



Minutes from the March 13, 1999 Meeting

The Fernald Citizens Advisory Board met from 8:30 a.m. until 11:50 a.m. on Saturday, March 13, 1999, at the Large Laboratory Conference Room on the Fernald site. The meeting was advertised in local papers and was open to the public.

Chair

James C. Bierer

Vice Chair

Thomas E. Wagner

Members

Sandy Butterfield
Marvin W. Clawson
Lisa Crawford
Louis Doll
Pamela Dunn
Jane Harper
Darryl D. Huff
Michael Keyes
Kenneth A. Moore
Robert G. Tabor
Fawn Thompson
Gene E. Willeke

Ex Officio

L. French Bell
Jack Craig
Gene Jablonowski
Graham Mitchell

Staff Support

Phoenix Environmental
Douglas J. Sarno
Crystal M. Sarno
Gwen Doddy
703-971-0030
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PhnxEnvir@aol.com

Members Present

French Bell
Jim Bierer
Sandy Butterfield
Marvin Clawson
Jack Craig
Lisa Crawford
Pam Dunn
Jane Harper
Darryl Huff
Gene Jablonowski
Mike Keyes
Lou Doll
Ken Moore
Graham Mitchell
Robert Tabor
Fawn Thompson
Thomas Wagner

Members Absent

Gene Willeke (excused)

Designated Federal Official

Gary Stegner

Phoenix Environmental Staff

Douglas Sarno
Gwen Doddy

FDF Staff

Tisha Patton
Sue Walpole
Jeff Wagner

Approximately 11 spectators also attended the meeting, including members of the public and representatives from DOE and Fluor Daniel Fernald.

1. Call to Order

Chair Jim Bierer called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

2. Announcements and New Business

Jim Bierer introduced Lou Doll as new member of the Board, who will replace Dan McElroy. Lou Doll has been a member of the Fernald work force since 1983 and he serves on Community Reuse Organization (CRO) and the Fernald Health Effects Subcommittee. Lisa Crawford motioned to have Lou accepted as a member and Bob Tabor seconded the motion.

Bierer announced the resignation of Ray Wurzelbacher from the CAB. The Steering Committee will meet to find a replacement.

Site-Specific Advisory Board (SSAB) Chairs met in Augusta, Georgia, in February. One of the main focuses of the meeting was the Transportation Workshop. The SSAB representatives gave their comments and opinions about the workshop. Based on those recommendations, the FCAB made revisions to their agenda. Secretary Bill Richardson's letter in support of the opening of the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) was read at the meeting. Public comment period for the WIPP permit ended in January, public hearings will conclude this month and the permit should be issued in either June or July.

Oak Ridge's Stewardship Committee presented their final report on stewardship. Because of their work on the subject, Oak Ridge volunteered to host a SSAB workshop on stewardship in the fall. Bierer has sent a letter to Bill Pardue, their Chair, in support of the workshop.

Bierer opened the floor to comments from DOE, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), U.S. EPA, and Ohio EPA. French Bell distributed a summary of an ATSDR progress report. Bell will give the full report to anyone who wants it. Bell did place a copy of the full report in the Fernald reading room.

3. Site Progress and Issues:

- **Leachate Piping Leaks**
- **First Waste Load-out**
- **Waste Shipping Resumption**
- **Safe Shutdown Completion**

Jack Craig updated the Board on site progress. Secretary Bill Richardson is coming to the site to celebrate the completion of safe shutdown. Waste shipment should restart in mid-April, DOE Fernald is waiting for DOE Headquarters permission to restart.

Dennis Carr updated the Board on the first waste load-out of the waste pits project, which occurred in February. The first phase consists of lesser-contaminated materials, which are currently stock-piled. Shipments of stock-piled material should begin in April. Shipment for materials from Pit #3 should begin in June, when the dryers are operational to begin dealing with higher moisture content materials.

Lisa Crawford asked if the concerns over the railroad crossings have been addressed. Due to the merging of the companies CXS and Conrail, Carr stated there might another rail route; thereby, eliminating the concern over some of the local routing. Sarno asked if another meeting with the stakeholders from Hamilton County could be arranged to inform them about the rail routes. Carr agreed.

Carr updated the CAB about Leachate Piping Leaks. The leachate pipes comprised of a double pipe, a six-inch pipe inside a ten-inch pipe. Pieces of each pipe are fused together at the joints either by electro-fusion or welding to make a seamless pipe. Manholes are used to monitor the pipes. A monitor crew discovered a leak at manhole #3. From a series of tests, the crew discovered four leaks in the pipes: two leaks in the inner pipe and two leaks on the outer pipe. Until the leaks are repaired, the water will be trucked from the point of the leak to the lagoon. A team is investigating the leaks and their report should be complete by next week. As a result of the leaks, inspections of the manholes will increase and pipe joints will be electro-fused and welded, to insure a tight seal.

Bierer asked how much liquid leaked out of the system. Carr replied due to the double piping and the slight cracks in the pipe, no liquid leaked out of the system.

4. Transportation Workshop Update

Sarno updated the CAB about the Transportation Workshop, which will be held May 20-23rd at the Vernon Manor. Registration packets were distributed at the SSAB Chairs meeting. Each SSAB will be limited to ten people, five board members and five non-members is suggested. Sarno is working with the other SSABs to inform participants of the expectations. At the Chairs meeting, they decided to create recommendations based upon discussion at the workshop. All attendees, who agree with the statements, will sign these recommendations. Sarno will develop templates for the fact sheets to assist the other SSABs in creating their own fact sheets. These fact sheets will be distributed to attendees at the workshop as a reference.

Sarno asked how many members thought they would attend the workshop. He emphasized the importance of attending the entire workshop and the members need to register for the events. Approximately ten members said they were interested in attending the entire workshop.

5. Nye County Request for Support

- **Remediation Committee Letter**
- **Full Board Action**

In February, representatives from Nye County, Nevada, visited the site and expressed concerns about their ability to respond to an emergency involving the shipments to Nevada Test Site (NTS). The representatives requested equipment to assist them with their emergency response. The Remediation Committee drafted a letter in support of the Nye County request for equipment. Sarno drafted a recommendation from the full board, also in support of the Nye County request.

The CAB reviewed Recommendation #99-1, supporting the Nye County request for equipment. After a discussion, minor changes were made to the recommendation. Tom Wagner motioned to accept it, and Ken Moore seconded. The recommendation passed by a majority vote (one person did object to the recommendation).

6. Future of Fernald Workshop Planning

Ken Moore, Marvin Clawson, and Doug Sarno attended the Natural Resource Working Group Meeting on Thursday. The settlement of the OEPA lawsuit against DOE determined there will be natural resource restoration; however, it did not determine the public's access to the site. The Natural Resource Working Group is attempting to determine the public access to the site. At the meeting on Thursday, the attendees developed a plan to have a bike/walking trail around the site, which may be connected to the Miami White Water. There could be smaller self-guided loop trails focusing on different topics, such as the Cold War or Native Americans.

7. Nuclear Materials Disposition Recommendation

- **Overview of Environmental Assessment (EA)**
- **Comments on EA**
- **Recommendation on Funding**

Sarno gave an overview of the EA to the board. Four site options are available for the nuclear materials. The site identified will serve as interim storage until a commercial vendor is identified. The DOE expects to find a buyer in the next ten years.

The CAB reviewed Recommendation #99-3, commenting on the Environmental Assessment of Oak Ridge Operation's receipt and storage of uranium materials from Fernald. The recommendation focuses on the importance of removing the material from Fernald and safely transferring it to a site where stakeholders have been involved in the process.

After a discussion, it was decided that the recommendation will be re-worded to emphasize that nuclear materials must be removed from the Fernald site in order to

finish remediation. Before sending them, Bierer and Wagner was desingated to approve the final wording of the recommendations. Ken Moore motioned to approve the recommendation, and Bob Tabor seconded the motion. The recommendation was approved.

Next, the Board reviewed recommendation #99-2, which requests addition funds from Congress and DOE for the disposition of nuclear materials. With some changes, the recommendation was approved. Crawford motioned to approve the recommendation and Tabor seconded.

8. Silos Proof of Principle and Radon

Because of snow, Nina Akgunduz's briefing, scheduled for the Tuesday public meeting, was canceled. She gave a condensed presentation based upon the briefing on the silos 1 and 2 proof of principle program and radon. In February, FDF reviewed the primary draft of the cost analysis for the proof of principle. The parameters that were evaluated were:

- disposal volumes
- process control
- ability to meet waste acceptance criteria
- scale-up
- secondary wastes
- off gas
- shipping packaging requirements.

US EPA and Ohio EPA were present for the proof of principle. Four processes were evaluated. Each of these processes has positive and negative aspects.

It was asked if all the bidders had experience handling nuclear material. Akgunduz answered yes, part of the requirements for the bid was previous experience in handling nuclear materials.

Foster Wheeler and their teaming partners (COGEMA, Grey Pilgrim, Oceaneering, Battelle, XL Associates) were awarded the contract for waste retrieval from silos 1 and 2. Foster Wheeler created a mockup retrieval system, which enabled the workers to have training drills.

9. Acceptance of Resignations

After Akgunduz finished, Bierer asked for a motion to accept the resignation of Ray Wurzelbacher and Dan McElroy. Tabor motioned to accept and Lisa seconded the motion.

Bierer reminded everyone that the next meeting of the Board will be in July and a revised FCAB schedule is in the packet of information.

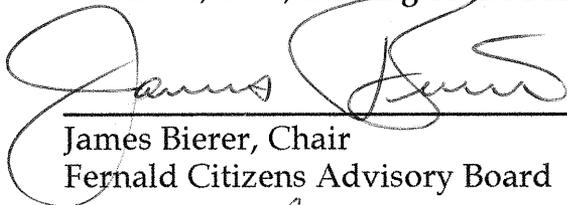
10. Public Comment

Bierer opened the floor to public comment.
There was no public comment.

11. Adjournment

Jim Bierer adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

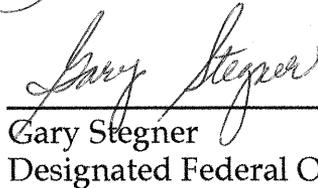
I certify that these minutes are an accurate account of the
March 13, 1999, meeting of the Fernald Citizens Advisory Board.



James Bierer, Chair
Fernald Citizens Advisory Board

6/10/99

Date



Gary Stegner
Designated Federal Official

6/10/99

Date