

MINUTES

Fort McClellan Restoration Advisory Board
Fort McClellan, Alabama
28 February 2000

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Ike Brown; Mr James Buford; Mr Ronald Hood; Mr. Don Cunningham; Mr. Jerome Elser; Mr. Ron Hood; Mayor Kimbrough; Mr Fern Thomassy

BCT MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Chris Johnson; Mr. Ron Levy

- I. **Call to Order.** Mr. Hood opened the meeting and called the roll. The minutes were reviewed and approved. Mr. Craig Branchfield, replacement for Mr. Alan Faust as Manager of Remedial Projects at Solutia was introduced by Mr. Levy. Mr. Branchfield is a candidate for the RAB. The other guests were asked to introduce themselves. He then called on Ms. Miki Schneider from the JPA to provide an update on status of JPA activities. Ms. Schneider stated that the Master Lease was approved January 18th, and the JPA is now looking at the Cat 7 property to determine which parcels need to be available first. She presented a list of 21 buildings and sites that are referred to as "open-me-first" and went over the list and briefly identified their locations and the activities/inquiries concerning reuse. A short discussion followed about several of the sites. She informed the RAB that there is considerable interest by many prospects and the JPA is receiving telephone inquiries daily. She concluded by stating that the JPA is planning a transportation study to do analysis on the roads to determine requirements to bring them up to county standards in order to have them accepted by the city. Mr. Cunningham asked about a report on the high-level meeting held at FMC last week and asked whether the RAB should have been included. Ms. Schneider responded that the meeting was called by Mr. Ray Clark, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army, Installations and Environment, and he set the agenda and attendee list. Mr. Levy said the intent was to help the JPA find ways to expedite the cleanup. He further explained that while it was not his prerogative to expand the attendee list, he and Barry Cox discussed there should be RAB representation and he contacted Pete Conroy who attended during the latter part of the meeting. Mr. Clark recognized Pete as a RAB member. Dr. Cox then asked if the fact that, since this meeting was top driven and the RAB was not part of the original guest list, was that an indication the RAB is not seen as having a major role. Both Ms. Schneider and Mr. Levy insisted this was not the case. Mr. Johnson stated he felt privatization was the main issue and most of the presentations were about that, i.e., the JPA takes on the property and the responsibility of cleanup as a "dirty transfer". The regulators then deal with them and the Army is in the background merely providing funding. He then went on to discuss the pros and cons of this process. And, it was stressed this meeting was aimed at senior level individuals and Mr. Clark wanted to send the message that help was needed in getting the property in the hands of the community and cleanup needed to move forward as quickly as possible. In addition, the congressional delegation attended to emphasize their interest and support where needed. A short discussion followed concerning lack of communication among community leaders and options to improve it. Mr. Levy

stated while he realized it appears difficult to get the word out, the RAB and JPA are open forums and the place for all citizens to participate. Mr. Thomassy commented that he wondered whether privatization was merely shifting responsibility for the use of funds and cleanup, and the RAB further discussed the complexities of the concept. Ms. Schneider informed the RAB that, at this point, since the issue was just raised last week, there is no request by JPA board to consider privatization of cleanup nor has the topic been discussed.

- II. **Old Business.** Mr. Levy brought attention to ASR Plate 10. He stated that these maps were provided at the request of Mr. Conroy and then explained the information used to develop it. After describing the areas on the map, he called for questions. Mr. Thomassy asked about the potential for chemical warfare material contamination. Mr. Johnson and Mr. Levy each discussed what was expected to be found and what had been discovered and identified, and the process involved in disposition.
- III. **New Business.** Mr. Hood called for the election of two new members to the RAB. Eight applications were reviewed and discussed. Ms. Donna Fathke and Mr. Craig Branchfield were elected. Mr. Levy announced that a FOST had been issued for the credit union and ATM buildings and stated the notice went to the newspaper for public review with a comment period ending February 29th. He then discussed the FOSL for the veterinarian clinic. Explaining that because it butted up against the warehouse district, it had originally been defined as category 7. However since the buildings had always been veterinarian facilities, there was no documentation of storage or release at the site and was now being identified as Category 1. This, coupled with its up-gradient location, determined the request to EPA and ADEM to sign the FOSL. Mr. Johnson stated he had just received the document and had not looked at it. Mr. Levy then discussed the landfills and EECA being conducted and called specific attention to Landfill 3. He stated the need to sink 3 borings to characterize the migration of any contaminants from Landfill 3. One of these will be off the installation on private property. A short discussion followed concerning the various landowners to be contacted for permission. Responding to Dr. Cox's question of what levels had been found, Mr. Johnson stated they weren't significant. The discussion broadened to include the status and remedy strategies of the other landfills.
- IV. **Adjournment.** Mr. Hood called for comments from the audience. There being none, the meeting was adjourned.