

**Kelly Air Force Base
Environmental Restoration Advisory Board (RAB)
February 19, 2002 Meeting Minutes
Kennedy High School**

Members/Alternates Present

Mr. Adam Antwine	Government	Air Force Base Conversion Agency
Mr. Roy Botello	Community Member	
Mr. Larry Bowman	Community Member	
Mr. Phillip Farrell Authority	Paul Roberson Alternate	Greater Kelly Redevelopment
Ms. Esmeralda Galvan	Community Member	
Mr. Rodrigo Garcia	Community Member	
Ms. Tonya Huerta	Community Member	
Mr. Scott Lampright	Carl Mixon Alternate	Bexar County Fire Marshal
Dr. Gene Lené	Community Member	
Mr. Curtis Pearson District	Sam Sanchez Alternate	San Antonio Metropolitan Health
Mr. Nazarite Perez	Community Member	
Ms. Lisa Price	Laura Stankosky Alternate	US Environmental Protection Agency
Mr. Mark Puffer	Community Member	
Mr. Armando Quintanilla	Community Member	
Mr. George Rice	Community Member	
Mr. Nicolas Rodriguez	Community Member	
Mr. David Smith	Facilitator	
Mr. Mark Weegar	Government	Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission

Members/Alternates Absent

Ms. Dominga Adames	Community Member	
Ms. Peggy Grybos	Community Member	
Mr. Mike DeNuccio	Community Member	City Council District 6
Mr. Sam Murrah	Community Member	
Mr. Paul Person	Community Member	
Mr. Robert Silvas	Community Member	
Mr. Carl Mixon	Government	Bexar County Fire Marshal
Ms. Laura Stankosky	Government	US EPA
Mr. John Villanacci	Government	Texas Department of Health
Mr. Ed Weinstein	Government	San Antonio Water System

Meeting Goals

- Advise and comment on Kelly environmental matters and documents.

- Receive update on remediation projects.

I. Meeting Convened

The RAB meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Dr. David Smith introduced himself, explained the purpose of the meeting and reviewed the agenda and goals. The RAB members made introductions. Ms. Tanya Huerta informed the RAB that ATSDR in Atlanta is looking for Community Members to be on the ATSDR board. If anyone is interested, please call Lynn Myrick at 925-3100 extension 678. The October and January Minutes were reviewed. Scott Lampright indicated that he is not listed on either document as attending and should be added to the list of attendees. Mr. Quintanilla asked why they were not receiving the minutes within 21 days after the meeting. Mr. Adam Antwine apologized and said that there would be a concerted effort to meet the charter deadline. The October minutes were accepted as provided, with Scott Lampright added. The January minutes were corrected to indicate that Scott Lampright was present, the presenter was Paul Roberson and that Nazarite Perez's title was corrected. The January minutes were accepted with the revisions. Mr. Quintanilla could not find a copy of the RAB January meeting minutes. A copy was provided to him.

II. Community Comment Period Protocol

Dr. Gene Lené stated that he would prefer to reserve the community comment time for the community and not for RAB members. He added that RAB members could speak at any time during the meeting.

III. Community Comment Period

Dr. J. Paul De Vierville from St. Phillips College spoke to the RAB regarding a new innovative technology, plasma arc torch technique. He recommended that the RAB look at this new technology for the cleanup of Kelly AFB and see if it is possible to integrate the technology into the system. He also stated that given the interest in examining alternative fuel sources, this might aid in this process.

Mr. Genaro Rendón from the Southwest Workers Union (SWU) read a written statement (See Attachment)

There were no additional public comments.

IV. Technical Review Subcommittee (TRS) and BRAC Closure Team (BCT) Report

Dr. Lené addressed the TRS report, explaining that there was no December meeting. The February TRS meeting minutes were available and provided in the RAB supplemental packet. The meeting minutes for both the January and February sessions were reviewed. It was also noted that there is no formal list of TRS members and any RAB member is welcome to join the

TRS. The next meeting will be held at the Environmental Health and Wellness Center, 911 Castroville Rd., on March 12 at 6:30 p.m.

Mr. William Ryan addressed the BRAC Cleanup Team meeting that was held today, February 19, 2002. The meeting focused on the Site E-1 and the Building 301 and Building 360 Proposed Plans, as shown in the posters on display in the back of the room. Mr. Ryan described the interim remedies that can be put into place. The final remedies will be selected later in the year.

V. Presentation by San Antonio River Authority (SARA)

Mr. Mike Gonzales introduced himself and explained what SARA has been charged to do. In 1991, the Texas Legislature passed the Texas Clean Rivers Act. The Act was intended to move Texas towards comprehensive water resources planning and management to ensure the integrity of the state's water supply over the long term. The Clean Rivers Act requires an ongoing assessment of water quality issues and management strategies statewide to guide Texas water resources policy and decision-making into the 21st Century. The Act established the Texas Clean Rivers Program. The program is funded by fees assessed on wastewater discharge permits and water rights holders as well as through TNRCC's own state appropriations. Part of the water quality management under SARA is to establish and coordinate the water quality data collection, analysis and reporting program. The program reviews and evaluates data continually and uses such data in long range planning for basin-wide water quality control and abatement.

Biota monitoring was performed in a 1999 survey. The SARA survey determined that the agricultural biota and the San Antonio River that crosses the East Kelly plume actually improved since the 1996 study. SARA will continue to monitor the watershed. The concentrations remain steady and currently SARA does not have enough money to conduct an extensive sampling study.

Discussion

Mr. Armando Quintanilla stated that it was his understanding that the concentrations reaching the San Antonio River are higher and wanted to know if any of the contaminants are above 5 parts per billion. Mr. Gonzales said he could not recall. He went on to explain that the lower locations have had higher concentrations, but the aquatic life is better than at Brackenridge Park. Ms. Tanya Huerta asked if SARA is testing for chlorides. Mr. Gonzales replied that they do and SARA also tests for chromium. Mr. George Rice asked if the seeps are tested. Mr. Gonzales answered yes and explained that that is where the concentrations were found. He indicated that a report would be available next year and that SARA will be compiling the information this summer. Mr. Rice requested a copy of the previous report. Mr. Gonzales will give a copy to Mr. Ryan to distribute to the RAB.

Mr. Quintanilla asked if Mr. Gonzales was not saying that the Kelly contamination is not reaching the San Antonio River. Mr. Gonzales replied, no, in the spring it does. Mr. Quintanilla wanted to know what SARA was doing to control this. SARA is not; AFBCA will address this within the Zone 4 Corrective Measures Study (CMS). Ms. Huerta inquired on the effect to the poplar trees: do the trees become toxic? Ms. Lisa Price explained that phytoremediation can

produce concentrations high that it will kill the trees but the daughter products usually do not accumulate in higher concentrations than the parent product.

Ms. Esmeralda Galvan inquired to the testing of the San Antonio River prior to 1999. SARA has been testing the river since 1982. Mr. Rodrigo Garcia asked about the testing of Leon Creek. Mr. Gonzales explained that the Kelly semiannual compliance plan tests Leon Creek and that Leon Creek data will be in the 5-year report. An inquiry was made as to whether extensive studies will be conducted for Leon Creek. Mr. Gonzales explained that there were no plans to do anything but the parameters under the Clean Water Act. Mr. Quintanilla inquired about Six-Mile Creek and asked specifically if Kelly was testing the discharge. Mr. Mark Weegar explained that the Air Force has a discharge permit and under the permit they are required to meet the clean water standards.

Mr. Gonzales explained that he would track down any data requests. Mr. Gonzales can be reached at 227-1373.

VI. Zone 4 and 5 Corrective Measures Study (CMS) Update

Mr. William Ryan presented a Zone 4 and 5 update briefing.

Zone 5 is the warehouse area as well as the flight line that runs down the center of the base. Lackland AFB annexed the portion West of the flight line and the eastern portion is part of the closure. The CMS addresses all of Zone 5. There are a total of eight areas. The remedial alternatives include enhanced bioremediation, permeable reactive wall and natural attenuation. Plume A is the most complex area. The selected alternative implements enhanced bioremediation along with a reactive wall and natural attenuation. Plume C, or Site S-1, is a pit that was backfilled. AFBCA proposed upgraded soil vapor extraction system along with water treatment plant proposed as the final remedy. Decreasing levels of concentrations for these sites is occurring through natural attenuation.

The Zone 4 CMS will respond to Zephyr's recommendations to install pump and treat systems in isolated "hot spots" using vertical wells along with phytoremediation at the San Antonio River. The City staff will revise the City Code to restrict well drilling and use of shallow groundwater. The City is working with the Air Force to plug abandoned shallow groundwater wells. Currently, City staff and the Air Force are coordinating an effort for further groundwater vapor monitoring. The CMS is scheduled to be released in late February early March.

Discussion

Mr. Rice questioned whether the Air Force has accepted responsibility in North Kelly Gardens for a portion of trichlorethylene (TCE) but not perchloroethylene (PCE). He also asked whether the Air Force intended to cleanup North Kelly. Mr. Ryan explained that the Air Force could attribute the TCE to activities at Kelly. The cleanup will include source control and removal, enhanced bioremediation on base and natural attenuation plus source removal off base. Mr. Rice asked if a reactive wall would be used. Mr. Ryan explained that that depends on discussions with TNRCC.

Mr. Rice asked Mr. Weegar who would be responsible for the cleanup of an orphan plume if one existed. Mr. Weegar explained that TNRCC is going to hold the Air Force responsible for the cleanup unless the Air Force proves that another source was responsible for the contamination. Mr. Rice added that Mr. Weegar had previously stated that if no orphan plume existed, someone would be held responsible for the cleanup. Mr. Weegar replied that if it is proved that there is another source then the TNRCC will ask those responsible to conduct their own studies. Mr. Rice asked if there was another responsible party, and they could not afford to pay for the cleanup. Mr. Weegar explained that under state law payment is required; if not, TNRCC is required to exhaust all other funding sources before going to the state Superfund cleanup program. Mr. Garcia stated that another polluter existed in the area during the 1950s and that the TNRCC and the EPA needed to investigate.

Mr. Quintanilla asked why the City Council has not been briefed on Zone 5. Mr. Ryan explained that the City Council has not requested a briefing, but is aware of the Air Force's actions. Once the contractor review is back from the TNRCC, it is possible that a briefing will be conducted for the City Council.

Mr. Quintanilla asked how many shallow groundwater wells were abandoned in Zone 4 and if the monitoring wells will be plugged along with the two or three Edwards Aquifer wells. In response Mr. Ryan stated that eventually the wells would be plugged. Currently there is a project being conducted in conjunction with the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District to plug abandoned wells in the vicinity. There are approximately 125 wells within the vicinity and 80 within the plume. If anyone has any abandoned wells to report, they should contact SAMHD at 434-0777. Ms. Huerta requested that an advertisement be placed in the Southside Reporter to announce the project.

Further discussion began regarding Zone 4 cleanup. RAB members asked what cleanup system would be put in place and when the Air Force would have a design. The Air Force is probably going to go with the corrective measures in the areas of the highest concentrations that the City Council recommended. Exactly where the remedies are going to be is more a design consideration. The Air Force is looking at modeling for areas that will give us the best remedial actions. It is too early to say when the Air Force will have a design. Once that decision is made it the Air Force's plan to have two meeting for public comment.

VII. Public Center for Environmental Health (PCEH) Update

Mr. Curt Pearson provided an update. The grand opening was held on February 9, 2002. The facility is located on Castroville Road and will house two entities, the Environmental Health and Wellness Center and the PCEH. Currently, four out five positions for the PCEH have been filled. The Center is up and running and fliers are available at the back of the room. The center is conducting free environmental health screenings. Ms. Linda Kaufman was introduced as the director of the center.

Discussion

Mr. Quintanilla learned that the Department of Veterans Affairs has found a link between amyotrophic lateral sclerosis and pesticides. His concern is that the RAB needs a report from

AFIERA and SAMHD on how the report will be integrated into the ongoing studies. Mr. Pearson will pass this information on to Sam Sanchez.

VIII. Community Involvement Plan (CIP) Update

Mr. Doug Karas explained that the CIP is a plan to engage and gather input from the community. As the Air Force passes certain milestones it is required by law to update the plan. One of the major tools used will be focus groups and the Air Force will also conduct and administer one-on-one interviews. Focus groups will assist in generating ideas and more information can be obtained during the sessions than from individuals. The first focus group will be with the RAB; a sign up sheet was circulated to the board. At this time a copy of the Johns Hopkins Study and an update of the study was requested. The study included focus group participation from Kelly community members.

IX. Charter Review Subcommittee Update

Mr. Karas explained that the subcommittee would have an aggressive schedule to accomplish the charter revision. A conflict on the meeting dates arose with Mr. Rice. It was decided among the members that the subcommittee members meet after the meeting to establish an acceptable schedule for everyone.

X. AFBCA Report

AFBCA is under contract with GKDA and has been asked by GKDA to transfer some buildings soon. Lindbergh Park is the first of two parcels of land to transfer to GKDA. The AFBCA is beginning the process with these two parcels of land and looking at how parcels of land will be deeded and transferred to GKDA. The process will start this year and transfer of the last property is scheduled to occur in 2006. The Salvation Army is proposing to build a child care facility at Lindbergh Park.

Discussion

Mr. Quintanilla was concerned of the contamination of Lindbergh Park. Of the 1800 acres about half has underlying groundwater contamination. AFBCA is starting with those areas that are clean, about 1000 acres divided into parcels that can be transferred to GKDA. GKDA is in the process of reviewing the samples taken and analyzed from these properties. Mr. Philip Farrell stated that there is some soil contamination at the park and the Salvation Army is going to perform it's own "due diligence."

XI. Environmental Justice Grant Update

Ms. Huerta explained that a logo was developed and the pamphlet is being translated into Spanish by the SAMHD. The grant is targeting people who live in higher areas of contamination. The goal is to have 100 people come in the Environmental Health and Wellness Center to participate in the free health screenings.

XII. Community Comment Period

No comments

XII. Meeting Wrap up

Terms for the community co-chairs last one year, so at the next RAB meeting the RAB needs to elect a community co-chair. Dr. Lené was asked if he would be willing to serve again. His response was that he would continue as co-chair if no one else wants to serve.

The dissemination of the RAB members' personal information was brought up as a result of a public request for this information. It was requested that each member contact Ms. Lynn Myrick or Mr. Eddie Martinez if they do not want their information provided to the public. It was decided that until all members and alternates were contacted no information would be provided to the public other than member names.

Dr. Lené requested that RAB members who are absent be listed in the RAB meeting minutes.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:15 p.m.