



**Executive Committee
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, March 28, 2013, 5:30 p.m.
DOE Information Center**

Committee Members Present

Bob Hatcher
Dave Hemelright, Vice Chair
David Martin, Chair
Scott McKinney
Greg Paulus

Others Present

Dave Adler, DOE
Pete Osborne, ORSSAB support office

Absent

Chuck Jensen, Secretary
Corkie Staley

Board Officer/DOE Comments

ORSSAB Chair

Mr. Martin said that while paper reduction is important, he is concerned about asking members to print out the monthly presentation materials. The materials should be made available to members and the public. He asked that the committee chairs discuss with their members what materials they want distributed to them electronically or in paper form.

Mr. Martin said he does not intend to pursue a vision statement for the board now that the one he proposed at the March board meeting has been voted down. He referred any further discussion of a vision to the Board Finance & Process Committee.

Mr. Martin expressed concern about the level of dialog at the March board meeting related to the vision statement and the recommendation on legacy materials. Some of the comments were pointedly negative and personal.

Mr. Adler said it's important to be careful about that at board meetings. He also thought that Board leadership should encourage members to avoid wordsmithing in the meetings. Significant deference should be given to the individuals who create recommendations in how those recommendations are worded.

Mr. Hatcher agreed, saying that comments and amendments to recommendations should only be made on the substance of the document, not on grammar.

Mr. McKinney recommended that Mr. Martin discuss these issues with the board at the start of the April board meeting. He also thought that recommendations should come before the board for an up or down vote.

Mr. Martin said it's the chair's job to make sure everyone gets their voice heard, so he cannot agree with limiting members by telling them that "this is it—take it or leave it." He said he would like to make a statement at the next board meeting that this is a volunteer group with a varied membership, and that needs to be taken into consideration. When people take their time to do something, they should be given leeway on how the material is written. Unless there are substantive issues, some flexibility should be given as to the language used.

DOE Liaison

Mr. Adler said a public meeting will be held the third week of April to discuss the FY 2015 Oak Ridge Environmental Management (EM) program budget request. The meeting will be held at the American

Museum of Science and Energy. The three federal project directors (Jim Kopotic, Bill McMillan, and Laura Wilkerson) will give the presentations.

Mr. Martin asked Mr. Adler to discuss the recently proposed changes in waste acceptance criteria at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant. Mr. Adler said he was unfamiliar with them and would look into it tomorrow.

Monthly Board Meetings

March 13 Review - The committee discussed the presentation on the EM program's approach to contracting, and transfer and development of properties at East Tennessee Technology Park. Mr. Martin said both presentations were good. They could be used again as educational materials in a couple of years when new members come on board.

April 10 - The committee reviewed the meeting agenda (Attachment 1) and made no changes.

The committee reviewed the revised "Recommendation on Remaining Legacy Materials on the Oak Ridge Reservation" (Attachment 2) and voted to send it forward to the board for consideration for approval.

The committee reviewed the "Recommendations on the FY 2015 DOE Oak Ridge EM Budget Request" (Attachment 3). Mr. Adler suggested deleting the last set of bullets in the 'Discussion' section, as they were largely duplicative of earlier bullet points. The Executive Committee agreed and voted to send the recommendation forward to the board for consideration for approval.

May 8 - The presentation topic will be the national EM program.

Committee Reports

Board Finance & Process - The current costs table was distributed as Attachment 4.

EM - Mr. Adler reported that at its March meeting the committee discussed the Molten Salt Reactor Experiment remediation strategy. Mr. Hatcher said he missed the meeting, but he understands that the committee also discussed the revised Recommendation on Remaining Legacy Materials and that the discussion went smoothly.

Mr. Martin said the Molten Salt Reactor Experiment has gotten a lot of press lately, and there has been a lot of change in thinking about the cleanup strategy in the past six years. The consensus seems to no longer be to just leave it alone but rather to get it remediated at some point in the future.

Mr. Hatcher asked about piping in the facility. Mr. Adler said the drainage pipes have failed every time they've been tried in recent years, so remaining salts will be extracted by some other means.

Public Outreach - Mr. McKinney reported that during its March teleconference the committee discussed arrangements for the Earth Day booth. A sufficient number of board members have volunteered to staff the booth. The Secret City Festival will be next up on the committee's work plan.

Mr. McKinney said the stream postings task has morphed into a discussion of who's responsible for signage. There seems to be no consistency, and some signs are falling down or are in disrepair. The committee will be talking with DOE and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation at the next Public Outreach Committee meeting. A meeting with the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency will be held later. Because this topic has stewardship implications, members of the ORSSAB Stewardship Committee will be invited to both meetings.

Stewardship - Mr. Martin said the committee heard an excellent presentation on the Remediation Effectiveness Report. Board member attendance at the meeting was particularly low.

Mr. Adler remarked that while the committee was formed around a very specific and important issue, he has suggested several times in recent years that its scope be spread among the other ORSSAB committees. Mr. Martin agreed, saying that once the 13-step guidance document is done, it may be time to abolish the committee.

Other Business

Chairs Meeting - The committee reviewed a draft agenda for the April 25 SSAB chairs meeting webinar (Attachment 5).

Action Items

Open

1. Mr. Adler will report on recently proposed changes in waste acceptance criteria at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant.

Closed

1. Mr. McKinney will find out if the stream postings brochure or a mock-up could be ready in time to be taken to the spring chairs meeting. ***Closed. The chairs meeting has been canceled in favor of a webinar***

Next meeting

Thursday, April 25, 5:30 p.m., at the DOE Information Center

Attachments (5). Available upon request from the ORSSAB support office.