

Minutes
Fort McClellan Restoration Board Meeting
Fort McClellan, AL
November 20, 2000

MEMBERS PRESENT: Scott Beckett; Craig Branchfield; James Buford; Donald Cunningham; Barry Cox; Jerome Elser; Donna Fathke; Mary Harrington; Ron Hood; Fern Thomassy; Bobby Weston

BCT MEMBERS PRESENT: Ron Levy; Phillip Stroud; Bart Reedy; Shannon Golden

- I. **Call To Order.** Dr. Cox called the meeting to order. The roll was called and attendance is reflected above. Mr. Bart Reedy introduced his replacement, Mr. Doyle Brittain. The resignations of Mr. Ike Brown and Ms. Margaret Longstreth were announced. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.
- II. **Old Business.** Dr. Cox discussed the Environmental Cleanup Stakeholders Forum held in St. Louis. Dr. Cox stated that there was excellent attendance from the leadership involved in DOD environmental issues. He presented a first draft summary of the audience comments and provided an example found in the summary concerning the DOD tendency to use the Internet to disseminate information. Some people were concerned from the environmental justice point of view that many of the people most affected by environmental cleanup activities did not have access to the Internet. He said discussions were held at the forum proposing alternative delivery methods that should be developed. Another concern the forum had was that there was no Range Rule. According to Dr. Cox, most of the discussions centered on UXO and how to handle this issue. He said one of the points made was that the technology of finding UXO has not changed much over the years. Mr. Levy commented that what has really changed is the ability to discriminate what has been located rather than the technology to detect. Dr. Cox next brought up privatization of the cleanup as a topic that had received attention. An issue brought up was if privatization was being thought about then the RABs need to be informed. Dr. Cox said he had discussed with Mr. Ryan bringing in someone to discuss privatization at a future meeting. Dr. Cox commented that it was stated at the forum that partnering between DOD, EPA, and the individual states, was working well in Alabama and the Southeast. Mr. Reedy remarked he felt that the Southeast leads the nation. Dr. Cox said that it was urged at the forum to not only partner between those three but also include the RAB and the local communities. Many RAB members felt that in the meetings you had a monologue not a dialogue, and it needed to be more back and forth. Dr. Cox further stated that the Ft McClellan RAB was moving very well along with that. He told the RAB that there were after-hours meeting held by the RAB members attending the forum and they agreed to ask for a national RAB listing. Dr. Cox opened the meeting to questions. Mr. Hood asked about an

article he had read in the Scientific American concerning carcinogens leaking from UXO into the ground water. Dr. Cox answered that it had not been mentioned. Mr. Levy stated that BCT agreed up front that sampling would be done for other constituents beside explosive compounds on the ranges so that it can be established whether there are levels of concern.

III. New Business. Dr. Cox asked for reports from EPA, ADEM, the Army and the JPA on what had happened during the previous month. Mr. Reedy from the EPA was asked to go first. Mr. Reedy started by saying the M-2 parcel closure report had been sent for review to an EPA contractor. Mr. Reedy said he had sent a letter to Mr. Levy stating concerns he had with the cleanup of the ranges along Iron Mountain Road. Dr. Cox asked if anyone had any questions of Mr. Reedy. Mr. Thomassy asked if there was any quantitative risk assessments that goes along with the results of the UXO cleanup to identify what risks remain as pertains to certain types of work. Mr. Reedy answered that a qualitative risk assessment had been used and the EPA had a problem with that method. Mr. Reedy said it was a difficult thing to get to consensus. Mr. Thomassy said that it was a difficult task but not impossible and stated that there were a lot of people out there that could add to that if they were brought in by the military and EPA to solve that question of quantifying that risk. Ms. Schneider said the JPA had raised this exact issue at the California meeting of National Association of Installation Developers. She said the best UXO experts should be gathered together in a room and remain there until the solution was found instead of just continuing to argue. A discussion ensued over the interpretation of data and the depth of cleanup. Mr. Thomassy next asked if the M-2 parcel would soon be available to Consolidated Publishing. Mr. Levy answered that he believed they would come fairly quickly to a conclusion on the M-2. Mr. Reedy stated that M-2 was a precedent and everyone wanted to make sure it was done correctly. He described what was meant by discriminate as it applied to the cleanup process. Mr. Reedy said that, unlike future parcels, the entire parcel of M-2 was grided and walked over with sensing equipment. Ms. Fathke asked why M-2 is considered precedence setting since it is considered an atypical area. Mr. Levy answered that it would be very difficult and expensive to do a potential 14,000 acres the same way M-2 was done. Mr. Levy also stated that the intended reuse would, in part, determine the cleanup method used. The RAB then discussed technology and the problems facing the UXO cleanup at Ft McClellan. Dr. Cox asked Mr. Reedy if he thought an appropriate risk model could be developed for UXO and Mr. Reedy replied in the affirmative. Dr. Cox asked Ms. Schneider to speak on behalf of the JPA. Ms. Schneider reminded the RAB about the December 12th signing ceremony and deed transfer of the first 1200 acres from the Army to JPA. Ms. Schneider stated she had attended the last BCT meeting for approximately two hours. Ms. Schneider discussed JPA's interest in privatization. She also talked about obtaining environmental insurance. The major concern was the landfills for both the JPA and the insurance companies with whom the JPA is negotiating. A discussion developed about the continuing liability of the Army after the property is transferred. Ms. Schneider told of a meeting with ALDOT and stated the JPA

position of the great need for the Eastern Bypass and the rapid completion. Phillip Stroud, ADEM, addressed the RAB. Mr. Stroud passed out a packet of documents which informed the RAB of the documents that had been reviewed during the past month. His intent was to show the RAB the volume of reports that need attention. Mr. Stroud described a map that had been created to show the RAB the different buildings and parcels under review by the regulatory agencies. Mr. Branchfield asked Mr. Levy how it was decided which documents would be made available to the RAB for review. Mr. Levy answered that those documents that dealt with a decision as to how to spend tax dollars was the first criteria. Mr. Levy described a priority list provided by the JPA to the Army and said he would provide a copy to the RAB. Mr. Levy addressed the items on the Action Summary Sheet. The meeting held on December 26th dealing with the Eastern Bypass was discussed. Mr. Levy stated that the Eastern Bypass had been divided into three phases. The first phase involves the southern portion; the second phase is the rerouting of the access road and the third phase is the northern section. It was felt the southern part could be transferred immediately. Phases two and three would be available for transfer in 2002. Mr. Levy discussed the finding of a suspicious bottle in the fill area north of landfill two. Mr. Levy briefed the RAB on the actions taken and the disposition of the bottle. Next Mr. Levy discussed the RAD survey. The purpose of the survey was to ensure there was not any residual RAD sources on McClellan. Dr. Cox asked the members of the RAB if they would be willing to have their names and addresses included in a national RAB member list. Mr. Brittain, EPA Representative, introduced himself and briefly described his work history with EPA. Dr. Cox welcomed him to the RAB.

III. Adjournment. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned..