MINUTES
February 3, 1998 Meeting

CRO Board members present:

Sharon Cornwell
Lisa Crawford
Karl Dillhoff
Lou Doll
Bill Hinkle
Maury Hornbach
Darryl Huff
Dan Lawler
Alisa Rhodes
Gary Storer
Bob Tabor
Don Thiem
Randy Welker
Randy Welker
Joe Neyer

CRO Board members excused:

Ralph Hennard
David McWilliams
Tom Renck

Opening Remarks and Approval of January Meeting Minutes

-- Bill Hinkle chaired the meeting in the absence of CRO Chair Dave McWilliams.

-- Curt Paddock said the Board's approval of the January meeting minutes will be deferred until the next meeting to give members time to review the minutes.

Treasurer's Report

-- CRO Treasurer Sharon Cornwell distributed a copy of a financial report to CRO Board members. Cornwell reported that the only payment made during the month was to Curt Paddock, and she recently submitted the CRO's quarterly installment request to DOE for $61,000.

DOE Report

-- Gary Stegner said he has received calls from the National Council for Urban Economic Development (CUED) requesting involvement in CUED's two-day economic development seminar (Feb. 19 and 20 in Cincinnati).

-- Stegner reported that DOE planned to release its Type B Investigation Report of the leaking white metal boxes later during the week.

-- Stegner asked the CRO to consider whether there is community interest in reusing any of the Fernald administrative buildings which were not part of the uranium production process. He said there are several important factors that must be considered in this decision, including an approved record of decision to demolish the buildings by 2003, fixed contamination in some of the buildings, and the fact that these are old facilities that are at or near the end of their design life. He said DOE would like to know whether there is sufficient community interest in these buildings before any action is taken.

Paddock asked DOE to summarize this request in writing to the CRO before the Board assigns it to a committee for action. A suggestion was made that DOE first consult with the regulatory agencies and stakeholder groups who were involved in determining the remedial action for Fernald's buildings since reuse of the buildings would require re-opening the legally binding record of decision.

Economic Development Consultant's Report

-- Paddock discussed the CUED conference in Cincinnati, and asked board members to let him know if they were planning to attend. Paddock is also planning to attend the CRO executive director meeting in Las Vegas on Feb. 25 and 26.

Old Business

A. Land Reuse, Equipment and Materials Committee Report

-- Paddock said he has met with two industrial/commercial organizations to see if there is interest in researching the potential viability of reusing a 23-acre area at Fernald. Paddock said the committee hopes to be ready to recommend a firm for the assessment at the next CRO Board meeting.

Laura Hafer, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, asked whether there would be any provisions in the assessment stating that Fernald is a Superfund site. Paddock said there would be certain assumptions which must be accepted in the assessment, including Fernald being listed as a Superfund site and the Natural Resource Trustees' (NRT) plans.

B. Status of DOE Planning Grant

-- Paddock said the DOE Ohio Field Office is currently reviewing the $265,000 planning grant application, submitted to DOE in late December, and expects that any Field Office concerns or questions will be resolved in the next few weeks. Paddock said he also expects DOE headquarter's approval of the grant within the next 30 to 45 days.

C. Status of Ohio Department of Development Grant Application

-- Paddock said the $50,000 grant application to fund an Entrepreneurial Assistance Program through the Small Business Development Center has passed the preapproval stage. Paddock will make a formal presentation before an Ohio Department of Development committee in mid February. He anticipates receiving final approval of the grant by early March.

D. CUED/CRO Leadership Conference

-- Paddock encouraged Board members to attend this conference if they could.

E. Membership

-- Larry Thinnes will resign from the CRO. The Nomination/Membership Committee will discuss renewal possibilities. Randy Welker suggested the committee provide a recommendation to the Board at a future meeting.

New Business

A. Public Comments on the Draft Public Participation Plan

-- Paddock said he mailed postcards to the mailing list announcing the availability of the draft plan for public review in the Public Environmental Information Center. He said he received a few comments on the plan and recommended assigning comment resolution to the Communications/Public Involvement Committee.

B. Consultant's Scope of Work for Performance Period May 1, 1998 - April 30, 1999

-- Cornwell said that the RFP Committee approved Paddock's scope of work for the option period. The scope of work is consistent with the activities outlined in the planning grant. Cornwell recommended the Board's approval of the scope of work. Bob Tabor motioned to approved the scope of work as recommended by the RFP Committee; Maury Hornbach seconded the motion. The CRO unanimously approved the motion. The committee will submit it to Paddock, who will then have to submit a formal proposal to the Board.

C. CRO Meeting Frequency

-- Paddock proposed that the CRO Board begin to meet every other month and committees meet on alternate months during the standard meeting time. The Board would convene to determine policy, receive committee reports, and make decisions. If something came up during an alternate month which requires the board's immediate attention, McWilliams would convene the Board, as appropriate. Darryl Huff and Lisa Crawford asked for the most current committee roster; Paddock said he would mail them to members soon.

D. Native American Alliance

-- McWilliams and Paddock met with representatives from the Native American Alliance to discuss a proposal to use a portion of the Fernald site for in-ground curation of culturally unidentifiable Native American remains. The Alliance wants to change federal law so the Department of Interior could take possession of the remains (located in Ohio) and bring them to Fernald for burial within a natural setting and consistent with the NRT's plans.

-- Paddock said the Alliance has asked the CRO for a letter of support to change the legislation, and recommended this issue be referred to the Land Reuse, Equipment and Materials Committee for appropriate action. A suggestion was made to have Joe Schomaker, Fluor Daniel Fernald's Cultural Resources manager, brief the committee

about the Native American internment which occurred at Fernald in 1997.

-- Cornwell reminded Board members that, as a grant recipient, the CRO can not lobby but can write a letter of support. Joe Neyer stated that it is okay to write a letter of support for land reuse purposes, but not necessarily for a change in legislation. Crawford suggested the CRO review copies of the FRESH and Ohio EPA letters of support for an example. Dan Lawler agreed that this discussion should be part of the Land Reuse Committee's scope and not handled separately.

Meeting Dates Established

-- Two committees will meet on March 3 in the Jamtek Building, 10845 Hamilton Cleves Highway:

The Communications/Public Involvement Committee will meet at 6:30 p.m. to discuss stakeholder comments on the Public Participation Plan, and the Land Reuse, Equipment and Materials Committee will meet at 7:30 p.m. to discuss the Industrial/Commercial Site Market Assessment and the Native American Alliance proposal.

-- The next Board meeting will be on April 7.

Public Participation

-- Stakeholders participated in discussions throughout the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.