



THE MEMPHIS DEPOT TENNESSEE

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD COVER SHEET

AR File Number 158

MEETING MINUTES
Restoration Advisory Board
April 18, 1996

Defense Distribution Depot Memphis, Commander's Conference Room

The Restoration Advisory Board Meeting was held on April 18, 1996 at the Defense Depot Memphis, Tennessee (DDMT) in the Commander's Conference Room. The attendance list is attached.

Ms. Christine Kartman opened the meeting by welcoming the RAB members and members of the community and giving them an overview of the agenda for the meeting.

Old Business

New RAB Members—

Ms. Kartman introduced the four new RAB members Dave Bond, Kevin Clay, Terri Gray and Elizabeth Young. These individuals were selected at the March meeting. All new members were provided with an RAB notebook and all members received an updated RAB member list.

New Business

The RAB members were provided with copies of an overview of the fast track cleanup process and the final version of the Interim Remedial Action Record of Decision (ROD) for their information.

Memphis Depot Redevelopment Agency—

Ms. Kartman introduced the Executive Director from the Memphis Depot Redevelopment Agency (MDRA) Cynthia Buchanan. The MDRA is an eighteen member board that was appointed by the City and County mayors. It includes community and business representatives, community members and public agencies.

Ms. Buchanan presented the strategic goals of the MDRA. These goals include the following:

—Maximize community employment, wages and capital investment through redevelopment of the Depot and the surrounding area commencing immediately. This involves placing a priority on attracting new or expanding businesses to the Memphis market area and encouraging new Depot businesses to hire Depot employees and local community residents.

--Improve the local quality of life through utilizing Depot facilities such as the golf course and the park area. Ensure redevelopment is compatible with surrounding areas. This may involve mitigating some of the current conditions such as landscaping and upgrading the facility to make the residential and industrial areas compatible with today's standards.

--Generate cash flow early on through interim leases and other means to support maintenance, improvements and marketing efforts.

--Community public health is the number one priority in environmental remediation work.

Current Actions of the MDRA include preparing a Redevelopment Plan. The board is also selecting a planning consultant to start in July. Cleo Kirk, Janet Hooks and Ulysses Truitt also sit on the MDRA so there is some overlap between the RAB and the MDRA. Ms. Buchanan tries to attend the RAB meetings as well. The Redevelopment Plan will look at the facilities and the market to determine what businesses could come here, in which buildings could they locate, and if any demolition and reorientation would be necessary to bring the site up to today's industrial park standards. At this time the MDRA is exploring a Master Lease which is an interim lease that will allow businesses to be brought in prior to closure and transfer of property in order to build employment opportunities and cash flow for the MDRA so they can make the needed redevelopment changes.

Question from the Audience: Will the Board allow hazardous substances to be stored at this facility?

Ms. Buchanan: At this time we have not decided what types of industries will be coming in, since we have a building especially for these types of materials, it is a possibility.

Ms. Kartman: Remember that these types of chemicals, hazardous materials, could be pesticides, solvents and other types of chemicals that you may have at home. Also remember these companies are regulated and inspected to make sure they abide by current standards set forth by appropriate agencies.

From the audience: What you are saying that if other companies come in they could have spills?

Ms. Kartman: Yes, they could have spills, but they would be responsible to have a spill team to cleanup these spills just like we do now.

From the audience: Would you check their background to make sure that they have not broken environmental laws and would not expose the community?

Ms. Buchanan: I realize that this is a sensitive issue to you, but at this time I can't answer questions about what types of companies we will be bring into this facility, it is just too early in the process to speculate. We will have to look closely at this issue and we may decide not to lease to this type of company.

Memphis, Light, Gas, and Water (MLGW) Information—

Mr. Webb brought information to the RAB as was requested by Mr. Goines regarding MLGW well testing. Mr. Webb said MLGW usually operates 10 wells at a time, however they can operate on 5 wells for a few hours. All of these wells have an aeration system that protects us from any chemicals that might flow into the water supply. Some wells have been closed because of the close proximity to contamination or because they were pumping sand in their pumps and it caused mechanical problems.

Mr. Webb also brought information on test results that they have received from the wells that they operate and a location map. He explained that the shallow wells have shown some traces of volatile chemicals; including the one by Dunn Field showed some volatile chemicals.

Mr. Williams: There was a book written about these wells and that some chemicals were seeping into the ground at well 126, 127, and 128. What type of work is going on at 127?

Mr. Webb: A hole was found in the casing at 127 and it was drawing in water from a higher level, rather than the Memphis Sands. Other work that is being done at 126 and 128 is just routine maintenance.

Mr. Williams: There is a new company now in this location called Permafix, are they being monitored?

Mr. Webb: Unfortunately we do not have control over that. We assume that EPA or TDEC will be monitoring them.

Ms. Kartman: The point of contact at TDEC is Mark Thomas. You need to call him and let him know of your concerns or you can go to the state and look up their file to see if there are any violations.

From the audience: If you let the water set for say a month or more and retest it, you might could find some chemicals?

Mr. Webb: We have retested and found almost the same thing every time.

Mr. Williams: How long will it take chemicals to penetrate the ground to shallow wells?

Mr. Webb: We are very fortunate here in Shelby County to have a clay layer, if we didn't have that we would have many problems with the water, but it is virtually impermeable. Of course it does depend on the type of chemicals we are talking about.

From the audience: Are there any places here in Memphis that we don't have that clay layer?

Mr. Webb: There are some cracks in various parts of the community.

From the audience: What about an earthquake?

Mr. Webb: If you have an earthquake, there could be a chance of some leakage.

From the audience: So there is a chance?

Mr. Webb: Yes, there is a chance, that's the reason we have these analysis to protect the drinking water.

Ms. Kartman: That's why we do water testing like this at the Depot, to protect the drinking water.

Mr. Clay: I'm reading the Law Environmental Study done in 1990, and they indicate that there may be an area in north Dunn Field that the clay layer is perhaps nonexistent?

Ms. Kartman: We are going to discuss that next.

Status of Groundwater at DDMT—

Mr. Greg Underberg of CH2M Hill made a presentation on the status of the Groundwater Study at DDMT that was done in January and February, 1996. Sixteen groundwater monitoring wells were installed in the shallow fluvial groundwater system west of Dunn Field to identify the extent of the plume. Wells were also installed on the perimeter of the facility. Two soil test borings were done to get information on the geology of the area. Sampling and analysis of all 48 wells, both on and offsite, was done in February. Water level measurements were obtained to construct a water table map in order to look at water flow. A geotechnical characterization was conducted of confining unit clay.

Groundwater flow is controlled by the elevation of the aquifer's base clay. The thickness and depth of the fluvial groundwater system are variable. The base clay is deeper southwest and northwest of Dunn Field and it slopes to the south in the southwest corner of DDMT. Groundwater flows to the west, southwest, and northwest from Dunn Field.

The next slide is a cross-section of the western side of Dunn Field. It appears to be a slice in the earth, it is based on actual data that has been collected from wells in the area. The slide showed silt and clay near the surface approximately 30 to 40 feet below the ground surface, next we have a level of sand and gravel that comprise the Fluvial Aquifer, beneath this level is the clay layer which we are calling the base of the Fluvial Aquifer. The movement of the water in this zone is very much controlled by the slope of the clay. The wells have shown that the clay layer is about 100 feet thick, in other areas it appears to be a thinner clay and another layer of sand exists. The thickness of the Fluvial groundwater is in some areas 20 feet and in other parts 2 to 3 feet or no water at all. Typically the groundwater flows from the east to the west, and south and northwest from Dunn Field.

The next slides are contour maps that show a tract of elevation, it show 230 feet above sea level to 220 feet above sea level which provides a slope in the surface of the clay. There appears to be a low in the clay northwest of Dunn Field, it slopes from 210 feet and drops 40 feet to 170 feet.

The next map shows a possible water table of the Fluvial Aquifer. The water table ranges from 240 feet to 220 feet, which slows the groundwater flowing. This shows that the groundwater follows the clay layer. There are not a lot of wells in the low area so it is speculative about the clay layer.

Mr. Clay: You have more wells east of Dunn Field?

Mr. Underberg: Yes, it gives us a better idea of the slope and flow of groundwater in this area.

Mr. Clay: Are you pumping any water out of the wells west of Dunn Field?

Mr. Underberg: No, these are for sampling only, not for pumping.

The next slide showed the tetrachloroethene (PCE) concentration in fluvial aquifer wells. Tetrachloroethene is an organic solvent, one of the contaminants that have been detected at Dunn Field. This solvent was detected around Dunn Field.

Mr. Williams: Sometimes when you test the water you say it is below a certain contaminants, how much of this water would you have to obtain to say it is hazardous to your health?

Mr. Underberg: The maximum concentration limit is 5 parts per million, that assumes that you are drinking 2 liters per day for the rest of your life, which is unlikely to occur.

Mr. Williams: The reasons I asked is that the area is known for having cancer, so 5 years or on down the years it might.

Ms. Kartman: At this time we need to hold all questions to the end of the presentation and we might have some time to answer these types of questions. If necessary we can ask Greg to come back next month, but please let him finish this presentation.

Mr. Underberg: Trichloroethene (TCE) has a similar distribution in the Fluvial Aquifer Wells.

Carbon Tetrachloride has the same type of distribution in Dunn Field.

Mr. Peters: Do we have any chances in getting this in the drinking water?

Mr. Underberg: No, we don't believe it has, because the clay layer is protecting the drinking water.

In summary, organic groundwater plume is bounded west of Dunn Field by wells MW30, MW33, MW40, MW42, and MW44. Organic solvents trichloroethylene, tetrachloroethylene, and carbon tetrachloride were detected at low levels in well MW34 located in the clay channel. Trichloroethylene and tetrachloroethylene detected in well MW51. Tetrachloroethylene, trichloroethylene, and 1, 2-dichloroethylene were detected in downgradient offsite well MW47.

Conclusions from the groundwater study found the following:

- Existing wells identified the general extent of groundwater contamination west of Dunn Field.

- Groundwater flows toward depressions in the base of the fluvial aquifer west of Dunn Field.

- Low levels of organic solvents in well MW34 suggest contamination may be just reaching the clay channel.

- Organic contaminants also found offsite in low concentrations at well MW47.

- Low-level detection's of PCE and TCE in well MW51 (north of Dunn Field) indicate the northern boundary of the organic plume.

Ongoing Activities--

Currently pumping wells are planned along the west and southwest margins of the Dunn Field plume to prevent groundwater contamination from entering the fluvial channel. An additional round of groundwater data will be taken from wells MW40, MW44, MW47, MW51 and MW54 along the perimeter of the plume to confirm that there is no detection there. MW34 will also be sampled again to obtain some

additional data. Wells will be re-sampled to establish trends in groundwater contamination.

Ms. Kartman: I would just like to say something before we start the questions. This is a board meeting, this meeting is to solve problems; it's about finding solutions and people understanding what the problems are. We want to try to get somewhere with this. I would ask that members of the public respect the position of the board and their responsibility of the members of this board. We are not here to point fingers or accuse the Depot of what they did or did not do, we are here to fix the problem. The questions from the audience are a privilege, it is not a mandate. Originally we opened the meetings to questions from the audience at the end of the meeting. Then we opened up the entire meeting up from open discussion. We will go back to comments after all presentations if the tone of the question doesn't change. At this time we will continue to have questions from the audience as long as it does not become disruptive to the board. With all of this in mind I will open the floor to the audience for positive, solution oriented questions.

Public Comment Period--

From the audience: Can we get ATSDR and EPA to come out for a public meeting?

Ms. Kartman: Tentatively we have planned a June 27th with Ms. Hooks. ATSDR has been invited to attend, but has not responded.

From the audience: Is it a sure thing?

Ms. Kartman: No, we're waiting to hear from ATSDR. We'll discuss it further at the next meeting in May.

From the audience: We would like to have ATSDR in our community, at our meeting.

Ms. Kartman: We will be so lucky to get ATSDR here for one meeting Janet Hooks Town Hall meeting. Can you not attend this meeting?

From the audience: Yes, but we would like to have our own meeting.

From the audience: Many of Joe Ford's Constituents will not know about the meeting since we do not receive a mailing.

Ms. Kartman: We will try to notify everyone that is on the mailing list, but since Ms. Hooks asked us to participate, the notification will be up to her.

From the audience: Is there anyone we can ask to have them here, such as Mr. Berry a state legislature in our group to get them to a meeting.

Ms. Kartman: You can try, we have not been able to get them to agree to come to any meetings for the public. They feel that they have met their obligation to us since they attended a RAB meeting some time in the past. At that meeting ATSDR said they would attend another meeting with the public, but we have been unable to get them here. At this time it is a very political situation but we have sent a letter to ATSDR upper management in order to get them here for the June Town Hall meeting.

From the audience: What you are doing is misunderstanding me. When Janet Hooks sends out newsletters we don't get them in our area.

Ms. Kartman: You do get our mailings?

From the audience: I do, but some of the other people in our area do not.

Ms. Kartman: These meetings will also be advertised.

From the audience: Some of these people do not take The Commercial Appeal.

Ms. Kartman: We also advertise in The Tri State Defender and the Silver Star.

Ms. Estes: We have provided Ms. Hooks staff with a copy of the mailing list, I will ask her to include Mr. Ford's constituents in this area, but he must approve the mailing since some of his funds would be involved. If you will provide me with a list of the individuals you would like to be notified I will send them a flyer about the meeting.

Mr. Williams: I would like to make a statement to the board. Sometimes when we ask questions it may seem that we are trying to point a finger at the facility, but I'm just trying to get answers to my questions. I enjoy sitting on this board and I don't want you to feel that I'm trying to point a finger at anyone. I just want some answers to the questions that I have.

Ms. Kartman: What I am saying is that I would like for anyone to ask questions in such a way that you can get an answer without accusing people. Just ask what you want to know, don't be defensive, just ask.

Mr. Williams: Sometimes you have to be diplomatic so you won't offend anyone, and sometimes it does not come out exactly right.

Ms. Kartman: All I'm asking is that we respect each other, that we continue functioning and keep these meetings in a professional manner. The Depot is trying to solve problems and we want your help to do it. Now we need to discuss next month's Agenda.

The next meeting we would like to suggest a tour of the facility. A bus will take us to tour the whole facility. We will need to leave promptly at 6:00 p.m. to utilize all of the

daylight. If you are late you will miss the bus. We will send out reminders ahead of time to the RAB.

Also there is a national Defense Environmental Response Task Force (DERTF) meeting that myself, Ms. Estes and representatives from our regional and headquarters will be attending on the 8th and 9th of May in San Antonio. This task force has requested to attend our RAB meeting in September. We would like to update you about this meeting at our next RAB.

Mr. Williams: Will there be opportunities for the RAB to attend these types of meetings?

Ms. Kartman: We are not aware of any opportunities that will occur.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.,

The next RAB meeting will be held on May 16th at 6:00 p.m. in the Commander's Conference Room at the Depot.

FINAL PAGE

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

FINAL PAGE

FINAL PAGE

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

FINAL PAGE