

Rocky Flats Coalition of Local Governments

City of Arvada	City of Boulder	Boulder County
City of Broomfield	Jefferson County	Town of Superior
		City of Westminster

Board Meeting Minutes

October 7, 1999

8:00 AM — 11:00 AM

Arvada City Hall

Board members in attendance: Mary Harlow (Alternate, Westminster), Tom Brunner (Director, Broomfield), Hank Stovall (Alternate, Broomfield), Mike Bartleson (Alternate, Broomfield), Ken Fellman (Alternate, Arvada), Carol Lyons (Alternate, Arvada), Lisa Morzel (Director, City of Boulder), Mike Weil (Alternate, City of Boulder), Paul Danish (Director, Boulder County), Carolyn Dulchinos (Alternate, Boulder County), Joel Meggers (Alternate, Superior), Andrew Muckle (Director, Superior), Carol Lyons (Alternate, Arvada).

Coalition staff members and consultants in attendance: David Abelson (Executive Director), Katie Ewig (Program Assistant), and Barb Tenney (Icenogle, Norton, and Seter, P.C.).

Members of the Public: Ann Bormolini (Kaiser-Hill), Erin Rogers (RFCAB), Ken Korkia (RFCAB), Sean Williams (Governor Owens), Angela Hutton-Howard (CDPHE), John Corsi (Kaiser-Hill), John Rampe (DOE), Dave Shelton (Kaiser-Hill), Jack Hoopes (Kaiser-Hill), Chris Dayton (Kaiser-Hill), Janice Sinden (Senator Allard), Elaine Nix (DOE-RFFO), Glenn Doyle (DOE-RFFO), Nancy Hunter (Rep. Schaffer), Hildegard Hix (Sierra Club), Doris DePenning (Friends of Foothills), Hilda Sperandeo (Citizen), Greg Murray (Citizen), Adam Buchanan (Citizen), Rick Sheehan (Jefferson County).

Round Robin

Arvada: Ken Fellman welcomed the Board to Arvada and then distributed a memo from Lorraine Anderson and Carol Lyons that described their recent meetings with various government officials in Washington, D.C.

Westminster: Mary Harlow stated that she had recently returned from the annual ECA Conference in Richland where she helped Hank Stovall do a presentation on whether land use should drive cleanup levels. Mary believes surface water standards, not future use, will be the principal driver in the Rocky Flats cleanup. Mary is also concerned about the state regulators losing their oversight of DOE-Rocky Flats because of language in the National Defense Authorization Act. She noted that Dan Miller is currently preparing legislation aimed at excluding Rocky Flats from that Act.

Jefferson County: Rick Sheehan, a Jefferson County Commissioner, announced that he was sitting in on the Coalition meeting since neither Michelle Lawrence, Patricia Holloway, or Nanette Neelan could attend.

Broomfield: Hank Stovall talked about the review of interim soil action levels for Rocky Flats and was concerned that the current levels will probably be reduced.

Boulder County: No comment.

ADMIN RECORD

SW-A-005439

Boulder: No comment.

Superior: No comment.

Public Comment

Adam Buchanan, a local citizen, said that he would like to see the Coalition discuss the interim storage of rubble, soil cleanup levels, and future land use at Rocky Flats at upcoming meetings.

Business Items

- 1. Motion to Approve Minutes** — Carolyn Dulchinos motioned to approve the minutes. Mary Harlow seconded. Andrew Muckle stated that Superior would abstain from the vote. Because there was not a quorum at this time, the vote was invalid. The motion to approve the minutes was made again at the end of the meeting (at which time there was a quorum).
- 2. Executive Director Report** - David Abelson announced that he recently hired John Marler as the new Technical Advisor for the Coalition. John is finishing his Masters degree in Geohydrology at CU Boulder and will start with the Coalition on October 25th. David plans to have John meet with each local government in the coming weeks. David then talked about the staff meeting on cleanup levels that was attended by staff of five of the local governments. Because that briefing was so valuable, David allotted time at today's meeting for another discussion on the factors that drive cleanup at Rocky Flats. Next David briefly talked about the ECA Conference in Richland, which he thought was quite informative and instrumental in getting national attention for Rocky Flats issues. The big news at the conference David attended in Las Vegas was that Gary King would be replacing Bob DeGrasse as Director of the Office of Worker and Community Transition. In closing, David asked the Board to give him input on how to improve his executive reports as well as input on how to proceed with November's strategic plan meeting. Mary Harlow responded that an overview of the current projects underway at Rocky Flats would be helpful to include in the executive report. David also asked if the Board meeting in December should be rescheduled because of a conflict with the National League of Cities meeting.

Stewardship Update

David began by giving some background as to how the stewardship dialogue got started. In June the Coalition and CAB received identical letters from Jessie Roberson requesting that they co-convene a stewardship dialogue for Rocky Flats. Since then, the Coalition and CAB have jointly held three publicly-announced study sessions to discuss stewardship issues and examine the possibility of co-convening a process. In July the CAB proposed to the Coalition creating a forum similar to the Future Site Use Working Group to pull together the CAB, Coalition, DOE, regulators, and others to discuss stewardship. These meetings have been attended primarily by elected officials from Arvada, Westminster, and Broomfield. Currently the Coalition and CAB have formed a de facto steering committee to help guide the development of a forum to discuss and debate stewardship. The idea behind this forum is to create a central place where issues related to stewardship can be discussed. The ideas generated in that forum could then be forwarded to the Coalition and CAB boards to act on them as necessary. The goal is to create a working group to examine a range of issues, not to create another line of authority. The steering committee has just released an RFQ for consultants to design and develop a process for the stewardship dialogue. It is anticipated that the Coalition will be the contracting entity, using monies they have received from the Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment.

Who will be involved in Phase II remains unclear at this point, although David thinks the Coalition would benefit from discussing and debating these issues with the CAB and others.

The floor was then opened for Board comment. Mary Harlow reminded the Board that the ECA has chosen Rocky Flats as a case study on stewardship so many people around the country will be looking at the Coalition to be a leader in the area of stewardship; what is done at the site will have national implications. Carol Lyons stated that due to the size and complexity of stewardship issues, the Coalition must be prepared to exert a lot of effort and have patience as well. Paul Danish argued that the Coalition does not want to become an actual "steward" of Rocky Flats, and that the word "stewardship" denotes responsibility in perpetuity that the Coalition should not want to burden themselves with. Hank Stovall then argued about the importance of community input in the stewardship dialogue, to which Paul Danish replied that the Coalition should have an advisory role only. David Abelson stated that he never envisioned the Coalition taking on more than an advisory role, and that the focus of a stewardship process is to discuss and debate issues and ultimately give input to DOE and the regulators about what the communities around Rocky Flats want the site to look like post-closure. Ken Fellman reiterated the importance of stewardship issues to all seven local governments.

DOE-Kaiser-Hill Presentation on Factors that Drive Cleanup

John Rampe gave an introduction to the factors that are driving the cleanup at Rocky Flats. In response to Paul Danish's concerns, John Rampe stated that he cannot envision the federal government not having ultimate responsibility for post-closure maintenance and monitoring at Rocky Flats. John also said that the community interests are similar to DOE's interests in that both want as complete a cleanup as possible with minimal long-term maintenance and controls. The ultimate goal is for the cleanup to be protective of human health and the environment. Dave Shelton then took over the presentation and began by reviewing the many factors that will influence decisions about the final condition of the Rocky Flats site at closure, including legal, regulatory, technical, scientific, political, and financial considerations. The overall driver for project direction is the Rocky Flats Cleanup Agreement (RFCA), as well as the Clean Water Act (CWA), the Clean Air Act (CAA), the Endangered Species Act (ESA), and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). Under RFCA, the two main drivers are protection of future users and meeting water quality standards. The highest risk areas at the site are the first for cleanup, and as of now most of the contaminated sites outside of the Industrial Area have been remediated. Dave Shelton estimated that of the 6250 acres that comprise the site, approximately 250 to 300 acres still need active remediation. Dave next went over the major studies planned or in progress that will aid the decision-making process. They are as follows:

Soil Action Level Annual Review — for radionuclide soil action levels (RSAL's), the RFCA parties conduct an annual internal review to find out if any new scientific information is available that would impact interim levels, or if the national soil action levels have been announced within the year. Annual reviews will continue until a final Record of Decision is issued for the site. The final report of the Risk Assessment Corp. and recommendations from the oversight panel are expected in the winter of 1999-2000. Once these inputs are received, the RFCA parties will evaluate them.

Actinide Migration Evaluation — to provide guidance and information on how actinides such as plutonium, uranium, and americium behave and move in the Rocky Flats environment (i.e. the water, groundwater, soils, and air at the site). The Actinide Migration Evaluation Group is entering their third year of a multi-year project, and the group's work is expected to continue through site closure. The results of the numerous studies undertaken by the group will help guide

site cleanup and closure, particularly regarding methods to protect surface water.

Industrial Area Characterization and Remediation Strategy — provides a roadmap for final closure of the Rocky Flats Industrial Area, and ensures the full integration of cleanup efforts. The draft IA Strategy document was made available for a 30-day public comment period between August 13 and September 13, 1999. The final IA Strategy was issued September 30, 1999. Implementation of the IA Strategy will extend through closure of the Industrial Area in 2006.

Site Water Balance Study — will be conducted as part of the implementation of the IA Strategy. This study will quantify Site hydrology to support a comprehensive risk assessment and aid decision-making about the final site configuration and long-term protection of surface water quality. Currently the Site Water Balance Study is in the planning phase but should begin this winter.

Land Configuration Design Basis Study — will generate information, such as seismic and slope stability data, required to design the final land surface configuration at the Site. Findings will be used in designing any caps or covers that may be needed to protect surface waters. The Land Configuration Design Basis Study is in the planning phase, but should begin this winter.

At approximately 10:00 am Andrew Muckle made a motion to go into Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Mary Harlow. The motion passed 6-0. The purpose of the Executive Session was to discuss contract negotiations with Parallax and to discuss personnel issues.

At 11:00 am the Board returned out of executive session and reconvened into public session, noting that no action had been taken while in executive session.

Andrew Muckle motioned to continue the Coalition's contract with Parallax under Option 2 outlined in the Board packet. Lisa Morzel seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0.

Andrew Muckle motioned to approve an increase of \$3000 in the Executive Director's salary. Lisa Morzel added a friendly amendment to designate Tom Brunner on behalf of the Board to meet with David Abelson after the meeting to discuss the Board's comments. Andrew Muckle motioned to approve the salary increase with the friendly amendment. Lisa Morzel seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0.

Because (as Barb Tenney pointed out) there was not a quorum when the original approval of the minutes took place at the beginning of the meeting, Lisa Morzel motioned to approve the September minutes. Mary Harlow seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0.

Andrew Muckle made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ken Fellman seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 am.

[Back to Meeting Minutes Index](#)

[Home](#) | [About RFCLOG](#) | [Board Policies](#) | [Future Use](#) | [Long-Term Stewardship](#) |
[Board Meeting Info](#) | [Links](#) | [Contact Us](#)