



**Public Outreach Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, November 27, 2012, 5:30 p.m.  
Teleconference**

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**Members Present**

Alfreda Cook  
Jan Hart, Vice Chair  
Dave Hemelright  
Howard Holmes  
Scott McKinney, Chair  
Ben Williams, DOE

**Others Present**

Pete Osborne, ORSSAB support office

**Absent**

Jan Lyons  
Scott Stout

Mr. McKinney informed the committee that he had revamped the work plan to combine it with the six-month planning calendar. This should result in less paperwork and streamline planning. Issue managers can let staff know when they want to add something about their issues to the work plan.

**Issue Manager & Liaison Updates**

ORSSAB Presentation—Mr. McKinney reminded the group that previous discussion about the presentation centered on creating a separate, shorter version. He now thinks a better plan is to leave the presentation the length it is and edit it down for specific audiences as the need arises. He mentioned that Jan Lyons suggested adding Sue Cange’s slide about EM program progress. He asked if there were additional changes.

Ms. Hart noted that on slide 2, “serves as an communication link” should be “serves as a communication link.” She also thought that the health hazards associated with contaminants mentioned in the presentation should be explained.

Dr. Holmes suggested that a handout of the health risks be developed. The definitions will have to come from a textbook, not the Internet, he said.

Ms. Cook said that if a handout is developed that the dose needed to have health effects should be stated. Dr. Holmes agreed but suggested that maybe just noting a health effects resource in the presentation would be sufficient.

Mr. McKinney said that board members making presentations shouldn’t have to present themselves as experts, especially on health issues. Mr. Williams agreed, saying that speaking to health effects may be straying a bit beyond the cleanup focus of the board, especially because it can be such a technical issue. Ms. Cook thought an understanding of the health risks is important, particularly to the Oak Ridge community.

Dr. Holmes reiterated his idea for adding a resource reference as a way to address the issue. Ms. Cook said that giving references to resources may be sufficient.

Mr. Hemelright noted that “environmental restoration” should be changed to “environmental management” on slide 12, and slide 14 should be updated. Ms. Cook said that when you have something complicated that has to be explained, like the table on slide 14, it slows the presentation down. Other committee members agreed, and Mr. McKinney recommended deleting it. Mr. Hemelright said that all the recommendation pages need updating. Ms. Cook suggested using action verbs in the bullets since they are easier to comprehend. Mr. McKinney suggested adding a slide about stimulus successes. Sue Cange’s slide can be used anywhere in

the presentation, he said, or it can be left out. Ms. Hart wondered if we need to update the oral history slide. Ms. Cook thought so, adding that saying COROH was established “this spring” is not specific enough.

Stream Postings—Ms. Cook reported that she spoke with a staffer at the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, who offered graphics and other information. He also gave her information concerning which organizations are responsible for various signs. She asked for a DOE contact to help with this task and received some guidance. She has a few other contacts as well. She should be able to close out the issue quickly once all the graphics come in, with the intent of creating a handout of the signs. Mr. Osborne said the DOE Graphics Department should be able to design the handout.

Museum Exhibit—Mr. Osborne reported that he and Ms. Cook met with DOE graphics designer David Brown last Monday to discuss the design for the waste management kiosk. Conversation turned to an evaluation of the entire exhibit. General agreement was reached to incorporate a video monitor or touch-screen above the EM Waste Management Facility model to give the complete story of where the wastes come from that are being disposed in the facility. It could also discuss transportation issues, incorporating Ms. Cook’s idea regarding Radio Frequency Identification tags. Mr. Osborne and Ms. Cook will meet Mr. Brown at the museum soon to discuss several things: how to incorporate an empty wall into the exhibit, ideas for a title banner for the exhibit, how to rearrange the various displays, and how to proceed with the EM Waste Management Facility model.

As for the waste management kiosk, Mr. Brown has prepared some new designs incorporating more fencing and photos of waste operations. Mr. Osborne will send them to Ms. Cook tomorrow.

Making Contact and Hosting “VIPs”—Mr. McKinney said the committee should wait for DOE to set the upcoming board presentations before pursuing VIPs. Mr. Williams reported that Dave Adler said he would have the list by the first of the year. Mr. Adler also mentioned a meeting of federal SSAB officials held after the recent chairs meeting, where Headquarters made the point that a DOE employee must accompany SSAB members during presentations and in their contacts with elected officials. More guidance on this issue is to come.

Mr. McKinney asked if this would include a private meeting with an elected official. Mr. Williams said yes, a DOE representative should be there. Ms. Hart asked about phone conversations. Mr. Williams said he was not certain about that, but he would find out.

Public Environmental Survey—Mr. Osborne said he received an email from Headquarters regarding changes they would like to see made to the survey before it goes to the Office of Management and Budget for approval. He will send the email and a proposed survey revision to Jan Lyons this week.

Generating Ideas of Historical Dates—Mr. McKinney said that Ms. Lyons had proposed something on this, and it will appear in the upcoming issue of the Advocate newsletter.

EM Committee on the CERCLA Landfill and EM Portfolio Plans—Ms. Cook said there was a good presentation on the landfill that emphasized the need for public involvement, but no specific action on the landfill has taken place at this time.

Stewardship Committee on the CERCLA landfill, EM portfolio plans, and Land Use Manager—Mr. Hemelright noted that he is no longer on the Stewardship Committee, although he is willing to be the issue liaison for the Land Use Manger. Mr. McKinney asked staff to pare this issue topic down to just that area.

Stewardship Committee on Footprint Reduction—Dr. Holmes pointed out that he is not a member of the Stewardship Committee and is too busy to take on something new. Mr. McKinney said he would take the issue. Mr. Williams said he would find out what he can about the status of footprint reduction.

## **Staff Report on Ongoing Activities**

Newspaper Ads, News Releases & Editorials—Mr. Osborne said that two new members should be appointed in December, and staff will issue a news release on them once the appointments are final. Mr. Hemelright's editorial was published in October, and it will appear in the January edition of the Advocate newsletter. David Martin just wrote an editorial on the uncertainty created by the looming federal budget cuts and what effect they will have on EM program funding. That editorial still has to go through the review process. It will be released to the newspapers when the review is finished, and it will appear in the April Advocate.

Advocate Newsletter—Staff are writing and designing the newsletter now. A draft will be sent out to the committee for review around December 3.

Annual Report—Work is progressing well on the annual report, and a draft will be sent out to the committee for review later this week.

## **Action Items**

### *Closed*

1. Staff will make changes to the issue manager assignments. ***Completed 11/28/12***

### *Open*

1. Mr. Williams will get back to the committee with more guidance on contacts with elected officials.
2. Mr. Williams will find out what he can about the status of footprint reduction.

## **Next Meeting**

Tuesday, January 22, 5:30 p.m. **The meeting will be held as a teleconference.**