

Ravenna Army Ammunition Plant
Restoration Advisory Board (RAB)
Meeting Minutes
March 17, 1999

1) Call to Order and Reading of Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Thomas Tadsen, Community Co-Chair at the Windham Town Hall, Windham, Ohio at 6:04 pm. Secretary Donna Umbrazun took attendance with 16 present, 4 excused and 3 absent (Barbara Andreas, Alice Green, Tom Lawson). Thomas Smith moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Rebecca Carter, voice vote taken that passed.

2) General Business:

The issue of attendance by board member Keith Misner and Chris Smeiles was addressed. Keith Misner was contacted by Mark Patterson and stated that he is no longer interested in being on the board and resigned as of today. Chris Smeiles, Portage County Commissioner was contacted and did state that he has had various meeting obligations on the same night. He requested that the board consider that the commissioners be allowed to place 3 people to hold his seat and those three would rotate based on availability. Much discussion on the issue followed. It was stated that the substitution issue was addressed when the charter was written and the board members were against it. With so few meetings in a year they felt that a person who accepts the position should attend without substitution. It was also stated that the only requirement to be excused was a phone call stating you wouldn't be attending and Chris Smeiles had not placed those calls. At this point Chris Smeiles did arrive at the meeting. He restated his position and his request. Rachael Craig stated that #19 in the bylaws stated that a representative could be appointed to represent the commissioner. One board member stated that in their opinion if two or three people attended in one position that no one person would be completely informed of the issues being discussed. Chris stated that he would talk to the Portage County board of commissioners about appointing someone to represent them in their seat on the RAB board. Tom Smith moved that the issue be tabled until Chris Smeiles can present the intent of the commissioners, seconded by Rebecca Carter.

Mark Patterson stated that the TAPP Scope was sent to IOC. The preferred provider Mike Kangas would not be available for the position any longer as he has taken a job in Texas. Mark suggested that the board consider the second person in the voting. Caryl Griswold made a motion to accept the next candidate in the voting Rebecca Carter seconded, voice vote taken which passed.

Mark Patterson stated the bus tour is scheduled for 9:00am April 10, 1999 for RAB board members. He also stated the Jim Sheehy would also be attending this tour. The tour will include the Fuse and Buster building, Load Line 1 and the Erie Burning Grounds.

Mark Patterson stated that funding is in place for the Erie Burning Grounds for the Scope of Work. The project received full funding for the flooded area.

Rachael Craig mentioned that Alan Coogan, who resigned at the January 1999 meeting, was the membership chairperson. Rachael made a motion that the board appoints a new membership chair. Richard Walton seconded the motion, which was passed by voice vote. Mark Patterson asked if any members were interested in the position and William Roberts volunteered. All board members were in favor of William Roberts to head this committee.

Rachael Craig addressed the cancer risk issue. Previously the Ohio Health Dept. had reviewed their records and spoke at one of the meetings. He presented analysis only for Ravenna. The RAB members wanted ODH to do additional analysis for communities around RVAAP. Rachael wanted to know if there is any other state agency that could help in doing a cancer risk evaluation closer to the Ravenna Ammunition Plant area.

A public question was flooded by a Braceville resident, he was concerned about water drainage to the north to Trumbull County. He stated that Braceville residents have mostly wells for water and this drainage was a concern. Eileen Mohr stated that the Ohio EPA did a well study in 1997. They tested approximately 25 wells near the arsenal. The report is on file at her office. Anyone may call her to receive that information. She stated that they analyzed for explosives at low levels and none were found.

The public is concerned about cancer risk from water from the arsenal. Bill Roberts suggested that a letter be sent to the Ohio Dept of Health from the RAB requesting information. Mark Patterson suggested that maybe a committee be formed to address this issue. RAB members at the meeting showed no interest in pursuing this idea.

Marti Long stated that the health and death records have incomplete addresses to seriously track health issue. Would have to survey individuals to get necessary information.

Eileen Mohr stated that the board should get in touch with Bob Indian to get a list of the correct information to request from the Ohio Dept of Health. Tom Tadsen requested that this issue be tabled until later in the meeting in order to let Jim Sheehy do his presentation at this time.

- 3) Presentation of Relative Risk Site Evaluation Results of 13 New Areas of Concern by Jim Sheehy. Jim passed out handouts that explained that the RRSE is a tool used for restoration program management to determine the order in which remedial or corrective actions will take place. There are three factors to consider when scoring each site. 1) Contaminant Hazard Factor- the level of contaminant gets a score 2) Migration Pathway Factor-how likely contaminant is to move off site 3) Receptor Factor-how likely that people or animals will be exposed to contaminant. Each of the 13 new AOCs were evaluated and scored. Five sites scored high, 8 sites scored medium and no sites were scored low. Jim went over his handout which covered all 13 AOCs and designated which scored high and which were medium and why. Question from the public as to what is the chance that containment have already migrated? Jim stated that most of the contaminants are insoluble in water so they wouldn't migrate very far and lead contaminants do not travel. One board member asked if this report is available for review? Mark Patterson stated it would be available in about one month and would be at the Ravenna and Newton Falls libraries. It is a two-volume report and the data is contained in the second volume. Rachael Craig asked why sites F15 & 16 are considered one AOC? They are closely located and had similar purposes and similar contaminants. A question from the public was flooded. Is there any evidence of dioxin? Jim stated that they were not tested for because it is to expense and not in the budget of the RRSE, they will be tested for at a later time. He stated that the RRSE is only to prioritize sites for funding and work. Chris Smeiles asked if the National Guard would be kept clear of the areas? Mark Patterson stated that IOC will retain responsibility for remedial action at AOCs on Guard property and the sites have been marked with SIBER stakes so people stay clear of the areas.

4) General Business

Mark Patterson asked for any areas of interest for the tour on April 10, 1999. Mark suggested Load Line 1, Erie Burning Grounds and visit some areas with pink water possibly.

Marti Long questioned whether the composting will be something that is going to be used in the future. Mark stated that it there is a very good chance that composting will be used on soils from the pink water treatment/demil facility in LL 12.

Cancer Issue- Tom Tadsen stated that the discussion seemed to lean towards the idea that the board is not happy with the data they received at this point. A plan needs to be devised on what to do. Eileen Mohr stated that the ATSDR is probably the agency that the board should contact. Mark Patterson stated that he would get back to the State Dept of Health and again request that Dr. Bob Indian submit a written report of his findings. Many suggestions of possible ways to collect data to conduct a survey by the board were presented. It was stated that it would be difficult to get data that is valid. An agency should be contacted to do the work of collecting data. Tom Tadsen suggested setting a plan to present to state politicians. Chris Smeiles suggested that a collective letter from the joint county commissioners might get more results. Robert Wilson moved to discuss at the next meeting, place as an item on the agenda. All members were in favor of the motion.

Mark Patterson stated the available documents would be placed on CD for board members to take and review. Any one interested should sign up on the sheet being passed around.

5) Scheduling Next Meeting.

Thomas Tadsen scheduled the next meeting on Wednesday, May 19, 1999 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at Paris Township Hall.

There being no further business Tom Smith moved to adjourn at 8:39 p.m., seconded by Rebecca Carter.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Umbrazun, Secretary