

Draft
Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting Minutes
Former Kelly Air Force Base, TX
Kennedy High School

October 21, 2003

Attendees:

Mr. Ruben Peña, RAB Community Co-Chair
Ms. Esmeralda Galvan, RAB Community Representative
Dr. Gene Lené, RAB Community Representative
Mr. Daniel Gonzales, RAB Community Representative
Mr. Sergio Rodriguez, RAB Community Representative
Mr. Rodrigo Garcia, RAB Community Representative
Mr. George Rice, RAB Community Representative
Mr. Nazarite Perez, RAB Community Representative
Mr. Robert Silvas, RAB Community Representative
Mr. Mike DeNuccio, RAB Community Representative
Mr. Paul Person, RAB Community Representative
Mr. Sam Murreh, RAB Community Representative
Mr. Adam Antwine, RAB Government Co-Chair, Air Force Real Property Agency (AFRPA)
Mr. William Ryan, AFRPA
Mr. Douglas Karas, AFRPA
Ms. Larisa Dawkins, AFRPA
Ms. Leslie Brown, AFRPA
Ms. Norma Landez, AFRPA
Mr. Gary Martin, Greater Kelly Development Authority (GKDA)
Mr. Sam Sanchez, San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (SAMHD)
Ms. Kyle Cunningham, SAMHD
Ms. Linda Kaufman, SAMHD
Mr. James Wittmer, Consultant to the Director at SAMHD
Mr. Mark Weegar, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)
Mr. Patrick Lynch, Clearwater Revival Company
Mr. Gary Miller, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Mr. Tim Sueltenfuss, Booz Allen Hamilton (Booz Allen)
Ms. Robyn Thompson, Booz Allen
Ms. Megan Mabee, Booz Allen
Ms. Brittany Watts, Booz Allen
Ms. Susan Hook, Booz Allen
Ms. Stephanie Trevino, Booz Allen
Dr. David Smith, Smith and Associates (Facilitator)
Ms. Patti Radle, District 5 City Councilwoman
Ms. Rose Ann Sanchez, representing councilman Richard Perez, District 4 City Council
Mr. Roger Winkleman, Materials Field Inspector, Texas Department of Health
Mr. Paul Flaningan, Boeing Communications Representative
Mr. Jerry Needham, San Antonio Express-News
Mr. Hector Morales, representing Congressman Ciro D. Rodriguez, 28th District of Texas
Ms. Abigail Power (TCEQ)
Mr. Armando Quintanilla, Community Member

Mr. Oscar Lopez, Community Member
Ms. Grace Cisneros, Community Member
Ms. Jill Johnston, Community Member
Reverend Bee Dee Doublet, Community Member
Ms. Veronica Dodson, Community Member
Ms. Olivia Armenta, Community Member
Mr. Amador Osio, Community Member
Ms. Melba Osio, Community Member
Mr. Don Barker, Community Member
Ms. Nelda Olvera, Community Member
Mr. Gerry Patterson, Community Member
Mr. Tony Soto, Community Member
Ms. Jeanette Tejeda, Community Member
Mr. Tomas Larralde, Community Member
Ms. Blanca Hernandez, Community Member
Ms. Deborah Martinez, Community Member
Mr. Luis Lopez, Community Member
Ms. Emma Lopez, Community Member
Mr. Genaro Rendon, Community Member

Members Absent:

Ms. Bernadette Peña, RAB Community Representative
Mr. Mark Puffer, RAB Community Representative
Mr. Ray Botello, RAB Community Representative
Mr. Buddy Pletz, RAB Community Representative

The meeting began at 6:32 p.m.

Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Ruben Peña

Mr. Ruben Peña welcomed all the RAB members and meeting attendees. Dr. David Smith asked the RAB members to introduce themselves to the audience. The meeting attendees did so and then recited the pledge of allegiance and observed a moment of silence. Mr. Peña suggested making a motion to amend the agenda to add an update on the Building 361 radium site. Mr. Daniel Gonzales made the motion, which Mr. Sam Murrah seconded. Mr. Mike DeNuccio pointed out that District 5 City Councilwoman Patti Radle was in attendance at the meeting.

Update on Radium Discovery at Building 361

Mr. Douglas Karas

Mr. Douglas Karas said that he would provide the audience with background information on the discovery of an old pipe containing radium found at Building 361, and the status of the current investigation. Mr. Karas explained that it takes time to collect data and perform a proper analysis. He ensured the RAB that the Air Force will share the information as they receive it. Mr. Karas explained that Building 361 was built in 1941 where a former radium paint shop once stood. Evaluations were performed in 1999 for radium concerns, and at that time, there was no radiation found within the building above background levels. The concrete foundation of the building served to block any radiation from the radium recently found under the building. Recently, however, Boeing began construction below that foundation. In doing so, the Boeing contractor dug into the dirt and found an abandoned pipe containing radium. The

amount of exposure became a concern, and tests were performed on the soil near the pipe. The initial results found very little radium present in the soil. Mr. Karas explained that the level of exposure is no more radiation than you would experience during a routine X-ray. However, further tests will be performed and results should be ready in 28 days. The workers from the site have been identified and invited to speak with experts in the field. The Air Force will work with the state and the EPA in this effort. The project can be completed with proper safe guards and become a paint stripping facility. There is an investigating on the location of the soil removed from the site and whether it is an issue of concern.

Mr. Karas stated that many people ask how this happened. He explained that in any process, communication is the key and in this case, it broke down. He added that the Air Force, Boeing and GKDA will certainly analyze the incident and determine how to keep this from happening again. Mr. Karas noted that there has been no finger-pointing; and now it is about the people coming together to solve the problem. He added that many questions people may have cannot be answered yet; he remarked that they know worker safety is very important, and that is one of the main concerns. Mr. Karas then introduced Mr. Roger Winkelmann.

Mr. Winkelmann, Radioactive Materials Field Inspector/Public Health Region 8, from the Texas Department of Health (TDH), stated he has been a radioactive materials inspector for the last 16 years, and has been in the field for 25–27 years involved in radiation safety. He issued the following statement, “The Texas Department of Health, Bureau of Radiation Control, is involved in an advisory capacity to ensure the safety of the citizens of Texas and the environment. We are currently investigating the incident that occurred at Building 361. Preliminary surveys do not indicate that there is any immediate threat to health and safety. I have attended ongoing meetings with Greater Kelly Development Authority, Boeing, and Air Force personnel and I believe they and their subcontractors are taking the proper corrective actions. We do not have any indication that there was any significant exposure to any of the workers in the area.”

Mr. George Rice asked Mr. Winkelmann if he knew where all the excavated soil is from that site. Mr. Winkelmann asked him to refer this question to Mr. Paul Flanigan, the Boeing representative present at the meeting. Mr. Flanigan said they are working to actively identify where the material was taken, and are still trying to identify the sources. Mr. Rodrigo Garcia inquired about other radium sites on the base. Mr. Karas said there are two identified sites under Buildings 361 and 365, and an additional two sites at Buildings 324 and 326 that are undergoing investigation and remediation. Mr. Garcia asked if they are doing any subsoil testing. Mr. Karas replied that further investigation will proceed in consultation with regulators, and the initial data will drive them forward. Mr. Robert Silvas inquired about the Due Diligence Reports (DDRs) of KellyUSA lessees, and if they are available to the public. Mr. Nazarite Perez asked if the radium contaminated the water. Mr. Karas replied that the radium was in a pipe, and there was nothing to indicate that it got into groundwater. Mr. Silvas then asked if they have done any testing of water. Mr. Karas replied that they have been testing the soil, and they are waiting on the in-depth soil tests. He said it is too early to determine if the water will be tested.

Ms. Vicki Cavazos-Jones announced that there will be simultaneous Spanish translation provided during the meeting by Bilingual Communications Consultants . Mr. Adam Antwine announced that Hector Morales from Congressman Rodriguez’s Office was present, as well as Rose Ann Sanchez from Councilman Perez’s office. Dr. Smith announced that the Executive Committee would be meeting to discuss the resulting milestones of the October RAB Training

Workshop, which would then be presented to the group. He added that the RAB would also be utilizing the RAB Charter to outline future deadlines for RAB members to designate alternates. He asked that for this meeting, they fill out the alternate designation form and return it to Ms. Brittany Watts as soon as the meeting is over. Dr. Gene Leñe asked that the Executive Committee create a list of alternates that RAB members could choose from if they had no one to designate. Mr. Antwine said he would make sure we get a list out to the RAB as soon as it had been developed. Mr. Peña announced that today was his 25th wedding anniversary and that Dan Gonzales would be his alternate for the evening.

Dr. Smith addressed the goals for the meeting.

**Presentation of Final Technical Assistance for Public Participation (TAPP) Review of the Zone 3 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Facility Investigation (RFI)
Mr. Patrick Lynch**

(Mr. Lynch is an environmental scientist that was hired by the RAB under the Technical Assistance for Public Participation (TAPP) program. He was asked by the RAB to review the Zone 3 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Facility Investigation (RFI)). Mr. Lynch explained that the purpose of the Zone 3 RFI Report was to investigate 20 source areas within Zone 3 to determine whether any hazardous wastes had been released, and if so, the impact of the release on the local environment. His review of the report indicated that under risk reduction standard number one, closure would not be appropriate to apply to any source area in Zone 3. In addition, his review determined that a Corrective Measures Study (CMS) is recommended for the Building 308/312 area, the Building 10988 Oil-Water Separator, and the East Taxiway.

Mr. Lynch said that the surface soil contains contamination called Benzo(a)pyrene. He said Benzo(a)pyrene is a waste product from herbicides/weed killers found in soil and groundwater samples. He also said that vinyl chloride and trichloroethene (TCE) were found two to four feet below the surface, and that shallow groundwater in all of Zone 3 was considered contaminated. He added that the state developed a consistency memorandum of chemicals detected infrequently. He said the detection limits exceed the criteria (meaning they are below detection limit used by the Air Force, and a more sensitive test should have been used). He said metals exceeded background levels by two to three times, but were not considered contaminants.

Mr. Lynch explained that the data were presented in mixed units, consisting of parts per million (ppm) and parts per billion (ppb). In some cases, the differences in the data was obvious. In others, it was not. He said it was hard to review the documents and tables due to these inconsistencies. He found that there were values listed that were not in the appendix, and the values in the appendix did not translate to report tables. He said some contaminants were screened out that should not have been screened out.

Mr. Rice asked if the Air Force would provide a written response to the report. Mr. Antwine said they would research it, and then a response would be provided through the TRS. Mr. Garcia provided Mr. Lynch with 10–12 pages of questions on the report. He said the AF used unreliable data and should review it all. He also said the Air Force should get more data for research and start defining studies on the issues in this report. Mr. Garcia said it was not scientific enough. He then asked if Mr. William Ryan and Mr. Antwine could put together a list of CMS projects for every issue raised in Mr. Lynch's report, based on their critical nature.

Mr. Garcia said he wants the RAB to review Mr. Lynch's presentation. Mr. Mark Weegar explained to the RAB that it is not the TAPP contractor's responsibility to collect additional samples or to conduct research. Mr. Weegar said that TCEQ is reviewing the document to ensure that it satisfies their regulatory requirements as well. Mr. Silvas asked if the contractor who prepared the report was present. Mr. Antwine said he was not. Mr. Silvas then turned in written questions for the Executive Committee to review. Mr. Antwine said Zone 3 is a highly industrial area, and requires the most extensive investigation at Kelly. He commented that more work will go into this. Mr. Silvas then asked if the contractor is responsible for the soil sampling and results. Mr. Ryan said no, and that the data had been compiled over a 10 year timespan. Mr. Silvas asked if the contractor had done previous military cleanups. Mr. Ryan said he assumed so.

Dr. Smith explained to the RAB that a TAPP contractor survey was being passed out by Ms. Watts. He added that in order for Mr. Lynch to be paid, the RAB members needed to evaluate his performance, and turn it in at the end of the meeting.

Community Comments

All community comments will be responded to by the AFRPA or appropriate agency within a timely manner. A summary of the responses to these requests will be provided to RAB members prior to the next scheduled RAB meeting.

Mr. Armando Quintanilla requested a hard copy of Mr. Lynch's presentation, and asked when the emissions from the waste incinerator will be forwarded to the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR). He said 1.2 million pounds of emissions came from Kelly and Kelly is the fifth largest air polluter in Bexar County. He also asked for the name of the contractor and the cost of the Zone 3 investigation.

Mr. Oscar Lopez said recently a large amount of dirt appeared in the area near his home. He said the soil is near Thompson Street and is approximately three feet in height. Mr. Flanigan said he will look into it to see if the soil originated from the base, and if there should be any concern about contaminants. Mr. DeNuccio said he would also look into Mr. Lopez' concern.

Ms. Grace Cisneros asked Mr. Flanigan if Boeing knows where all contaminated soil has been dumped, and what is being done now to locate all of the excavated soil. She also asked if they planned to implement a strategy against future excavations.

Ms. Jill Johnston from the Southwest Workers Union asked why there was a lack of female representation on the RAB. She also said that she thinks the RAB is an ineffective tool, and that there is a failure by the Air Force to implement solutions presented by the community. Ms. Johnston said the Air Force tries to cover up information, and has a lack of regard for workers and communities around the base. She then asked why the Air Force has not cleaned up the contamination.

Reverend Bee Dee Doublet asked where the drain lines lead, and if there are contaminants from that. She also wanted to know why she is just finding out this information.

Mr. Rice asked what the process is for answering everyone's questions. Mr. Tim Sueltenfuss replied that the CI Team at Kelly captures the questions in their notes, and replies to the requests. He also said that they accept written comments and keep a record of requests for information. Mr. Rice asked if the responses to these questions could be provided to the RAB.

Mr. Antwine said yes. Mr. Sueltenfuss stated that attempts are made to respond to the requests within two weeks, but that some requests are more involved and may require an additional response time.

Mr. Silvas asked about the funding for Science Application International Corporation (SAIC), and if they have ever done work for the CIA. He requested that the SAIC come and report on the breakdown of costs for each board meeting.

Presentation on the Preliminary Results of the Food Chain Sampling Study – Phase II
Ms. Kyle Cunningham

Ms. Cunningham introduced herself as the Program Manager for the Public Center for Environmental Health (PCEH). She said they have not finished the sampling, and still have 20 samples left to take. Ms. Cunningham explained that the purpose of the sampling was to determine if homegrown produce was contaminated with Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs). She said they tested fruits, vegetables and nuts of a seasonal variety from homes located near the former base. They collected 200 samples in phase two, compared to the 47 samples in Phase I. They spent a lot of time testing cacti in Phase II, after multiple requests from the community. She added that out of the 138 samples they have tested thus far, none had any trace of contaminants. Southwest Research completed the analysis using their best and most current techniques, and will begin testing the remaining 62 samples soon.

Ms. Cunningham said they would continue to test produce throughout fall of 2003, and increase sampling of seasonal varieties. Ms. Galvan asked if they only tested for VOCs.

Ms. Cunningham replied in the affirmative, stating that this was because that was the main chemical of concern. Ms. Galvan asked if there were other chemicals of concern affecting fruits and nuts. Ms. Cunningham said it is possible for other chemicals to be absorbed into the plants.

Ms. Galvan asked the name of the testing procedures. Ms. Cunningham told her it is Dr. C. K. Tan's method; they place the sample in a sealed container, not cut, washed, etc. They did experience interference using plastic bags during spring/summer, so some fruits and nuts were re-sampled. Mr. Rice asked if another toxicologist is testing them. Ms. Cunningham said yes. Mr. Rice asked if it will show chemicals other than VOCs, and when would it be finalized. Ms. Cunningham replied that they hope to finish sampling in October 2003 and have results by mid-November 2003; they would then inform the RAB in early 2004. Mr. Silvas asked if any community members could bring in samples. Ms. Cunningham said no; they rely on Southwest Research to take the samples. She added that they did take samples from the former base, but the majority were from the community.

Announcements
Community update

There were no updates from the community.

Technical Review Subcommittee (TRS) Update
Dr. David Smith

Dr. Smith stated that at the last meeting an election was held for a new chair, and the procedure brought with it several questions about TRS voting guidelines. He added that the Executive Committee is going to review the process and develop proposals for formal election protocols.

BRAC Cleanup Team (BCT) Update

Mr. William Ryan

Mr. Ryan said that the AFRPA completed a 600-foot PRB at Building 360 over the past few months, and will now install a slurry wall on the southwest corner of the building beginning in mid-November 2003. He added that the Zone 3 RFI report is the next step in completing the CMS; to do this, they have to weigh cleanup alternatives, generate groundwater models, and address state concerns. He stated that the next project is the installation of the PRB on 34th Street north of Growdon Road; this project is aimed at addressing TCE and tetrachloroethene (PCE) contamination there. He informed the RAB that the AFRPA is planning to begin work in November on the PRB that will be 550 feet long, 25 feet deep, and 2-3 feet wide. He stated that they have collected data to assist in design of the wall, and the construction will last approximately seven weeks. He said they will notify residents in the area, and invite folks out to see the construction. Additionally, PCEH will perform air monitoring as the PRB is being installed.

Mr. Ryan added that there are multiple parcels of land to be transferred by deed. The San Antonio River Authority came to the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Cleanup Team (BCT) to discuss the fish sampling in the San Antonio river basin for PCBs and other contaminants. They discussed the opportunity for the AF and other agencies to participate in the study. Mr. Garcia asked if the studies he requested on air pollution at the August RAB meeting had been prepared. Mr. Silvas asked to see the applications for air permits. Mr. Ryan replied that it is not the responsibility of the AF to provide these documents, but perhaps he could contact the tenants. Mr. Garcia stated he was upset that the air monitoring information he had requested had not been provided to him. Mr. Weegar stated that this was voted on by the RAB members at the last meeting and they had decided to wait until ATSDR past air emissions study is released.

GKDA Update

Mr. Gary Martin

Mr. Martin said they were close to making a deal with the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) for their precision testing lab.

Metro Health Update

Mr. Sam Sanchez

Mr. Sanchez stated that PCEH has pending contracts to provide air monitoring at 34th Street; they retained the services of Zephyr environmental to conduct sampling and to review the vapor emissions study that the AFRPA completed on soil slabs. He added that the Environmental Health and Wellness Center (EHWC) will continue to do assessments, and the advertising billboards will go up in the plume area. Metro health has other stations set up across San Antonio to do assessments as well. He stated that they administered 1,000 flu shots last week at health center; the normal range of age usually seen at the Center is usually 50-55 years plus, meaning a good intervention for older population. Mr. Sanchez also spoke about the school poster contest, cosponsored by the AFRPA. The children were asked to create environmentally-themed posters, and the results will be announced soon.

AFRPA Update

Mr. Adam Antwine

Mr. Antwine added that the first poster contest for local schools culminated today with the award of winners at Leal Middle School. This is the first of several contests co-sponsored by the

AFRPA and MetroHealth. He added that there will be an additional contest at Kennedy High School. At the beginning of Fiscal Year 2004, the money for Kelly projects was approved. This will be one of largest years in terms of money allocated to implement remedies on and around base; the AF is spending \$33 million on cleanup this year. He added that there are new posters at this meeting depicting remediation activities such as Building 301 that is now a parking lot. He asked the community to make time to view the posters that show the “before” and “after” pictures of some of the projects. He asked that the community begin looking for activity to begin shortly on 34th Street, stating that this is the first of several off-base remedies, and that this will be a peak year for putting remedies in place.

Ms. Esmeralda Galvan complained about the temperature in the auditorium. Ms. Galvan mentioned that they have brought this up several times and something needs to be done. Mr. Antwine assured Ms. Galvan that his staff had attempted to correct the problem but were unable to. Mr. Garcia said the AFRPA should call Mr. Richard Bocanegra and he would help fix the temperature.

Meeting Wrap-Up

Approval of August RAB Meeting Minutes

Mr. Silvas voiced concerns over the vote on the request for information for the Ackerman Road, stating that the Texas Water Commission and EPA voted on the issue and should not have. Mr. Weegar stated that TCEQ and EPA provide information to board and they abstain from voting in all instances. Mr. Silvas withdrew his concern and the minutes were voted on and approved.

Action Items from Previous Meeting

- AFRPA provide history of SS009; TCEQ provide Ackerman Road site history to Executive Committee

Dr. Smith stated that the information had been provided as requested, and this item would go before the Executive Committee to determine whether or not it would become a future agenda item. The RAB members agreed to this.

Action Items from Present Meeting

- AFRPA will provide response to TAPP Review of Zone 3
- Air report requests by Mr. Garcia will be referred to the Executive Committee
- A report on the Building 361 radium issue will be provided to RAB

Additional Comments

Dr. Smith wrapped up the meeting by saying that the next TRS meeting would be held Wednesday, November 12, 2003, and the next RAB meeting would be held January 20, 2004.

Reverend Bee Dee Doublet requested information on the testing of fish for contaminants. She read a statement that PCBs and chlorinated solvents are greater in the skin of the fish. She said that pesticides and PCBs readily accumulate in fatty tissue so we should remove the skin and fatty tissue before eating. She cited that the Leon Creek report, page 8, said PCBs were present at the site. She asked what the implications were for the Toyota plant, and if Leon Creek flows through the new Toyota site. She said PCBs were reported in two studies, and asked if residents' blood will be tested for PCBs.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.