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FORT McCLELLAN

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RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

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Taken before Donna D. Gallahar, Court Reporter

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and Commissioner for the State of Alabama at Large at

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Fort McClellan, Alabama on the 17th day of July, 2006,

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commencing at approximately 5:00 p.m.

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1 MR. FRANKLIN: We'll call the meeting
2 to order. We'll have the roll call.

3 (Roll call was taken and Mr. Harvey, Ms. Bragg,
4 Mr. Clendenin, Mr. Elser, Ms. Little, Mr. Grant, Mr.
5 Kimbrough was present.)

6 MR. FRANKLIN: At this time if our
7 guests would introduce themselves starting around the
8 wall.

9 WANDA CHAMPION: Wanda Champion.

10 LISA HOLSTEIN: Lisa Holstein, Fort
11 McClellan Transition Force.

12 BRENDA CUNNINGHAM: Brenda Cunningham,
13 Fort McClellan Transition Force.

14 KAREN PENSON: Karen Penson, Fort
15 McClellan Transition Force.

16 PAUL JAMES: Paul James, Army National
17 Guard Training Center, Fort McClellan.

18 DAN COPELAND: Dan Copeland, Corps of
19 Engineers.

20 ART HOLCOMB: Art Holcomb.

21 STEVE MILLER: Steve Miller

22 RON GRANT: TAPP contractor.

23 MR. FRANKLIN: Thank you, if all of you

1 would take a moment to glance at the approval for the
2 approval of the minutes of the April meeting. Does
3 anyone have a question or comment on that?

4 MR. CLENDENIN: Can we approve minutes?
5 Do we have a quorum?

6 MS. CUNNINGHAM: Cannot, not without a
7 quorum.

8 MR. FRANKLIN: I'm sorry.

9 MR. HARVEY: But you can look at them
10 and see if you want anything added.

11 MS. CUNNINGHAM: I need to state for the
12 record that the following people are excused: Dr.
13 Harrington, Robert Jackson, Fred May, and David
14 Steffy. So there are four that are excused.

15 MR. FRANKLIN: If there's no comment on
16 those minutes, we will proceed with the old business.
17 We still need one RAB member. We are still one short.
18 I think all of you have access to the application
19 forms, if you have anyone in mind, please get those
20 forms to them so that they can fill them out and so we
21 can possibly get a new member to fill that gap.

22 We go on now to the program, Mr. Holcomb who is
23 to have the program on Bains Gap Road. And for the

1 record, Mr. Schmitter just came in, is present.

2 MR. HOLCOMB: I want to tell you a
3 little brief summary of the Bains Gap Road removal
4 project. A portion of the Bains Gap removal project
5 was completed during the fish and wildlife roads,
6 firebreaks and high use area. During that project we
7 cleared twenty feet on either side of the centerline
8 in a high use area along Bains Gap. During that
9 project we did not investigate or remove the anomalies
10 under the pavement.

11 In September the corps sent out an RFP to the
12 UXO contractors. We were selected for that, the award
13 was made in September. And we developed a work plan
14 and it was approved by ADEM in January. Under the new
15 task order the scope included doing a hundred feet on
16 either side of the road with the exception of the one
17 high-use area along Bains Gap Road and also included
18 removal of the anomalies under the road.

19 Okay, the project followed the normal MEC
20 project with surveying the boundaries and the grids,
21 the surface sweep, brush clearing, geophysical
22 mapping, intrusive investigation, and one task that's
23 not on here that's pretty chief to this is the

1 geophysical sweep out which we did using the existing
2 GPO plot in the fish and wildlife area, and that was
3 accepted by ADEM also. The boundary and survey and
4 grids were done by Skipper Engineering, a local small
5 business here. The surface sweep was performed with
6 visual assist, instrument assist, and we used the
7 Schondstedt for that. The brush removal was performed
8 by Envirogrind and included both manual and mechanical
9 clearing, and the brush clearing was completed to
10 allow good geophysical mapping.

11 The geophysical mapping used the EM-61, which
12 is the standard instrument here for GPO. We used two
13 location methods, a robotic total station, and a
14 constellation laser positioning system. 95% of the
15 area was geophysically mapped. The other 5% it was
16 impossible to map due to slope or terrain. And the
17 areas that couldn't be mapped were cleared by Mag &
18 Dig in accordance with our approved work plan.

19 The reacquire, consistent with the findings
20 of the GPO, we used the same positioning instruments
21 for that, the robotic total station and the
22 constellation. Intrusive operations consisted of both
23 manual and equipment assisted. We used the Vallon

1 hand-held detectors to make sure all the holes were
2 cleared. And in the geophysical areas that were not
3 geophysically surveyed, we also used the Vallon. We
4 found one MEC item in the project, it was a 75mm Shrap
5 round.

6 The Mag & Dig was only used in areas that we
7 couldn't map, and you can see the type of terrain that
8 we could not map. For the intrusive operations, we
9 used the mini-excavator in the areas along the road
10 that were too hard to dig manually. And then the
11 roadbed, we used a full-sized backhoe. Following the
12 intrusive operations, we backfilled the roads
13 following an ALDOT standard, and it was packed and
14 tested by EGC, which is a firm out of Gadsden that
15 does the compaction testing.

16 One thing we did during the project is when we
17 completed the intrusive, we have to put the dirt back
18 in and pack it down so the fish and wildlife could use
19 the road. They didn't like the idea of driving down
20 the road with big four-foot holes in the ground.

21 The QC was performed following a MILSTD 1916
22 approach. The area was divided into thirteen lots of
23 eight grids per lot. And then each lot we remapped

1 thirty-two lanes and had the geophysicist process the
2 data and then we excavated all the anomalies. None of
3 them met the failure criteria. And we did process QC
4 throughout the project, where the QC observed the work
5 made sure it was in accordance with the work plan.

6 The government QA, the government did an
7 aggressive seeding project where they went out and
8 planted forty-four items. One of the items was
9 smaller than the objective item, one of the items was
10 not ferrous, although none of us knew that for two
11 days, while we tried to figure out why we didn't pick
12 it. But we found all forty-four of the items. The
13 one that was non-ferrous was found in the QC where the
14 data specialists selects ten percent of the items the
15 geophysicist does not pick and we dig those, and one
16 of those was the non-ferrous item. Just happened to
17 be. That almost drove our geophysicists crazy trying
18 to figure out why they didn't pick it.

19 In addition to our QC checking all holes, the
20 Corps of Engineer on-site rep checked each of the
21 holes to make sure it was clear before we went on.
22 And then the geophysicist for the Corps also took a
23 percentage of the geophysical data and analyzed it.

1 MR. CLENDENIN: When you say seeds,
2 this was not like planting grass seeds?

3 MR. HOLCOMB: They took inert items and
4 planted them throughout, we didn't know where they
5 were.

6 MR. CLENDENIN: Like trying to trick you
7 to see if you find them all?

8 MR. HOLCOMB: Better to make sure that
9 our equipment was working and that we selected the
10 items that we should have. And in summary, we
11 completed the work in accordance with the work plan.
12 All forty-four seed items were located. One MEK was
13 removed and disposed. We had over two tons of
14 munitions debris, and over two tons of non-munitions
15 debris at the conclusion. Any questions?

16 MR. KIMBROUGH: How much property was
17 that?

18 MR. HOLCOMB: Nineteen acres, plus or
19 minus.

20 MR. CLENDENIN: Was most of the MD stuff
21 lead?

22 MR. HOLCOMB: No, no, it was bits and
23 pieces. We had one item that was ADB, we gave to Bob

1 for a seed item, and the rest of it was just scrap,
2 expended. Any other questions? All right.

3 MR. FRANKLIN: Thank you. For the
4 record, also, note that Mr. Burgett and Mr. Miller are
5 present.

6 Going on to new business, agency reports, ADEM.

7 MS. LITTLE: I guess enclosed in
8 anybody's information we've listed all the documents
9 that we've received since the last RAB meeting and the
10 documents that we've completed review on and obviously
11 the meetings that we've attended. Right now we have
12 four people almost full-time on this project. So
13 we're hoping to get things done a little faster.
14 That's all.

15 MR. FRANKLIN: Any questions? Okay, we
16 don't have a representative of EPA, do we? EPA is not
17 here. JPA is also not here. The Army Action Summary
18 Sheet?

19 MR. HARVEY: Okay, and that's in your
20 packet there, and I'm not going to read the whole
21 thing for you. Most of it stays the same. I'm just
22 going to touch on a couple of the main items that have
23 happened this quarter. Number one, we received ADEM

1 concurrence on the MEC removal for Eastern Bypass.
2 266 acres is now there's a FOST been prepared on it.
3 It's up for review, and as soon as it comes back down
4 here, it will be staffed with ADEM and with downtown
5 with JPA with all the players, so we hope to transfer
6 that property in six to nine months. That will be the
7 last of the Eastern Bypass with the exception of ten
8 acres that are still encumbered in the Bravo area in
9 the Eastern Bypass. We're about done that one.

10 The next part will be going to a FOST we
11 thought was going to be in August, now it looks like
12 September, we started the former water tank sites that
13 Jim didn't want anymore. Twenty-two point nine acres,
14 we've received concurrence from ADEM on a MEC removal,
15 and we think we'll kick the FOST out the door in
16 mid-September going up to DEA for review.

17 Now, to explain this, DEA is not going to
18 approve it. MEC, Munition Explosive Concern, UXO for
19 you old timers, when we do a UXO clearance it has to
20 go DEA for review before we start the process, other
21 FOST just go straight out and then up. This goes up,
22 back down and then up again for approval. So we hope
23 to get that out, and that would take care of all the

1 transfers with JPA, that twenty-two point nine with
2 the exception of the highway. When you get the
3 Landfill Three done, and that's nine or ten acres out
4 there underneath that and that transfer is scheduled
5 for '08 right now. And then we have ten acres to go
6 to ALDOT that's still in the Bravo area. As soon as
7 we get the Bravo area clean, and that part becomes
8 NFA, then we'll go straight to a FOST and transfer
9 that.

10 But we're about done transferring land here at
11 Fort McClellan, all forty-five thousand acres. Any
12 questions?

13 MR. FRANKLIN: Okay, the TAPP report,
14 Mr. Grant. Do you have one?

15 MR. GRANT: No, not really. I haven't
16 had any documents to sign for review, therefore, I
17 haven't reviewed any.

18 MR. HARVEY: If I can interject here, I
19 wanted to wait until he got done, I was going to
20 mention the TAPP. The TAPP contract, and we talked
21 about it last time, about getting work for Ron. The
22 TAPP contract has expired or will expire at the end of
23 August. Everybody thought we could continue. When

1 you read it, you can't, it was for two years. So if
2 we want another TAPP contract, I'm not sure that the
3 new players know what the TAPP contract is. Ron is
4 here under contract, in fact, he's got to attend a
5 meeting and he's got to put in a bill for doing
6 nothing because the contract is written that way. And
7 he's here for any documents or anything about
8 environment of Fort McClellan that you want taken and
9 put in plain English. That's what Ron is here for.
10 But you've got to say you want something and we'll
11 task him to do it and he'll do a presentation for you
12 and do it. So the question before the board right
13 now, and I realize we need to wait for more people,
14 but between now and the next meeting, preferably
15 sooner rather than later is send Brenda a note, do you
16 want a TAPP contract? Do you want someone standing by
17 that will interpret things for you? Okay. If you do,
18 we'll proceed to issue, we'll have to offer a new
19 contract, issue a contract. And then we're going to
20 have to rewrite the contract. The present one made
21 Ron report every month and charge the government, he
22 was right to do so, because we had him do a report
23 every month whether he did anything or not, which is

1 kind of ludicrous.

2 MR. GRANT: And typically I just charge
3 half an hour for that which is fifty dollars.

4 MR. HARVEY: So, we've got to change
5 that part of the contract and get it squared away. So
6 if you want it, fire off an e-mail, call Brenda, do
7 something just say "Hey we want it." And then we'll
8 start the process and then we'll come back to you with
9 a concept, okay, here's how we think we ought to do
10 it, we'll take your input and put it up there and you
11 get to pick what kind of contract you want.

12 MR. FRANKLIN: Okay, thank you. TOSC
13 report.

14 MR. SCHMITTER: As many of you may know,
15 we're contracted through EPA to provide assistance
16 throughout region four and six. Our contract expires
17 in September, and EPA chose to go a different route,
18 in terms of how they are going to do that. It used to
19 be University based, EPA is going to let that out to a
20 private contractor basically, small businesses. So
21 our efforts here, basically at the end of September
22 will be done. So, I mean, sounds like we've done
23 limited work over the last two years, involving this.

1 And between what Ron does and what we do there was a
2 bit of overlap there. So, I'm just here to let you
3 know that we appreciate the opportunity to work with
4 you. Wish we could have done more for you. Georgia
5 Tech will still be around obviously. If there are any
6 things that we can do for you in the future, just
7 call, same type of program set up, it won't be EPA
8 funded to deal with this type thing anymore.

9 MR. FRANKLIN: The upcoming programs
10 JPA and JSU was to provide a briefing on the Snake
11 Effigy. Is there anything on that at all?

12 MR. CLENDENIN: There have been
13 several people trying to get a meeting with R.D.
14 Downing, and I talked with Pete, and JSU is planning
15 to map it after the leaves fall this fall and winter.
16 That's really the next step to map the site. And
17 that's really where it is. An awful lot of people are
18 interested in it and several people are interested in
19 it from different directions, and what I'm trying to
20 attempt to do is get everybody on the same page. But
21 the next step is waiting on the leaves to fall again
22 so we can get up there and the snakes to go home and
23 leave us alone up there.

1 MR. FRANKLIN: You don't have any
2 ballpark time?

3 MR. CLENDENIN: Again, it will be
4 after the leaves fall, after probably the first frost,
5 so we're really talking at least Christmas is my
6 guess. JPA has already funded the money for JSU to do
7 the study. It's really when we can get there safely.

8 MR. FRANKLIN: Okay. Thank you. Do
9 we have any audience comments?

10 MR.: I have a question for Brandi.
11 What's the abbreviations on your report? What's NRN?

12 MS. LITTLE: NRN is usually a "no
13 response necessary." Okay, F is "finished," and IR is
14 "in review." But I think that one may have been
15 finished it just hasn't gone up yet.

16 MR. FRANKLIN: Any other comments
17 from the audience?

18 MR. KIMBROUGH: Curtis, if I may, we
19 met, the program management team met and to update you
20 from a JPA standpoint on what's going on, Bains Gap
21 they are looking -- well, first they have had to
22 transfer some funds because part of the area that's to
23 be cleared is in the Bravo area on Bains Gap. So

1 they've gotten approval on that, and of course they
2 have to go through the process, and they are looking
3 -- today they gave us the date of December for them to
4 complete that work, by the time they get everything
5 through and everything. They are in the final stages
6 of the design for Landfill Three. And so the cap,
7 they are at that point and they are hoping to do the
8 cap and also the treatment remediation as far as the
9 groundwater goes. They are hoping to get that done
10 pretty soon. The problem they had, and Gary might
11 know better than I do, I don't understand all of this,
12 but for about four months there was no money flow. It
13 seems like the Pentagon had transferred the
14 responsibility for the BRAC to Oklahoma or somewhere
15 and they were saying well, we didn't have the
16 authority. And so they've got a pretty good draw as
17 of Friday. But they had a lot of outstanding bills,
18 but that's cleared up.

19 MR. HARVEY: I'm not sure, but I'm
20 guessing from what you said, the ESQA the
21 environmental services quality agreement the Army has
22 with JPA doing the environmental cleanup was being
23 managed out of DCCW, defense contracting command

1 Washington. Now, everybody thought JPA got
2 forty-eight million dollars back in '03 and it didn't.
3 That's a nice check there. That money was deposited
4 up in defense contract command. It had to be
5 deposited before you can make the deal. Contracting
6 officers, on-site contractors. So then JPA drew on
7 that every ninety days or so, you report what you
8 spent the last ninety days and make your draws for the
9 next. It's usually a quarter out, so you don't have
10 down time. Well, that function has changed from
11 Washington to Oklahoma City, yeah, one of the engineer
12 districts out there is handling it now. The money was
13 transferred out there.

14 MR. KIMBROUGH: They said they
15 didn't have the authority. My understanding is when
16 they transferred, they didn't think about the on-going
17 projects, they were preparing for the new BRAC
18 projects, so it was in there. The other thing, they
19 hope to have the final negotiations on the Bravo area,
20 they hope to have that in the next two or three
21 months. They've got some final meetings in the next
22 week or two. They are supposed to. And so, a big
23 part of the money and the cleanup is really going to

1 start taking off now because of the new requirements
2 as far as time line and everything.

3 MR. CLENDENIN: There's some
4 clearing going on already right now at Landfill Three.
5 What's happening there?

6 MR. HARVEY: The Alpha area, you are
7 familiar with the Alpha area with all the briefings,
8 ECC is the name of the company that's in there they
9 are doing the clearance on Alpha.

10 MR. KIMBROUGH: And they are doing
11 some work on Bains Gap too.

12 MR. CLENDENIN: This looks like it's
13 on Landfill Three right there across from the church
14 right there on 21. There is a little clearing area,
15 and I was wondering what that meant if they were about
16 to start.

17 MR. HARVEY: I can't tell you about
18 that particular project. No, I think they are
19 starting at Bains Gap and moving north to get the
20 roads done first and then going that way.

21 MR. KIMBROUGH: As far as they
22 haven't done the final design for approval for the
23 cap.

1 MR. HARVEY: I mean, somebody could
2 have been clearing for a well or anything.

3 MR. KIMBROUGH: As far as the final
4 remediation, but, I wish I had my notes in here with
5 me because I can't remember from one hour to the next.

6 MR. CLENDENIN: This is visible, I
7 can see it from 21, you can see where they cleared
8 some timber back.

9 MR. KIMBROUGH: They were giving us,
10 I believe, a September date on Landfill Three to
11 start, does that sound right?

12 MR. HARVEY: That sounds right. I
13 don't think they've started now. I'll drive by on the
14 way home and I'll look and see if I can figure it out.

15 MR. CLENDENIN: It's past the
16 church, the little Pentecostal church.

17 MR. HARVEY: I know where it's at.
18 I used to dump stuff in Landfill Three when I was an
19 enlisted guy.

20 MR. KIMBROUGH: And they are having
21 a problem with people violating the intruding -- they
22 are constantly rebuilding the fences and signs, they
23 are fining people on bicycles, joggers, and you see

1 where the three kids got lost. They were in a pretty
2 dangerous area.

3 MR. HARVEY: These people riding
4 bikes, might ride by a UXO sight.

5 MR. KIMBROUGH: And they are
6 concerned with that.

7 MR. HARVEY: And there is a lot of
8 stealing going on, wire, aluminum, copper wire, big
9 time.

10 MR. KIMBROUGH: And I think they
11 haven't spent but like twelve or thirteen million out
12 of the forty-eight million, and they've got to do that
13 within -- what's the deadline for that?

14 MR. HARVEY: I'm not sure.

15 MR. KIMBROUGH: Two years and have
16 to have it committed and have work plans in place.

17 MR. HARVEY: Well, yeah, it was
18 supposed to be for the grant. But you go, we sit
19 there, you know in the Army, they say you can't do
20 this and then you turn the page and it shows you how
21 to do it. We redid the grant. Now, the first one was
22 by law two years so we had to redo it. And that was a
23 big problem then, and nobody realized the

1 authorization act that authorized the ESCCA, and when
2 he did it for two years, they had to seek legislation.
3 And, yeah, they put deadlines on it. I'm not sure
4 it's two years, I'll check it. That first one caught
5 us all by surprise.

6 MR. FRANKLIN: All right. Thank
7 you. Any other comments from the audience?

8 MS. CHAMPION: I'd like to ask a
9 question. Can you get one of those things that you
10 set a picture on? Can I get someone to sit one of
11 those out so I can sit this up on it. I've been
12 working for a little while, and I know from looking on
13 the thing, Pete Conroy, and I looked at today's
14 newspaper and I seen the meeting for tonight so I said
15 I would come on out and surprise Pete, but he's not
16 here, but anyway, since all of y'all are, that right
17 there, if you will pass it on to Pete Conroy, that
18 picture of that bird since he's an avid bird watcher,
19 I'm donating that to him for all the work that he does
20 for this community and he's not even from the State of
21 Alabama. I think it's so inspiring that we have a man
22 that does so much for our area. And I'm just so
23 impressed with the things Pete Conroy does here. And

1 it's just a token of my gratitude to give something
2 back to the community and to someone so special as
3 Pete Conroy.

4 MR. CLENDENIN: Can you identify the
5 bird?

6 MS. CHAMPION: All I know is a
7 friend gave me the picture, and he said that he had
8 got the bird and it was injured and he turned it over
9 to some group that took the bird and rehealed the wing
10 and it was in some, I don't even know if it's still
11 alive, but it was in one of them places where they
12 recover birds, and he had somehow got the picture
13 after the bird had got healed up. And I took it and
14 had it framed to give to Pete. And maybe that would
15 encourage people to like bird watching in this area,
16 and as a token of my appreciation.

17 MR. FRANKLIN: On behalf of Pete we
18 thank you and know he'll appreciate it. Any other
19 comments, questions? Do I hear a motion for
20 adjournment?

21 MR. MILLER: So moved.

22 MR. ELSER: Second.

23 MR. FRANKLIN: Our next meeting will

1 be October 16th at 5:00 p.m.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF ALABAMA)
CALHOUN COUNTY)

I, DONNA D. GALLAHAR, a Court Reporter
and a Notary Public in and for the State of
Alabama at Large, duly commissioned and qualified,
hereby certify that the within named meeting was by
me reduced to shorthand and afterwards transcribed
upon a computer;
and that the foregoing is a true and correct
transcript of the meeting as aforesaid.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that this meeting
was taken at the time and place in the foregoing
caption specified, and was completed without
adjournment.

1 I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not a
2 relative, counsel, or attorney for any party, or
3 otherwise interested in the outcome of this
4 action.

5 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set
6 my hand and affixed my seal at Anniston, Alabama,
7 on this the 6th day of September, 2006.

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My commission expires May 18, 2009.

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DONNA D. GALLAHAR
Notary Public in and for
Alabama at Large
