

MINUTES

General Meeting
Ft McClellan Restoration Advisory Board
June 15, 1998

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Pete Conroy, Barry Cox, Donald Cunningham, Jerome Elser, Alan Faust, William Kimbrough, Jimmy Parks, Fernand Thomassy

BRAC CLEANUP TEAM MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chris Johnson, Ron Levy

I. CALL TO ORDER. Mr. Thomassy called the meeting to order at 6:30.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES. The meeting minutes of April 20, 1998 were reviewed. Mr. Johnson reminded the board the term "Base Cleanup Team" appearing in the minutes should be changed to read "BRAC Cleanup Team." It was so noted.

III. GUEST SPEAKER PRESENTATION. Prior to beginning the presentation, Mr. Thomassy referred to the read-ahead packages (Peer Review Report and Finding of Suitability to Lease - Bldg 65) mailed to the board members. He encouraged them to review the packages in detail and develop a better understanding of risk-based analysis and cost effectiveness. He also suggested they begin to identify information/data they want when the Army plans investigations or actual remedial actions commence. Mr. Levy reminded the board of previous training in risk assessment and risk-based requirements and stated there were funds available to provide this again. Mr. Levy then introduced three members of the Peer Review Team.

Mr. Chuck Lechner of the Army Environmental Center, which executes the Peer Review Program for the Army BRAC Office, began the briefing by discussing the funding responsibilities of the Army BRAC Office and the various factors that must be considered when identifying needs, not only at Ft McClellan, but throughout the Army. He stated the goals of the Peer Review is to get the maximum beneficial community reuse for the available BRAC funds and direct those limited resources where they do the most good while meeting all the legal compliance requirements.

Ms. Angela Atkins, Army Environmental Center, then described the process and implementation of Peer Review. She said site close-out and expeditious property conveyance are used as the framework to reach the appropriate levels of risk reduction and the most beneficial use of funds. The meetings are also a means of ongoing dialogue with the BRAC Clean-Up Team who respond to any public and political issues that affect the local restoration program, thus developing lessons learned on which to base information for other installations. Ms. Atkins then presented several over-head charts and discussed the talking points. She explained the Peer Review process: installation

identification and projects within that installation to be focused on; pre-meeting conference calls; coordination and data exchange; the meeting itself; and time-line, input and preparation of initial draft version of peer review report. She pointed out the responses from the installation will then be incorporated into a final report expected to be out around mid-August. A discussion followed concerning funding, line items and protection of specific funding for Ft McClellan projects.

After the floor was opened for questions, Mayor Kimbrough voiced his concern for the Weaver water supply and asked what actions were recommended for the leakage of landfill three. Mr. Gaynor Dawson, a member of the Peer Review Panel, provided a detailed explanation of the current status of the leakage, the amount and the slow rate of movement. He said that a specific answer could not be given until additional data was collected. A short discussion followed in which it was stated that there was no final decision as to what would be done at landfill three.

Responding to Mr. Parks' query as to which was the overriding factor in funding cleanup - the Ft McClellan Development Commission or the Peer Review Panel, a discussion followed where the three phases of the process were clarified and whether the technical input weighed heavily in the funding process. The RAB then continued the discussion of the recommendations of the Peer Review Panel and the comment and response period. Concerns were voiced by various RAB members whether appropriate funding for specific projects would be available or whether, if we were under budget, the money would be withdrawn. Mr. Levy informed the RAB that since Ft McClellan was still in SI and RI phase, it was difficult for anyone to predict what would be needed and explained that cost estimates were made on various things, including sites being investigated; various programs; acreage; past history and educated guessing using worst case scenarios. He stated he has no control over money being pulled, but if that occurs, he then responds to Army as to the impact that withdrawal makes. Mr. Thomassy reiterated the importance of the RAB to be educated in budget and program projections. Mr. Levy stated he could provide annual program information, but because of contractual restrictions, could only disclose individual project information for the fiscal year of award and agreed to have it available at next meeting. Mr. Cunningham voiced concern over whether Ft McClellan was behind the power curve in the allocation of '99 funds, given the fact that data collection is ongoing. Mr. Levy assured him the requirements were well documented and adequate funding would be provided.

IV. COMMUNITY RELATIONS. Mr. Levy gave a brief report on his presentation at the Jacksonville Exchange Club. Two other RAB members, Mr. Thomassy and Mr. Cox, also attended. Ms. McKinney reported that arrangements had been made to speak at the Oxford Kiwanis Noon Club on August 13th and Mr. Levy suggested that other members of the RAB might want to make some of these presentations. Mr. Thomassy agreed to make the presentation and encouraged other RAB members to do future presentation. Ms. McKinney stated that the next quarterly community RAB meeting would also be held in August in Oxford.

V. OLD BUSINESS. Mr. Levy referred to the hand-out entitled Fort McClellan Base Clean-Up Team and provided corrections. He indicated the word “Base” should be changed to “BRAC” and the listing for Mr. David Skridulis should be clarified to note “UXO Issues Only”. He explained that Mr. Skridulis is not part of the core team, rather only part of the team for UXO issues. Responding to Mayor Kimbrough’s query of status of site investigation, Mr. Levy explained that a lot of field work will be ongoing from August through December and briefly discussed the projects and offered to try to coordinate some visits if the RAB wanted to observe some of the work.

VI. NEW BUSINESS. The next meeting is scheduled for July 20th at 6:30 and Mr. Levy reminded the RAB they wanted to continue the discussion of the BRAC Cleanup Plan. He suggested that be continued at the next meeting and asked everyone to bring their copy with them. Mr. Thomassy asked if additional information would be placed in the Environmental Baseline Study on the radiological investigations and studies and work that had been done in that area. Mr. Levy responded that an archive search report was being prepared to gather all the sites into one concise document. Mr. Thomassy stated the historical information of what has been done over the years should be available for the community and he would like to put it in the Oxford presentation. Mr. Levy agreed to do that if he could obtain the correspondence by that time.

VII. ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.