

**IOWA ARMY AMMUNITION PLANT  
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD  
MAY 18, 2000**

The Restoration Advisory Board Meeting was held at 4:30 p.m. on May 18, 2000 at the Burlington Ballroom located in the Burlington Apartments.

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Larry Orr. He welcomed everyone and explained that this board does not talk about health issues, but would be happy to get you to the right person. He introduced Mike Guey from the Iowa Department of Public Health.

**Minutes Review**

Larry Orr asked if there were any recommended changes for the minutes. Mike Guey pointed out that page five of the minutes should read University of Iowa instead of UNI. Jeff Bergman made a motion to accept the minutes with the correction and Marjorie seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with the correction. Vote was unanimous.

**Agenda Review**

Jeff Bergman suggested adding a public comment session at the beginning of the meeting so the members of the public didn't have to stay for the whole meeting. The public attendees decided to wait until the end of the meeting. The agenda was not changed.

**Earth Day Tour**

LTC Elliott was very pleased with coordination and participation. He thanked everyone for his or her efforts. There were over 300 people in attendance. Each person he talked with had positive comments. Larry Orr and Marjorie Fitzsimmons also received positive feedback from the people in attendance. Marjorie was happy to see the weather cooperated. Feedback indicates that the attendees of the tour enjoyed the length of it. Don Kuechmann enjoyed the tour and felt that it was worthwhile. He suggested going to different sites next year.

**West Burlington High School Presentation**

Rodger Allison and Eric Orth gave a presentation to the West Burlington High School Science Club. Rodger gave a presentation that included an overview of the projects and how contamination levels were determined. Eric then gave a condensed version of the RAB presentation. The science club was interested in phytoremediation and the LTID. They wanted to know if it would be possible for one of them to join the RAB or if they had enough interest could they form a Junior RAB.

**Community Relation Plan**

Bob Whistine has been working with Larry Johnson to send out a survey to members of the communities surrounding the plant. On May 17, 2000 two thousand, six hundred surveys were mailed. Press releases were sent to local papers to allow people who did not receive a survey and wish to fill one out to call Larry and request one. Bob currently

has a draft plan missing the responses to the survey. He hopes to have a draft to the RAB members and various other agencies by June and a final plan by July.

### **Marketing Committee**

Jeff Bergman ran through the goals set at the previous meeting. The fact sheet and brochures were set to be complete in April. Eric Orth had taken the lead on those. Rodger told the RAB that in Eric's absence he prepared a fact sheet and sent it up to the LTC Elliott.

Mark Hagerla and Larry Orr had the lead on the photo display. Larry has developed a list of 12 areas he would like to see the display, but he would like to see the size of the display. He needs to be able to describe the display to the local businesses when he speaks with them. LTC Elliott suggested using the same type of display as the USACE made for Earth Day. He has spoken with Kevin Howe and USACE has agreed to take on the project. LTC Elliott felt it would be a good opportunity for exposure for the plant and the RAB.

Rodger Allison had the lead on the Website. Currently USACE is waiting for Rodger's input on what has been done. Rodger explained he has been busy but all he really needs to do is write up a brief bio for all of the RAB members and an overall project update. Kevin told the RAB that the intern that was putting the site together at USACE is no longer there so he will need to find someone else to finish it. June was the target date to have the site done, but Rodger thought it would be more reasonable to extend the date to July. He will have something to hand the members in July.

The next marketing committee goal was the RAB video. Rodger explained he would need to talk among the government staff. He would also need to find out the status of a filming crew. A member asked if there was a way to get it done locally without bidding it out if it was under \$1000. Rodger explained he would have to refer that question to Fred Taylor. LTC Elliott felt it was more realistic to have the photo display done by September. No action is currently planned.

The slide presentation has been completed.

Jeff Bergman and LTC Elliott have been working on RAB recognition.

### **Barium**

Kevin Howe introduced Luke McCormick. He is a new player on Kevin's team because of the DOE radiological issues. Luke has looked through all of the boxes found at the Pantex plant. He found a map of the firing site area depicting the areas that were cleaned up there.

Kevin has received information from Debra Wallin that we have successfully completed a 130cy stabilization pilot effort on the barium-contaminated soil from the west burn pads landfill site. ECC used a large screening device to screen debris out of about the contaminated soil. Once the soil was screened it was placed on the west burn pad.

Rocky Mountain Remediation Services then applied Envirobond. The barium levels in the soil were between 40 and 60 thousand parts per million before the application. When the treatment was complete the barium levels were as low as 1.44 part per million. That level is significantly below the landfillable requirements. The barium is no longer a problem, but we still have to consider the explosives.

Kevin explained that barium is a naturally occurring metal. It can have a toxicity effect on people and the environment just like any other metal. A member of the public asked about the average depth of test wells throughout the Plant. Kevin explained that we have shallow wells 30 - 40 feet deep in till soil zones. Other wells go into the bedrock. At the Line 800 Lagoon we have wells at three levels. It is not uncommon to hit groundwater at ten feet depending on the site.

Mark Hagerla asked if there would still be enough money from the under run on other projects to cover the west burn pads landfill site. The contractor felt that they could do the job on the money that they have left, but Kevin felt it would be risky. They plan to hire a second contractor. ECC will excavate and screen the soil. The second contractor will receive the barium-contaminated soil and apply the Envirobond. This way there will be enough money to pay ECC and the second contractor will receive another 1 million dollars. If ECC is right we will be able to keep the extra money and use it on other projects at the plant. However, hiring another contractor gives us the extra insurance that we need, because we can not add money to ECC contract.

### **Official Exchange**

Larry Orr told the RAB that it had been a real pleasure to be the Co-Chair. He felt the RAB has communicated well with the public. If there was ever anything that he couldn't handle he knew whom to call. One of our biggest contributions was receiving information from the public. We have found another contaminated site because of that contribution. He feels all the RAB members have a common goal of seeking a clean and healthy world. He ended with saying, "The world we have isn't something we have inherited from our ancestors it is something we have borrowed from our children."

Jeff Bergman then took charge of the meeting. He explained the RAB has been in existence since the fall of 1997. It started with 21 members and now there are nine. One of his goals is to build this committee back up. His second goal is to get people to appreciate what has been done at the site. He feels they need to see what is being done to appreciate what is being done and the methods of treatment being used. The RAB is a long-term commitment and always needs people on board to carry on the commitment.

### **Project Priorities**

Rodger Allison explained to the RAB members that this is the same thing that they do every year. The dollar figures were taken from the constrained cost to complete. Every year the army has to put in an obligation plan. The projects that need input as to their funding priority are listed in the packet (Exhibit 3). The next step is to list the projects in the order they will be funded. Rodger asked the RAB to give him their input and then he will average their scores and create one RAB listing. The Army will prepare a listing and

then the two lists will be reconciled. Rodger asked the RAB to have their input to him by June 15. Rodger further explained there have been some periodic well monitoring and maintenance rule changes. What we have been classifying Long term monitoring is not considered long term monitoring unless the site is response complete. Now our monitoring efforts must compete with other projects for funding. The RAB is automatically funded so it does not need to be included with your rankings. He also pointed out the Interim Groundwater Remedial Design project has been renamed Focused Groundwater RI/FS. Don Kuechmann asked if any of these projects would be a continuation from this year. The only project that would cause a problem if it were not continued in 2001 would be the Inert Landfill Closure.

### **RAB Membership Nominations**

Jeff, Larry, and LTC Elliott told the RAB members that they have been working on RAB membership for some time. They have compiled a list and will be open to other suggestions (Exhibit 4). Larry and Jeff briefly explained each of the nominee's interests in serving on the RAB. Mark Hagerla asked about the application that was used in the past for RAB members and asked if it was going to be used this time. Rodger passed around a copy of the application. Jeff explained we have plenty of room on the board and we need participation from all of the members and he felt these nominees would offer full participation. Someone asked if there was a process that had to be followed. Rodger explained that once the RAB publicly announces that they are looking for members the mechanism is open for the RAB and the CO to decide how to fill the vacancies. LTC Elliott pointed out that since the RAB was formed four different guidelines have been printed. Don Kuechmann asked how the agencies feel about this. The RAB members agreed it would be better to have an agency slot where different members of the agency could attend the meeting based on the agenda. Rodger asked if the nominee's understood that they would not be compensated for their time. He also explained they would need to sign a privacy act statement. Larry Orr also stated the RAB needs to make an effort to try and diversify membership. Jeff Bergman asked for a motion to accept the people on the proposed list as RAB members. Marjorie made the motion, and Don seconded. Vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Don had brought up involvement of younger people as was discussed earlier. He asked if we should set it up in a school by school basis. Scott Marquess felt it should be done on an individual basis not associated with a school.

Rodger pointed out the operating policy would need to be changed. Full RAB will be changed back to read: Community and Non-Community Members of the IAAAP RAB. RAB Non-Community members will be changed to read: The Army Co-Chair, Iowa Department of Public Health, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Jeff Bergman explained that the RAB runs by Robert's Rules of Order and a chairman could appoint committees. Jeff wants to form a Recruiting, Marketing, and Training Committee.

Members volunteered and were appointed to the following committees:

Recruiting: Larry Orr, Mark Hagerla

Marketing: Eric Orth

Training: Don Kuechmann, Marjorie, and Scott Marquess will serve as a resource

Jeff explained that at each meeting committee members would be asked to give a committee report.

### **Meeting Schedule**

Discussion began about changing to a ninety-day basis or to every other month. Scott Marquess made the point that even if your schedule says quarterly you can schedule a meeting when you need one. Mark Hagerla felt quarterly is too long to go without having a meeting. Marjorie felt you would lose the trend if meetings were not held often enough. If you miss a meeting you will miss one fourth of the meetings. The next meeting will be held in July on the third Thursday. Larry suggested changing the time to 5:00 p.m. He explained Richard Johnson could not make it at 4:30. The 5:00 time frame would also work better for Larry. Rodger suggested to the RAB these changes should be made by a majority vote. Larry Orr moved to change to Bi-monthly meetings. Scott Marquess offered a friendly amendment to change to quarterly or as needed. Larry accepted the amendment. Don Kuechmann seconded the motion. There was no other discussion. Everyone was in favor. The operating policy will be changed accordingly.

### **Public Comment**

Vaughn Moore asked if there was away to get the point across to people that they can talk. He explained he tells people all the time that they will not be punished in any way for speaking up, but they are still scared to talk. LTC Elliott explained Dennis Carroll from the Hawkeye has reported on these issues and it has been published in the papers that people will not be punished for coming forward. He asked Dennis to put it in his article about the RAB meeting. LTC Elliott went on further to say as installation commander he can assure them that there would not be any action taken against them for coming forward.




Dustin Detherage felt as though the public was kept in the dark. He asked if there was a way that the public could be told what exactly is being found at the IAAAP. Rodger explained that there are three public repositories. These repositories are located in the Burlington Public Library, Danville City Hall, and the Administration Area at the Plant. Dustin asked if there was away for him to see what his grandfather was exposed to when he worked at the plant. Rodger Allison explained he could get his fathers medical records from American Ordnance and obtain Material Safety Data Sheets from the Iowa AAP Fire Department to see at what levels those substances are considered harmful. Dustin explained they have his records but they are not legible. Is there any other way we could find out? Rodger explained that the RAB is not a meeting focused on health issues and he would have to refer him to someone else. Dustin asked if there were meetings focused on health issues. Rodger suggested talking to someone from the Department of Energy and they could get him to who he needed to speak with.

Dustin also asked if the Army had contacted the former workers personally for information. Kevin Howe explained that there had been a contractor hired to do personal interviews focused on specific areas. Approximately twenty individuals were interviewed. Their interviews have been transcribed and Kevin is currently reading through the transcripts. Kevin also commented that there were people who refused to talk.

Don Kuechmann suggested it might be a worthwhile project for the RAB to have a list of what was found where in one document. That document could then point to the documents in the repositories. In the future Jeff plans to develop an Annual Report committee to take on this task. He also intends to develop a Budget Committee.

Mark Hagerla updated the RAB on a phone call he had received from Ron Petty. Ron reported that he had been working for a contractor moving barrels to a location off the plant. While the barrels were being moved one was spilled. The plant was called when the plant showed up he left. Ron Petty said it happened in 1972 - 1973. Mary Dodge the owner of the storage facility said it was not built until 1979. Mark feels they have reached a dead end since none of the dates add up correctly.

Marjorie moved to adjourn the meeting. Don seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

		
Melenie Mutchler Secretary	Jeff Bergman Community Co-Chair	Rodger Allison Army Co-Chair

- Exhibits:
- 1 Attendees
  - 2 Agenda
  - 3 Project Priorities
  - 4 RAB Nomination List

## **EXHIBIT 1**

### **RAB MEM BRS PRESENT**

Jeff Bergman  
Marjorie Fitzsimmons  
Mark Hagerla  
Don Kuechmann  
Larry Orr  
Rodger Allison

### **RAB MEMBERS NOT PRESENT**

Michael Boyle  
Glen Fullhart  
Dean Vickstrom

### **PUBLIC**

Debbie Detherage  
Dennis Carroll  
Fred Taylor  
Ken Herstowski  
Scott Marquess  
Dan Nelson  
Mike Guely  
Benjamin Puesta  
Joel Behne  
Kevin Howe  
Luke McCormick  
Melenie Mutchler