

Ravenna Army Ammunition Plant
Restoration Advisory Board (RAB)
Meeting Minutes
September 15, 1999

1. Call to Order and Reading of Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Tom Tadsen at the Town Hall of Windham, Ohio at 6:06pm. Attendance was taken via a sign in sheet with 15 present, 4 excused and 3 absent (Edward Boles, Alice Green and Richard Kern). At 6:07pm Walter Landor was added as acting Community Co-chair for May meeting and Eileen Mohr sat in as a substitute for the Government Co-chair for May meeting. The minutes of the May meeting were approved with addition of May fill in chairperson and approved by consensus.

2. Creative Solutions – Lynn Clemmer and Richard Prober addressed the board regarding the draft report on the Phase II Remedial Investigation Report for the Winklepeck Burning Grounds at the Ravenna Army Ammunition Plant (RVAAP), Ravenna, Ohio, dated February 1999. Mr. Prober handed out copies of draft letters for the US Army Corps of Engineers, Members of the Ravenna Army Ammunition Plant Restoration Advisory board, as well as a chart showing the SAIC's response to the comments made by Creative Solutions. Mr. Prober stated that the investigation was a 2-part study at Winklepeck Burning grounds that included a background study of the entire facility. They presented their comments in a 3 volume report to the Corps of Engineers and SAIC on June 23, 1999. SAIC included their responses in a new draft report for August. Mr. Prober requested that the members of the board mark any changes and/or comments on the draft letter for the Corps of Engineers and return it attention to Mr. Lynn Clemmer. Creative Solutions will in turn pass that information on to the Ravenna Army Ammunition Plant. Mr. Prober covered the overview of the draft report and directed the board to a map, at the back of the handout, showing the location of the burning grounds. Mr. Prober covered the contamination levels found in surface soils, subsurface soils, sediments and surface water, and in ground water. The information covered in the investigation will be used in two assessments: Baseline Human Health Risk Assessments and a Screening Ecological Risk Assessment. Mr. Prober pointed out that SAIC for the most part agreed with the usefulness of Creative Solutions' comments, or at least noted them. Included in the comments were editorial comments for the report. Mr. Prober reminded the board to annotate and mark comments on the draft report and turn these into Mr. Clemmer. At 6:35pm Mr. Prober asked if there were any questions regarding the Winklepeck Burning Grounds. Ms. Rachael Craig asked Mr. Prober to elaborate on the discrepancies that SAIC had with the report. Mr. Prober stated that the SAIC disagreed with part of comment #7. Creative solutions suggested an alternate approach to evaluating possible biodegradation at the burning grounds. Mr. Prober stated that the SAIC rejected the approach due to its extensive labor intensive effort and its lack of practicality. Creative Solutions doesn't concur with SAIC on this matter. Members of the board expressed concern over the ground water in the burning grounds. Mark Patterson stated that in the year 2000 (possibly the spring) more testing would be done at the burning grounds with regard to the ground water. Mr. Caryl Griswold stated that slag had once been used by farmers on their fields, and if this practice would affect the results on soil and ground water testing. Eileen

Page 2, Minutes of RAB Meeting, 09/15/99

Mohr stated that background soil testing with the use of maps with location of previous driveways and fields of farmer's land prior to construction of the arsenal had been used to limit the testing to areas where slag probably had not been put down. Mr. Patterson stated that they had used old aerial photos to determine the location of these sites. Mr. Patterson stated that in the year 2000 a phase II RI of load line #1 will be done. Monitoring wells were put in on load line #1 during the past month. Ms. Craig expressed concern over pinkwater

and with the plant uptake of pinkwater. Mr. Clemmer stated that if a pinkwater study is approved for the budget, issues concerning pinkwater will be looked into more extensively. At 6:59pm Creative Solutions closed.

3. Guest Speaker – Captain Tom Daugherty, Environmental Specialist for Ohio Army National Guard. Capt. Daugherty conducted a slide show, beginning with an organizational staff breakdown. His presentation included the Guard’s mission statement, which is to meet training requirements without compromising the ecosystem. He covered the laws governing natural resource planning, natural resource planning surveys, flora and fauna environments, and threatened and endangered species. The Guard conducted a small mammal survey but the results were inconclusive due to the large amount of interference from the raccoon population. The Guard is now in the process of surveying and taking inventory of beetles, reptiles, snails, mollusks, fish, butterflies, birds, etc. A wetland survey was conducted in 1997, and the Guard is now in the process of trying to develop a wetland management plan. An environmental assessment is in the works that will encompass fence line to fence line as well as record the future plans of the Guard over the next 5 to 6 years. All information as it becomes available will be posted at the Newton Falls and Ravenna libraries. A member of the public asked if the information would be posted on the web and Capt. Daugherty stated that eventually it would when it could be determined what information was crucial to the public. Capt. Daugherty summarized the Adjutant General’s Stewardship policy: which summarizes the planning of surveys and states how the Guard is managing their land. The purpose of the policy is to sustain the total ecosystem in accordance with the law. On an archeological survey the Guard found four prehistoric sites and four historic sites. Invertebrate Community Index (ICI) was conducted to measure the long-term water quality, #1 concern for the Guard, the results were that there was very good warm water habitats at Eagle and Sand Creek. Dust is a problem at the arsenal and the Guard has been trying to combat the problem by putting millions of gallons of water on the trails and putting in water pumps to help wet the trails. The Guard has spent \$1, 541, 000 on the various programs they are working on. Member of the board questioned Capt. Daugherty on the noise problem at the base. Capt. Daugherty replied that they were looking into that problem and would be placing barriers around areas on which helicopters land and tanks roll out. However, there is little to be done with regards to the noise made by C-130s. Member of the public asked Capt. Daugherty to expound upon the meaning of “sensitive” locations. Capt. Daugherty proceeded to show on map some of the areas that he was referring to. These areas included post-glacial tree outcrops and historic bridges and homes. At 7:41pm Capt. Daugherty closed his presentation. Ms. Craig asked if there were more permanent ways to preserve the sensitive areas. Mr. Patterson stated that the board would have to work with Tom Daugherty

Page 3, Minutes of RAB Meeting, 09/15/99

on the issue of permanent preservation. Lt. Col. Tadsen stated that the Guard didn’t want the area touched, and would like to preserve it as is, but that the Ohio Division of Wildlife was proposing moving into those areas and erecting walkways and lookout towers. A couple members of the board expressed displeasure at this idea.

4. General Business – Mr. Patterson informed the board that they were open to apply for another TAPP grant. Maximum allowance \$25,000, with a lifetime allowance of \$100,000. Particulars will be discussed at next meeting. Ms. Craig voiced concern over a deadline for applying and would like for the meeting to take place before the deadline arrived. Mr. Patterson will call Ms. Craig concerning the deadline date and will attempt to place it before the board at the next meeting. Ms. Craig would like to have some time scheduled in at the next meeting to discuss more comments on Creative Solutions as well as the pinkwater issue. Mr. Patterson agreed.

5. Scheduling of Next Meeting

Discussion on the date of the next meeting took place. It was decided that the next meeting would be held on November 17, 1999 at 6:00pm at the Windham Township Hall.

There being no further business Tom Tadsen moved to adjourn at 7:56pm, seconded by Mark Patterson.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise L. Gilliam