitzer, James Weeks
Members Absent:	Robert Gatliff, Vernell McNeal, Jack Ramsey, Herb Spiegel
Liaisons Present:	Bob Gamble (Nye County), Phil Klevorick (Clark County), Tim Murphy (NDEP), Scott Wade (DOE)
Liaisons Absent:	Genne Nelson (NPS)
Technical Support Staff Present:	Dr. Helen Neill (UNLV)
U.S. Dept. of Energy (DOE):	Kelly Snyder (DDFO), Frank DiSanza, Kevin Cabble
Facilitator:	Denise Rupp (Navarro Research & Engineering, Inc.)
Public Present:	Chris Andres (NDEP), Michael Long (Las Vegas), Gregory Minden (Las Vegas), Michael Moore (Las Vegas)

Agenda Review

After review, Kathy Bienenstein moved to approve the agenda as written. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Update – Resource Conservation Recovery Act (RCRA) Part B Mixed Low-Level Waste Cell Application (Tim Murphy)

- NDEP worked extensively with DOE over a number of months, ensuring the development of a comprehensive Part B permit application to ensure protection of the public and the environment.
- The design mirrors the U.S. Ecology facility in Beatty, although on a smaller scale. The Nevada Test Site (NTS) location is a secure site with a depth to groundwater twice that of Beatty.
- December 11 marked the end of NDEP's public comment period (the application was submitted to NDEP 45 days prior) with a letter of support from the CAB, a letter of non-issue from the Bureau of Land Management, and no requests for public hearings.
- Public hearings could have been requested during the public comment period, but were not.
- NDEP will issue an approval for the permit conditional on submittal of final engineered drawings anticipated in spring or summer 2010, allowing for construction and completion by the December 2010 closing deadline for the existing pit. The drawings will complete the application.
- The Nevada Attorney General is not the authorized agent for approval of the permit and no negative comments were received from the Attorney General.

Committee Reports

Industrial Sites Committee (Kathy Bienenstein)

Work Plan Item #FY10-01 Engine Maintenance Assembly and Disassembly (EMAD) Facility (Corrective Action Unit 114)

Presentation

- EMAD part of Project Rover nuclear rocket program
- Constructed in 1965
- Project Rover terminated in 1973
- Commercial use after Project Rover
- Closure options including “closure in place,” retrofitting, demolition to slab, and museum conversion

While the Committee had hoped to recommend a museum conversion due to the unique structure and its significance in nuclear history, it was recommended the building be demolished to slab. Despite exploration of all conceivable alternatives, the Committee acknowledged tremendous financial and logistical challenges make such preservation unfeasible.

The proposed draft letter recommends EMAD be demolished to slab, requests the Department of Energy provide as many historical artifacts as possible to the Nevada Test Site Historical Foundation, and continue to explore any possible re-use between now and demolition. Hal Sullivan moved to approve the draft recommendation letter as written. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Work Plan Item #FY10-02 (locomotives and train cars)

- Title to the locomotives was transferred in 1996 (no longer part of Work Plan item)
- A request for additional information was submitted to DOE (approximate timeline for surveys, inventory of items to include prior use, and any disposition options currently under consideration)

Membership Committee (Kathy Bienenstein)

Work Plan Item #FY10-07 (Membership Recruitment)

The Committee interviewed 11 applicants for CAB membership. A draft letter to the DOE outlining a suggested slate of seven candidates was presented for Board review. The Board was reminded the final decision regarding membership appointments lies with DOE Environmental Management (EM) Headquarters in Washington, D.C. Ms. Bienenstein moved to approve the draft membership recommendation as written. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Additional Item (Student Liaison)

A draft recommendation letter requesting the DOE establish two high school student liaison seats on the CAB was provided to the Board via email prior to the meeting. After discussion, John McGrail moved the letter be approved as written. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Soils Committee (John McGrail)

Work Plan Item #FY10-14 (closure scenarios for CAU 371, Johnnie Boy Crater and Pin Stripe)

As discussed at the November 16, 2009 meeting, Mr. McGrail presented a draft recommendation letter. The draft letter recommended closing CAU 371 in place using occasional use standards, with approval of NDEP. Mr. McGrail moved the CAU 371 letter be approved as written. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

DOE Update (Kelly Snyder)

Ms. Snyder and Frank DiSanza offered clarification regarding the low-level waste shipment that arrived at the NTS in a non-Department of Transportation (DOT) compliant container, as reported in the December Monthly Report to the CAB.

- The container met all waste acceptance criteria but did not meet the DOT standard for shipping.
- The generator, PermaFix, mistakenly purchased and used an IP1 container instead of an IP2 container. The IP2 container requires a certification requirement for a drop test.
- The IP1 container was waste acceptance criteria approved, inspected, and certified for disposal upon arrival at the NTS.
- NDEP was in agreement with DOE that more risk would be involved in retrieving and returning the container to the generator for repackaging. The container will remain disposed at the NTS.
- Mr. DiSanza will report to the CAB upon receipt of the PermaFix root cause analysis.

Other CAB Business (Walt Wegst)

Due to the addition of the December Board meeting, and the fact no committees are scheduled to meet until February 2010, Mr. Wegst suggested the Board meeting scheduled for January 13, 2010 be cancelled. Ms. Bienenstein made a motion to cancel the January 13, 2010 Board meeting. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. The presentation on the history of the Nevada Test Site (NTS) will be re-scheduled for the March meeting. The presentation on current activity at the NTS will move from the March meeting to the May meeting.

State of Nevada Notifications (Kelly Snyder)

The DOE will not be submitting any corrective action documents to NDEP in December or January.

Meeting Wrap-up/Assessment (Denise Rupp)

The next Full Board meeting is scheduled for 5 p.m. Wednesday, March 10, 2009 at Centennial Hills Library.

Ms. Bienenstein moved the meeting be adjourned; the motion was seconded and passed unanimously.