

**Minutes**  
**Fort McClellan Restoration Advisory Board**  
**Fort McClellan, Alabama**  
**21 August 2000**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dr. Barry Cox; Mr. Craig Branchfield; Mr. Ike Brown; Mr. James Buford; Mr. Pete Conroy; Mr. Jerome Elser; Mayor Kimbrough; Mr. Fern Thomassy; Mr. Bobby Weston

**BCT MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mr. Phillip Stroud; Mr. Ron Levy; Mr. Bart Reedy

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- I. **Call to Order.** Dr. Cox called the meeting to order, asked the audience to introduce themselves and followed it up with board member roll call. The minutes were approved.
  
- II. **Old Business.** Mr. Ike Brown requested that the minutes reflect that the RAB met in the Norwood Hodges Community Center, not the Golden Springs Community Center. He stated that Norwood Hodges was a former Mayor of Anniston and the name had been changed this summer. Dr. Cox brought up TAPP submissions as old business. Dr. Cox asked if anyone had suggestions for the use of TAPP money. Mr. Levy reminded the membership that TAPP (Technical Assistance for Public Participation) is an Army program and asked if anyone had any questions. A discussion ensued on the requirements and guidelines of TAPP. Two issues were raised as possible TAPP submissions. The first is an independent interpretation of EE/CAs and the second is an explanation of the data gathered from off-site borings. Mr. Levy reminded the board of the availability of some RAB monies for technical support as well as to request subject matter experts without having to make a TAPP submission. A suggestion was made that a committee be formed within the RAB to provide technical review of pertinent documents. After a short discussion on the role of the members of this committee and who within the RAB might have the expertise necessary to review technical documents, a motion was made and seconded to establish a technical review committee. The RAB members appointed to the committee were: Dr. Barry Cox, Mr. Craig Branchfield, Mr. Fern Thomassy and Mr. Pete Conroy. Dr. Cox asked if there was any other old business. Mr. Conroy requested additional information on the Heliport being constructed at the Department of Justice "COBRA" facility. He said his biggest concern was delivering live agent to the facility. Mr. Conroy asked if there had been a public meeting and/or newspaper article on the subject. Although not an item pertinent to the mission of the RAB, a discussion ensued over the issue and he was informed a series of public meetings has been held by DOJ and there was newspaper coverage.

Mr. Stroud, ADEM, asked to report on the recent road closure that was necessitated as part of the remedial action on the M-2 Parcel. He said that all had gone well. Nothing significant was found. Mr. Stroud stated that the quality assurance/quality control was also done very well. Mr. McIlrath, EDOT, thanked Mr. Stroud and said he would take his comments back to “the troops”. Mr. Fern Thomassy asked if the removal action was on schedule. Mr. Levy said that the schedule had changed and told the RAB that the removal action is now scheduled to be complete by September 15th. Mr. Conroy asked for the reason for the later date of completion and Mr. Levy replied that terrain difficulties and manpower shortages were the main causes of the delay. A discussion followed concerning the impact of the delay on the JPA contract with Consolidated Publishing. Mr. Conroy had a question on the remnants of white phosphorous grenades found during the road closure. Mr. Stroud answered that only one cap to a white phosphorous grenade had been found during the road closure and further stated that an intact white phosphorous grenade had been discovered in that general area earlier. Mr. McKelrath described the disposition of that phosphorous grenade.

- III. New Business.** Dr. Cox went on to the new business of RAB new member applications. Ms. McKinney addressed the RAB regarding the application package provided to the members. She said one of the applicants, Mr. Scott Beckett, was present. Mr. Conroy asked Mr. Beckett to introduce himself. Mr. Beckett told the RAB he has a Masters Degree in Forestry from Auburn and has completed research, which includes the long leaf pine. A former high school math and science teacher, he is currently a developmental math teacher at JSU. Mr. Beckett went on to describe his reasons for desiring to be part of the RAB, which included a major emphasis in diverse development. Mr. Levy announced that voting would take place at the September RAB. Dr. Cox then called the attention of the RAB to the Action Summary Sheet. Mr. Levy reviewed each item for the RAB. First item was the FOST for the Economic Development Conveyance transfer. This FOST included one thousand, five hundred and seventy-five acres and has been discussed at previous RAB meetings. The town hall meeting concerning the Post Cemetery was discussed next and Mr. Levy stated that the Army proposes to contract out the maintenance and care of the Post Cemetery in exchange for additional acres for use by the contractor. The additional acres would be sold as private burial plots. The last item, the signing of the Memorandum of Agreement allowing U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on site to manage the undeveloped properties on Fort McClellan was raised. After discussion, it was determined the document is an interim management agreement between the Army and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Mr. Bill Garland, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service representative, reiterated the service is just providing guidance and getting involved in the early process of planning for the development of the National Wildlife Refuge as well as continuing to develop a

cooperative relationship with the Army. Mayor Kimbrough brought up the completion schedule on the Eastern Bypass. He stated he also sat on the local MPO and had been provided timelines and other information on this subject that he would be glad to share with the Army. Mr. Levy thanked Mayor Kimbrough for his input.

- IV. Adjournment.** Dr. Cox asked if there was any audience comments, there being none, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn.