

**Kelly Air Force Base Restoration Advisory Board**  
**29 August 2000 6:30 p.m.**  
**Dwight Middle School**

**Members/Alternates Present:**

**Community Members:**

Dr. Gene Lené,  
RAB Community Co-Chair  
Mr. George Rice  
Ms. Peggy Grybos  
Mr. Phillip Farrell (Mr. Roberson's alt), GKDA  
Mr. Armando Quintanilla  
Mr. Paul Person  
Mr. Scott Lampright (Mr. Mixon's alt.)  
Mr. Názirite Pérez  
Ms. Tanya Huerta  
Mr. Alfred Rocha  
Mrs. Dominga Adames  
Mr. Roy Botello  
Ms. Annalisa Peace

**Public Members:**

Mr. Adam Antwine, (Mr. McCullough's), Alt.,  
RAB Installation Co-Chair  
Mr. Mark Weegar, TNRCC  
Ms. Laura Stankosky, USEPA  
Mr. Sam Sanchez, SAMHD  
Mr. John A. Jacobi, TDH  
Mr. Nicolas Rodriguez, Jr., BMWD

**Members Absent Without Alternate:**

Mr. Kent Iglesias  
Mr. Mark Puffer  
Mr. Sam Murrah  
Mr. Edward Weinstein

**I. Call to Order**

- A. Dr. Gene Lené, Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.
- B. Mr. John Folk-Williams explained the role of facilitators was to keep the meeting on target and on time. He called the RAB members attention to the proposed meeting guidelines. He spoke of the growing importance of community and RAB input as the Air Force (AF) moves toward proposed final solutions. He stressed the importance of guidelines and group input to the AF and of hearing information on restoration issues.
- C. Mr. Folk-Williams reviewed the purpose of the RAB, and the meeting agenda and goals.

**II. Administrative Topics**

- A. The RAB community members unanimously voted Mr. Tony Martinez as a Board member.
- B. Minutes review and approval.
  1. The minutes for meetings on 11 April, 13 June, 1 Aug 2000 were reviewed and approved.
- Q - Mr. George Rice asked if the letter approved by the RAB concerning AF shallow groundwater presentation had been sent and to whom.
- A - Mr. Adam Antwine did not know and took it for research and response.

C. Discussion:

Q - Ms. Tanya Huerta asked why 15 additional pages were provided in tonight's Meeting Materials Package that were not in the package mailed to members earlier.

A - The AF explained that the materials were not available at the time of mailing.

Q - Mr. Rice asked how the meeting was being recorded.

A - Mr. Antwine told him there was no court reporter and minutes would be developed from notes taken by various people. They were trying to streamline the meeting process.

Comment: Several Community members were concerned that some items may "drop through the cracks" and the RAB members should have been asked first.

Q - Several Members asked why there was no sound system and complained they could not hear people speaking.

A - Mr. Antwine asked that the issue be taken as a committee item and not debated tonight. He also asked the Board to try to make do at this meeting.

Comment: Dr. Lené reminded everyone this is a Board meeting for members to talk, not a public forum, and he found the microphones and sound system to be a problem.

Comment: Mr. Scott Lampright stated the Board had heard complaints of meeting rooms being too small and tonight's being too large. He said we need to "...be more accommodating and make it work."

Comment: Several members voiced that this was a matter of showing respect for the members. Mr. Armando Quintanilla felt it was an environmental justice issue.

Comment: Mr. Quintanilla asked that all information be provided in English and Spanish.

### III. Community Time

A. Ms. Linda Ximenes explained that those who had turned in a speaker's card would have 3 minutes for their comments. Any questions asked would be answered directly to the speakers at a later time. Those requiring Spanish translation would be allowed 6 minutes.

B. Mr. Chavel Lopez, SWPWU/CEJA, protested the Air Force's arbitrary decisions and accused the Air Force of not being committed to working with the community. He stated his belief that environmental plans were a "done deal" and the Air Force wants land use controls and not a cleanup. He further complained about the public environmental forums format. He felt the format was confusing and limited public involvement. He read a list of demands that include a greenbelt around Kelly AFB and cleanup to drinking water standards in 6 years (see Attachment 2). Mr. Lopez reported that a community development authority was forming.

C. Ms. Maria Garcia (speaking in Spanish) complained the community was being ignored and not getting responses because they are Hispanic. If the community was not Hispanic the area would have been cleaned up long ago. She wants to be listened to and wants to receive quick responses.

D. Ms. Angel Martinez, SWPWU/CEJA, said public input was on the bottom of the list and accused the RAB of not working with the community. He was concerned about children with asthma, early cancer deaths and other medical problems. He said the

AF is trying to show that the worst contamination is from other sources and the AF is not responsible. *Note: The AF has assumed responsibility for off-base contamination it has caused and has pointed out some contamination is from other sources.*

- E. Ms. Patricia Medina, a local resident, stated she believed the community is being discriminated against because they are Hispanic and not having microphones and recording devices disrespects the community. She said it was rape of their dignity.
- F. Mr. Joe Rodriguez did not speak during the comment period, but interrupted the meeting later, complaining the RAB was unprofessional, and he thought the meetings should be televised. He also wanted to know why absent landowners had not been sought out and informed of the problems. When he was asked to observe the meeting rules and hold his comments to the next community comment time, he loudly objected and left the meeting.

#### **IV. Shallow Groundwater Public Forum Update, Aug. 28**

A. Mr. Antwine explained that the public forums were to gather input for developing a community-based solution for the AF to submit to the regulators. This early public input is very different than the usual process. He explained that all public comments, questions, and suggestions were being recorded and are available to the public. The August 28 forum was well attended. Congressmen Ciero Rodriguez and Charlie Gonzales attended and listened to the community members.

B. Mr. Antwine emphasized that RAB involvement is encouraged and needed.

C. Discussion:

Q - Several members asked questions about how the forums are publicized.

A - Mr. Antwine told the Board that an extensive effort was made through newspaper ads and broad public mailings to encourage community participation.

Comment: Several RAB members reported they had seen the advertising.

Q - Mr. Rice asked that if more were spent on the cleanup, would it reduce the amount that goes to health efforts.

A - Mr. Antwine responded that those are separate budget allocations. In the short term, it may come from the same pot of money, but later on he didn't think they came from the same budget allocations.

Q - Mr. Quintanilla asked if there was a set percentage that would go for health efforts.

A - Mr. Antwine told him there was no set percentage.

Q - Mr. Quintanilla asked what safeguards would there be to ensure the health funds would go to people and services and not to other things.

A - Mr. Antwine said a memorandum of agreement was being developed that would detail how the money will be spent.

Comment: Mr. Quintanilla said the forum was a good PA effort, but people disliked the format and wanted microphones when speaking. He also said that we seemed to have plenty of money for advertising but none for mikes or recordings.

Comment: Mr. Rice commented that this was a better way of approaching the community than before.

Comment: Mr. Sam Sanchez stated that the RAB needed to participate in the public forums by being present. He added that these were good forums and should be used as a sounding board to understand what the community wants. Mr. Rice agreed with Sam and said that the RAB should attend the meetings and have their own presence there.

## **V. Low Level Radioactive Material and Waste Storage Sites**

A. Mr. Charles Williams, BCA, and Lt. Daniel Shaw, AFIERA Radioactive & Mixed Waste Office, reported on the initial results of investigation conducted on Kelly AFB for low-level radioactive contamination. All sites are scheduled to be remediated below USEPA's clean up levels by the year 2002 and also to levels indistinguishable from background radiation levels (see Attachment 3).

B. Discussion:

Q - Ms. Peggy Grybos asked if there was a medical study included and if it is known who had worked the sites.

A - There is no associated health study at this time, and we have no record of all the people who had worked there.

Q - Ms. Tanya Huerta asked if she was correct in assuming that the further you were from the source the less contamination you received.

A - Lt. Shaw said that was true. He added that all personnel removing the concrete would be properly attired in protective gear.

Q - Mr. Quintanilla asked the relative risk of the sites and how much is being spent on the cleanup.

A - Lt. Shaw told him the cost was \$4.1 million. Mr. Williams said that the radiation levels were very low and the risks equally low.

Q - Mr. Quintanilla asked about the levels at the sites on the golf course.

A - Lt. Shaw said the two sites, RD-1 and RD-2, were clean by USEPA standards.

Q - Mr. Quintanilla asked why these sites were being cleaned before off base contamination.

A - Mr. Williams said that the decision on when and where to cleanup was directed by the USEPA.

Comment: A handout on how radioactivity breaks down was distributed.

Comment: Mr. Quintanilla said these low-risk sites should not be cleaned up before high risk areas

Comment: The cleanup of the Low Level Radioactive Material and Waste Storage Sites was not taking away from work at other sites.

## **VI. Relative Risk Review**

A. Mr. William Ryan, AFBCA, gave a brief summary on Relative Risk Evaluation to remind the RAB of previous presentations to the RAB and TRS. The presentation emphasized that the evaluation's primary function is to help ensure that sites most needing cleanup are considered a priority when funds are short (see Attachment 4). A synopsis chart of each site evaluation was provided in the meeting materials package. Complete site descriptions and evaluations were provided in April to prepare the members to discuss and vote for approval or disapproval of the ratings.

**B. Discussion:**

Q - Mr. Quintanilla asked why vote on the 17 sites going to Lackland AFB.

A - This question led to the following related questions. The result was separate answers for most and the motion listed below

Q - Mr. Quintanilla asked why sites with no aquifer or off-base plume were rated high.

A - See "A" above.

Q - Mr. Rice asked if any of these sites listed included sites off base.

A - Mr. Ryan replied all the sources contributing to off-base plumes are included.

Q - Mr. Lampright asked what the ratings are used for.

A - Mr. Ryan explained the ratings are used to set budget priorities if there is a shortfall in funds.

Q - Several members asked if this vote would make a difference.

A - See "A" above.

Comment: Ms. Annalisa Peace said the topic needs more discussion at a meeting without the public, like an Executive Session, before a vote.

Comment: Several members of the RAB said this should be referred back to the TRS for their review and recommendation.

C. A motion was made for the TRS to review the ratings and make recommendations to the RAB.

**VII. Meeting Note**

A lack of time resulted in the tabling of the following three agenda items: Review and Closure of August Executive Session, How GKDA Assigns Responsibility for Spills (see Attachment 5), and Review and Action Items/Responses.

**VIII. Meeting Wrap Up**

A. There was a great deal of discussion on how the meeting agenda should be developed. It was left to the co-chairs to work together to develop the agenda based on input from the AF and community members.

B. Proposed agenda items:

1. Fuel Misting

2. Environmental Justice Presentation by USEPA.

3. Permit Status by TNRCC

4. TNRCC response to the AF report on outside contamination of several plumes north of Kelly AFB.

C. Mr. Názirite Pérez provided information, which he pulled from TerraServer.com, concerning water flow towards Zarzamora and Apache Creek (see Attachment 6).

D. Action Items for the next RAB Meeting (No Action Items were presented during the wrap up. The following were gleaned from the meeting notes and transcript.)

<b>Item#</b>	<b>Requestor</b>	<b>Request</b>
1	Mr. Rodriguez	Please tell me why you haven't contacted us (the property owners) to tell us what you did to our property without our permission?
2	Mr. Rodriguez	I just found out that our property is contaminated, and I also found out you knew about this 6 years ago. Why didn't you personally contact us? Our name is on record for the taxes.
3	Mr. Rodriguez	How did this happen?
4	Mr. Rodriguez	Were you (the Air Force) negligent or did you do this intentionally?
5	Ms. Medina	Do you want to save monies so bad that you're willing to disrespect residents and our property and our health?
6	Ms. Medina	This is rape of our citizen rights and dignity. Did I give you permission to spill chemicals into my property?
7	Ms. Medina	How many RAB members live on the plume area?
8	Ms. Medina	How many people own property here?
9	Mr. Quintanilla	Why did it take so long to bring the updated Relative Ranking to the board?

### **Motions/Resolutions**

#### **Motions**

Motion was made to send the relative risk package back to the TRS for review and comment.

Passed by voice vote.

Motion was made to approve the 11 April, 13 June, and 1 August 2000 RAB minutes.

Passed unanimously.

Attachments (\* Items were provided at the meeting to all RAB members)

(# Items were provided in Meeting Materials Package)

1. Kelly AFB Restoration Advisory Board Materials Package\*
  - 29 Aug. 2000 RAB Meeting
2. Mr. C. Lopez's Handout
3. Low Level Radioactive Material and Waste Storage Site Presentation\*
4. Relative Risk handout \*
5. GKDA Presentation\*
6. Water flow Information from Mr. Pérez