

**July 20, 1999, Meeting Minutes**

**Approval of May Meeting Minutes**

CRO Chair Dave McWilliams opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. The board motioned to approve the May meeting minutes with no changes.

**Treasurer's Report**

CRO Treasurer Sharon Cornwell said that \$65,337 has been drawn from account and \$58,960 remains. Recent expenses include the trip to Chicago for the Office of Worker and Community Transition (OWCT) workshop and payment to Paddock Management Services. The planning grant was due to expire in June; however, the grant was extended through September 30. Any remaining funds will rollover into the new implementation grant. Approximately \$78,000 remains from the first grant.

**DOE Report**

Gary Stegner provided an update on waste management activities: the sixth train of contaminated soil will leave Fernald for Envirocare of Utah on July 21; truck shipments to the Nevada Test Site resumed; and truck shipments of uranium product were initiated to the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant in Piketon, Ohio.

The appropriations committee has taken recent action on funding for the OWCT program. The Senate has recommended \$30 million and the House has recommended 20 million. The OWCT funding request for FY2000 is \$30 million.

The Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Final Land Use at the Fernald Environmental Management Project is complete and available online or in the PEIC. The final document is consistent with the CRO's recommendations submitted to DOE in October 1998 as part of the public comment period. Eric Woods, Fluor Daniel Fernald, said there would be additional opportunities for the public to provide input on various issues impacting future use, such as public access to the site.

## **Economic Development Consultant's Report**

### **Old Business**

#### **Report on OWCT National Stakeholders Workshop**

Sharon Cornwell, Bob Tabor and Lou Doll discussed the OWCT workshop held in Chicago on May 27 and 28.

#### **Discussion of Community Transition Plan and Implementation Grant**

Paddock reported that the plan has been submitted to DOE-Washington for review, and he anticipates award in October. He believes the CRO will receive the funding because Fernald is the only site on DOE's closure list that has not received implementation funds. Based on the high volume of requests received in FY1999 and the cut in the budget, all funds for FY1999 were allocated in January. The CRO's funds will be from FY2000 budget. OWCT director Bob DeGrasse encourages letters of support from local congressmen. Stegner said that Portman offered to write a letter of support.

#### **Greater Cincinnati Partnership and Marketing Component of the CRO CTP**

Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce Vice President Joe Kramer discussed the Greater Cincinnati Partnership, a collaboration of regional economic development agencies brought together to strengthen the region's marketing decisions and economic development strategy.

The partnership was formed to coordinate economic development initiatives in the region and eliminate duplication of resources. Cincinnati was fragmented with counties, states and regions marketing their communities independently. The partnership tries to bring everyone together to sell the same services (i.e., highways, universities, schools, airport, etc) more effectively and retain businesses.

The partnership has 10 economic development agencies. The plan is to coordinate research, outreach and marketing, etc. to benefit all the areas. There is one web site.

Fernald will play a key role once cleanup is complete. Over 2,000 Fernald workers will be absorbed in the Cincinnati community.

The partnership is considering creating a board seat for the CRO.

The marketing budget is \$600,000; the CRO's contribution will be \$10,000 annually.

**Considerations for Revolving Loan Fund Policies and Procedures**

David Main, president of Hamilton County Business Development Company, discussed the policies and procedures for administering a revolving loan fund, which is the highest priority program recommended by the CRO in the implementation funding request. Main passed out handouts to board members outlining basic policies and procedures and answered questions.

**New Business****Formation of Revolving Loan Fund Policies and Procedures Committee**

Paddock recommended forming a new committee to begin developing policies and procedures and to oversee the revolving loan fund. Bob Tabor and Sharon Cornwell volunteered for the committee. Randy Welker recommended Kristi Williams because of her background and experience, but said he would volunteer if Kristi wasn't interested. A recommendation was made to contact the manager of the Fernald Credit Union, Karl Fauver. Paddock said he would contact him.

Sharon Cornwell recommended that the CRO begin to discuss board memberships. Several terms are complete soon. Dave McWilliams said he would contact members individually and ask them if they are interested in renewing their memberships before contacting the Nomination Committee.

**Meeting Dates**

Paddock will schedule a meeting of the Executive Committee in August. The next full CRO meeting will be on Sept. 7, 6:30 p.m. at Ross High School.

**Public Participation**

Todd Trammel, Fluor Daniel Fernald employee, introduced himself and said he was very interested in the CRO's plans and decisions.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.