

**Ravenna Army Ammunition Plant (RVAAP)
Restoration Advisory Board (RAB)
Meeting Minutes
May 20, 2009**

1. Call to Order & Reading of Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Community Co-Chair Tom Tadsen at 6:03 p.m. at the Paris Township Hall, Paris, Ohio.

Mr. James Mayer made a motion to suspend with the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Walter Landor. Tom Tadsen asked the board members if they had any additions or corrections to the minutes. No comment from the RAB members present. Tom Tadsen called the motion to question...."All those in favor please say 'Aye.' All those opposed?" The motion carried, and Tom Tadsen announced the minutes were approved as printed.

Meeting attendance was recorded as 20 members present, 4 excused and 1 absent (Mr. Jonathan Millea, Trumbull County Commissioners Representative).

2. General Business

The first order of general business, Mark Patterson discussed the Ravenna Army Ammunition Plant's Installation Action Plan (IAP) that is located on the rvaap.org website. Mark asked the RAB members to please review and provide comments within the next two weeks. Please send Christy Esler an email or call her at the office. (Christy.esler@us.army.mil or RVAAP 330-358-7311).

Tom Tadsen asked the RAB Members when they would like to set a date for the RVAAP RAB Member Tour. The dates were either 11 August or 15 Sept. 2009. In a show of hands by the RAB members, the 15 of September was chosen. The 2009 RVAAP RAB Member Tour will be 15 Sept 2009 at 6:00 pm.

Tom Tadsen asked the board members if they had any further general business. No further topics were discussed.

3. Presentation of the Technical Assistance for Public Participation (TAPP) Providers.

Tom Tadsen announced each potential provider to the RAB members. He reminded the members that they received a qualification statement package in the mail to review prior to tonight's meeting.

Jennifer Zavoda from the Kelly- Buck Company in Cleveland Ohio presented first. Following Ms. Zavoda's presentation Tom Tadsen asked the members if they had any questions.

Nancy Taylor asked how many employees?
Ms. Zavoda- Traditionally, six employees.

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Mark Patterson asked if the company had any Explosive munitions experience.

Ms. Zavoda- No not yet.

Mark also asked if Kelly Buck has any ecological risk or health risk experience.

Ms. Zavoda- Yes we do with PCB's and also working closely with state agencies.

No more questions were fielded for the Kelly- Buck Company from the RAB Members.

Tom Tadsen introduced Mr. Al Brillinger from Partners Environmental Consulting in Solon Ohio.

Following Mr. Brillinger presentation Tom Tadsen asked if the RAB members had any questions.

Jay Abercrombie- Would this be a conflict of interest due to your previous work history at RVAAP?

Mr. Brillinger- I do not believe so because Partners Environmental does not have any Federal contracts.

James Mayer- asked Jay if he was asking about any conflicts with personnel, other contractors since if you won this award you would be commenting on those contractors.

Mr. Brillinger- No, I have always had a professional relationship with everyone at RVAAP.

Jay Abercrombie asked if they had a biologist on staff during his wetland work at RVAAP.

Mr. Brillinger- Yes, Chantelle Carroll.

Mark Patterson stated that he has looked at the Rt. 80 wetlands and it looks very good. The grading is just right and so is the wetland's ability to retain moisture.

No other questions were fielded from the RAB members to Mr. Brillinger.

Tom Tadsen announced that Emerald Environmental, Scott Hershberger was not available to attend this evening's meeting but informed the RAB members that they had a letter of qualifications at their seats tonight.

Tom asked Christy to please mail out the voting ballots to all members for the final choice.

Eileen Mohr- Informed everyone that as always she will not vote for the TAPP Provider.

Mark Patterson reminded everyone that the Army will not participate in the voting process either.

James Mayer discussed his suggestion of using a local University student as the TAPP provider. This student could be from the Environmental Science or Engineering division. James asked the RAB members to consider other entities that might be interested.

I was asked by Mark Patterson to please look into this suggestion with the Contracting Division at the Army Environmental Center and report the findings.

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4. Winklepeck Burning Grounds Project Update, Brian Stockwell – PIKA International.

Tom Tadsen introduced the first presenter, Brian Stockwell.

After completion of the formal presentation, the RAB members proceeded with questions directed to Brian Stockwell. (To request a copy of the formal presentation please contact Christy Esler, RAB Administrator).

Bill Steiner asked how many tons of material will be shipped offsite.
Brian Stockwell-

James Mayer- Are you seeing any transite in the soil?

Brian Stockwell- The buildings onsite were constructed with flat panel siding and corrugated roofing made of transite, so it is frequently found in the recovered soil. Transite especially located at Pad 70.

Tom Tadsen asked Brian what about asbestos - where this is it disposed at?

Brian Stockwell- A landfill that is permitted and licensed to accept asbestos containing material.

Jay Abercrombie- Asked what kind of seed is applied?

Brian Stockwell- RTLS, Ohio Army National Guard has a specific native seed mixture that we use.

Mark Patterson- The mixture is a little expensive.

Tom Tadsen- ... added that this mixture is a Federal & State mandated mix.

No additional questions were fielded from the RAB members.

Julie Smeiles (Weekly Villager) - At the last meeting you were unsure of the location the excavated soil was going. Brian Stockwell- The excavated soil is going to a properly certified landfill in Waynesburg, Ohio.

Tom Tadsen- Are there any special requirements for these over-the-road loads?

Brian Stockwell- The semi-trailer beds are double lined and sealed up, and these loads are entirely enclosed and covered.

Karen Steiner (Randolph Resident) - How is this Waynesburg landfill different than any other?

Brian Stockwell- It is specifically certified and permitted to deal with asbestos.

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James Mayer- Asked how long the facility is responsible for this waste.

Mark Patterson- Gradle to Grave – in accordance with the solid waste regulations. The solid waste generator has all responsibility for the waste.

Nancy Taylor- Is the asbestos waste expensive to dispose of? Is there a preliminary screening process?

Brian Stockwell- Yes disposal is a little expensive. There is an inspection process and the state ensures that there is no transite remaining in the disposal area.

Eileen Mohr- Asbestos rules are complicated.

Tom Tadsen- Is there a percentage of total volume / visible asbestos required to trigger disposal?

Eileen Mohr- We did have visual transite in the footprint of the pads, and because it was removed, there needed to be confirmation sampling of the remaining soil, Instead of reporting a sample as non-detect, the labs report it (generally) as 1% or a trace due to liability reasons.

Karen Steiner- What about the longevity of asbestos, does asbestos lose its toxicity over time?

Mark Patterson- A fiber is a fiber; there are methods to treat asbestos. One method of treatment is to heat up asbestos to a very high temperature, which changes it to a glass-like material. RVAAP does not treat material.

No additional questions were fielded from the members or public participants.

5. Rocket Ridge, Phase I Investigation Presentation
Brian Stockwell- PIKA International.

Tom Tadsen re-introduced Brian Stockwell and Jed Thomas as the second presenters.

After completion of the formal presentation, the RAB members proceeded with questions directed to Brian Stockwell. (To request a copy of the formal presentation please contact Christy Esler, RAB Administrator).

Tom Tadsen asked Brian what the elevation was in the picture that was presented.

Brian Stockwell- The top of the ridge is 30 to 40 feet above Sand Creek.

Bill Steiner- Please confirm that they have to hand dig the nine test pit holes & how long will this take.

Brian Stockwell- Yes, that is correct. These are highly trained former US Military Unexploded Ordnance Technician's. (UXO) This will be an approximately three week effort.

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Tom Tadsen asked Brian the location for the test pits.

Brian Stockwell- Stated that we will have three test pits at the top, three in the middle and three at the bottom.

Dan Spicer- How close are the bombs to the test pits?

Brian Stockwell- 40 to 50 feet away.

Dan Spicer- These were discovered in 2004; why did 4 years pass before action was taken?

Brian Stockwell- At that time there was no impact to the stream (Sand Creek).

Mark Patterson- There was no erosion and no evidence of anything moving downstream.

When the white phosphorus round went off, the requested emergency response money came through quickly. The surface water biological samples show good water quality.

Joe Beutler/ Nancy Taylor- Asked the dimensions of the 500 lb. bombs?

Brian Stockwell- the 500 lb. bombs are approximately 3 ½ feet long, 14 inches in diameter containing a little over 200 lbs. of high explosives.

Nancy Taylor- What is the blast radius?

Brian Stockwell- The fragmentation range is 2501 ft; this is still within RVAAP but does not extend beyond The Winklepeck Burning Grounds.

James Mayer- You mentioned the elevation was 30-40 ft., does that mean the test pits will be that deep?

Brian Stockwell- No that is just the elevation change from the top of the slope to the bottom of Sand Creek.

Mark Patterson & Tom Tadsen added that this is well within the installation and is down in a small hollow.

Jay Abercrombie- You are calling this a Time Critical Removal Action. It is hard to justify that this is time critical since the white phosphorus (WP) grenade detonated in June 2007.

Mark Patterson- We called this time critical to receive funds quickly. This is due to strict regulations and policy reasons. We did have a contract in place very quickly to install barriers in the stream to avoid any items going downstream. This was all due to the Ohio EPA's request.

Glen Beckham added that this is also due to the increase of National Guard training missions. Our main goal is to keep the trainees safe.

Jay Abercrombie- As a biologist, I am concerned with the impact to the stream. Have you been testing the water?

Mark Patterson- Yes and we have also taken into consideration the design of the barriers to specifically not impact the native fish.

George Tompkins- Where does Sand Creek exit?

Mark Patterson & Tom Tadsen- Just outside the Eastern boundary of Windham, this creek flows in a Northerly direction. Mark Patterson added that the UXO Technicians walked the entire stream inside the installation with the Ohio EPA.

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A discussion regarding how the site received its name Rocket Ridge proceeded. Mark added that a gentleman that used to work for the National Guard came up with that name. Eileen Mohr said that Tom Tadsen named the site. Tom stated that a person found a remnant of a WWII bazooka rocket there and the site was then identified as an area of concern (AOC).

No additional questions were fielded from the members.

Julie Smeiles (Weekly Villager) – Did the white phosphorus triggered the issue of this site? As I understand when white phosphorus is exposed to air, it will ignite.
Brian Stockwell- that is correct and we are looking at the white phosphorus as a component. Mark Patterson said that one of the UXO Technicians working on this site has white phosphorus experience after working at a job at Pine Bluff AAP in a warehouse with white phosphorus rounds. His name is Mel Lau and he is the lead unexploded ordnance technician. What they do is immerse the white phosphorus rounds in water and limit handling of the material.
Brian Stockwell- White phosphorus crusts over quickly when immersed in water.

Mike Sever (Record Courier) - How long will the investigation take?
Brian Stockwell- One to two weeks for the vegetation removal, and about 3-4 weeks for the investigation stage.

No additional questions were fielded from the RAB members or public participants.

Tom Tadsen announced the next meeting will be July 15, 2009 at Charlestown Township, 6pm. The RAB Member tour will be September 15, 2009 at 6pm. Tom Tadsen added that the Rocket Ridge Site will be a part of this tour.

Since there was no further business or questions, the meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m. Mr. James Mayer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Walter Landor. Tom Tadsen announced that the meeting is adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Christy Esler
Ravenna Army Ammunition Plant
Restoration Advisory Board Administrator