



**Environmental Management/
Stewardship Combined
Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 17, 2013, 5:30 p.m.
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Committee Members Present

Donna Campbell, Stewardship
Alfreda Cook, Vice-chair, EM
Carmen DeLong, EM
Gracie Hall, EM
Bob Hatcher, Chair EM
Dave Hemelright, EM
Bruce Hicks, EM
Roger Macklin, Stewardship
Donald Mei, EM
Bob Olson, EM
Lorene Sigal, Stewardship
Corkie Staley, Chair, Stewardship

Others Present

Dave Adler, Department of Energy (DOE)
Sid Garland, UCOR/RSI
Spencer Gross, ORSSAB support staff
John Kubarewicz, UCOR/RSI
Ellen Smith

Absent

Jimmy Bell, EM
Susan Gawarecki, EM/Stewardship
Jennifer Kasten, EM
Dick Ketelle, EM
Steve Kenworthy, EM
David Martin, EM/Stewardship
Norman Mulvenon, EM/Stewardship
Fay Martin, Vice-chair, Stewardship
Gloria Mei, EM
Lance Mezga, EM
Tim Myrick, EM
Curt Walker, EM/Stewardship
Kevin Westervelt, EM

Combined committee discussion of merging the Environmental Management (EM) and Stewardship Committees

The agenda noted several items for discussion, but the meeting participants had a general discussion about merging the two committees.

Mr. Hatcher chaired the meeting. He began by referencing Attachment 1, Elements of Stewardship to be carried forward. He said there are a number of items on the list that are of interest to the EM Committee, such as groundwater and stewardship at ongoing mission sites. He said the issue of funding had been addressed at previous meetings that the Stewardship Committee's funding would be carried to a combined committee. Ms. Campbell clarified the point on funding is related to funding of long-term stewardship activities on the Oak Ridge Reservation.

Mr. Hatcher agreed with several of the points on educating EM Committee members about stewardship, particularly records disposition. He asked Ms. Sigal to explain the point about the Citizens' Board for Stewardship.

Ms. Sigal said in the mid-to-late 1990s it was decided that there needed to be a continuation of a stewardship committee beyond the Stewardship Working Group. There is a statement in the DOE Public Involvement Plan (PIP) that says the ORSSAB Stewardship Committee would serve informally as a Citizens' Board for Stewardship as long as ORSSAB exists. When ORSSAB completes its mission with the completion of DOE's EM work in Oak Ridge, a formal Citizens' Board for Stewardship will be formed.

Mr. Macklin asked how merging the committees will affect the Stewardship Committee status as the Citizens' Board for Stewardship. Mr. Adler said the importance of stewardship shouldn't be dependent on the existence of a committee. DOE has an enforceable milestone of publishing a PIP every three years and DOE will confirm that it includes a statement that speaks to tracking stewardship requirements beyond the existence of ORSSAB.

Mr. Hicks said the EM Committee is concerned about the strategy of DOE's EM Program and Stewardship is focused on the future and protecting human health and the environment. He is concerned a combined committee would tend to focus on near-term strategies and stewardship might receive less emphasis. He feels the work of stewardship and EM could be distributed differently.

Mr. Olson reiterated that there are some overlapping issues of the committees and there are areas of duplication of effort. Combining would eliminate duplication, but he said a negative would be a heavier work load for one committee.

Ms. Cook said if the work plans of each committee are combined into a single work plan, the topics of each must be addressed. She said individuals or groups would be assigned to each topic. She feels combining is a better approach. Mr. Hatcher agreed saying with members in one committee the work load could be spread.

Mr. Adler said letters from DOE, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (Attachments 2-4) suggesting topics to consider in FY 2014 all mention final cleanup of East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP). He said ETTP is a 'poster child' for stewardship. A final record of decision (ROD) for ETTP will have to include stewardship requirements to protect private industry coming onto the site. He said if the ROD had been ready last year it would have been considered by both committees. A combined committee would eliminate duplication of effort and provide coordinated comments from one group.

Ms. Sigal asked what would happen if, after a time, the combined committee structure didn't work. Mr. Adler said it would have to be fixed. Mr. Hatcher said if the committees combine everyone would have to do the best they could to make it work, but if it didn't it could be changed later.

Mr. Hicks asked how other boards address stewardship. Mr. Adler said they tend to integrate stewardship as part of their work.

Ms. Smith said it is easy to forget about stewardship. Community leaders tend to be uninterested. She said if Stewardship is dissolved someone on ORSSAB must make sure stewardship is not ignored. Mr. Hatcher said the Stewardship Committee would not be dissolved; its priorities and name would be part of a committee that included EM topics. Ms. Cook said that would be part of developing annual work plan to make sure stewardship activities are captured.

Mr. Hatcher said he examined the work plans of each committee (Attachments 5 and 6) and the task would be to develop a work plan that would include priorities of each committee. Mr. Olson said some topics for each committee would have to be dropped.

Ms. Staley said a combined committee should have co-chairs with each having an interest in stewardship or EM. She said at the least the chair should have an interest in one area and the vice-chair an interest in the other. Ms. Campbell said having co-chairs would be important the first year.

Mr. Hicks said the immediate step is to hold combined meetings with both committee chairs (Mr. Hatcher and Ms. Staley) co-chairing the meetings. He was concerned, though, about the length of the meetings. Ms. Staley said it's rare for Stewardship to have long meetings. She didn't think the length of the meetings would be extended very much.

Mr. Hatcher suggested both committees should make a list of priorities to be carried into a combined committee. He said there would be some overlap, but there are issues unique to Stewardship and EM that must be kept.

Ms. Cook asked how developing a list of priorities for Stewardship differs from the list of Attachment 1. Mr. Adler said some of the things on the list are objectives and others are activities. He said Stewardship members should sort the objectives from the activities and prioritize the activities. He said a work plan should be assembled to see if all the important stewardship and EM topics fit in the plan. He said some presentations to EM are updates that are sometimes repeated every few months and tend to be presented at the board level as well.

Ms. DeLong said she provided the Stewardship Committee a spreadsheet program to list stewardship and EM topics and determining the difference between the two. Ms. Staley said the committee had looked at the spreadsheet and, while it may be useful in the future the committee was not ready to consider.

Mr. Olson said the board's annual meeting will be in August. He asked if a work plan for one committee should be done prior to the annual meeting. Mr. Adler said if the committees meet together efficiencies will begin to occur and the group will be integrating a single plan after the annual meeting.

Mr. Hatcher suggested that he and Ms. Cook work on a list of EM Committee priorities to be placed on a work plan for FY 2014. Ms. Staley asked Ms. Sigal if she would help develop a list. Ms. Sigal said she would and asked staff to send the list to all Stewardship Committee members for additional input.

Mr. Adler said if the two lists can be completed within the next couple of weeks, DOE and staff could determine on a draft work plan when EM and Stewardship activities could be addressed in FY 2014.

Mr. Hemelright said EM and Stewardship objectives and activities would be discussed at the annual meeting August 17. The consensus of the group was the committees should meet together again in August, but because of a number of scheduling conflicts they settled on Monday, August 26 at 5:30 to meet.

Mr. Macklin said a permanent meeting time for a combined committee should be considered carefully because Wednesdays tend to be a popular day for other groups to meet. Mr. Hatcher asked to table that discussion until later.

Abstract for proposed presentation at 2014 Waste Management Symposia

Ms. DeLong said she would like to present a paper at the Waste Management Symposia in March 2014 in Phoenix, Ariz. Abstracts for papers are due August 16 and she wanted to discuss her idea for a paper with the EM Committee.

Her paper would be on how to eliminate waste in waste management activities and looking at different ways of accomplishing goals. She said the idea for the paper is the result of a process she developed to expedite work on the Three Building Project to clean out the K-29, K-31, and K-33 Buildings at ETTP in the mid-2000s. The process she developed saved considerable time and money over original estimates. She said the same process could be adapted for other projects.

Ms. DeLong said that the Portsmouth Site faces similar issues as the Three Building Project and she thought a paper on the process could help the Portsmouth project and other similar projects.

Mr. Hatcher asked if it was in the best interest of the committee to support Ms. DeLong's proposal. Mr. Hemelright said the committee could approve her idea and she could send her abstract to the Executive Committee for consideration. Mr. Hicks said the committee probably shouldn't endorse a specific product, but perhaps could support a process.

Mr. Adler said ORSSAB members have traveled to the conference using the board's travel budget, but DOE generally has not supported travel for members to make technical presentations. He said care should be taken in doing that and it would be discussed more at the Executive Committee.

Mr. Hemelright moved to support Ms. DeLong's abstract submission to the Executive Committee for consideration. Mr. Macklin seconded. Six committee members supported the motion. There were no objections, but several abstentions.

Mr. Hemelright asked Ms. DeLong to submit her final abstract through staff to the Executive Committee for consideration at its July 24 meeting.

Action Items

Open

1. Mr. Martin will revise his draft recommendation on nickel based on comments at the June meeting and bring it to the July meeting. **Status** – postponed until August meeting.
2. Mr. Hatcher and Ms. Cook will work on a list of EM Committee priorities to include in a combined committee FY 2014 work plan.
3. Ms. Staley and Ms. Sigal will work on a list of Stewardship Committee priorities to include in a combined committee FY 2014 work plan.
4. Staff will provide the Stewardship list of priorities to all Stewardship Committee members for review and additional input.
5. DOE and staff will schedule EM and Stewardship priorities/activities in a draft work plan for FY 2014.
6. Ms. DeLong will provide an abstract for a paper to the Executive Committee for consideration for submission to the Waste Management Symposia.

Closed

1. Mr. Adler will take what he has heard at the June meeting and the Stewardship Committee meeting on combining the two to the July Executive Committee meeting. **Complete.**
2. From Stewardship – Mr. Adler will determine if DOE has the ability to create or eliminate committees. **Complete.** Under the Federal Advisory Committee Act DOE is required to approve all agendas, approve a committee's work plan, and decide if meetings even should occur (federal representatives have to attend for a meeting to be part of the SSAB endeavor).

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Attachments (6) are available through the ORSSAB office.

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