



**Public Outreach Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 27, 2013, 5:30 p.m.
Teleconference**

Members Present

Alfreda Cook
Jan Hart, Vice Chair
Scott McKinney, Chair
Scott Stout
Ben Williams, DOE

Others Present

Pete Osborne, ORSSAB support office

Absent

Dave Hemelright
Howard Holmes
Jan Lyons

Issue Manager & Liaison Updates

Stream Postings—Ms. Cook reported that she met recently with Tony Sims, the DOE COR for ES&H, and took a whole morning driving the periphery of the Oak Ridge Reservation taking photos. A number of DOE's “no trespassing” signs are faded and not well maintained. However, signs along White Oak Creek are in good shape.

Mr. McKinney asked if the signs were doe, city, or state. Ms. Cook said signs along the ORR periphery belong to DOE. However, she is aware that the TDEC DOE-Oversight Office is responsible for “fish consumption advisory” and “no water contact” signs along waterways outside the reservation, and photos of these were provided to her previously.

Ms. Cook asked members to offer suggestions for the title of the booklet she's compiling. The title should be interesting enough to make people want to read the material without making too strong a case about potential stream dangers. Ms. Cook said she should have something on the booklet compiled soon, but she will be busy and probably not available to do board work in April.

Museum Exhibit—Mr. McKinney said he's been trying to get over to the museum, but he's had scheduling challenges and it's been postponed for awhile. When he does get to schedule it, he will invite the whole committee.

Ms. Cook asked where we stand on the new waste management exhibit. Mr. Osborne said a purchase order for the new all-in-one touch-screen computer/monitor has been generated. The unit will be installed atop the waste drum that will be the centerpiece of the waste management exhibit. The impending sequestration may delay purchase of the unit, however.

Earth Day—Mr. McKinney said he received some signups at the February board meeting, and Mr. Osborne reported that he has also received some additions. Ms. Hart asked what time people need to show up to set up. Mr. Osborne said he would email everyone tomorrow with the current sign-up sheet and information on logistics.

Making Contact and Hosting “VIPs”—Mr. Stout said he has created quite a comprehensive list of representatives and other individuals, so he and Mr. McKinney could start going over the list any time.

Mr. McKinney asked Mr. Williams to verify that the protocol for contacting legislators: it's OK to contact them but not to meet with them privately. Mr. Williams said that is correct.

Public Environmental Survey—Mr. Osborne reported that he received comments regarding the survey this week from the Office of Management and Budget. There were concerns that the title of the survey does not closely match the questions and the stated purpose of the survey, and there were questions about how the number of potential respondents was determined. Mr. Osborne said he is addressing those issues and will submit the response to OMB early next week.

Staff Report on Ongoing Activities

Newspaper Ads, News Releases & Editorials—Mr. Osborne reported that David Martin has completed his editorial on the uncertainty created by the looming federal budget cuts and what effect they will have on EM program funding. The editorial has been sent to DOE for concurrence.

After Spencer Gross gets photos of new board members Bob Craig and Belinda Price at the March 13 board meeting, Mr. Gross will write a news release on their appointment to the board.

Advocate Newsletter—Mr. Osborne said that work has begun on writing and designing the April issue. A draft will be sent to Public Outreach Committee members on March 13.

Spring Chair Meeting Topics—Mr. Osborne noted that Attachment 1 had been distributed to the committee to let members know what topics were suggested by the standing ORSSAB committees for the fall 2012 chairs meeting. The Executive Committee reviews the suggestions and makes a final determination which topic or topics will be discussed at the chairs meeting. The groundwater research issue was selected last fall.

Ms. Cook recommended submitting the Public Outreach Committee suggestions again for the spring meeting since they were not selected for presentation last fall. The committee agreed, and suggestions were made to also talk about Public Outreach Committee efforts to reach out to legislators, the focus this year on history, and any other current topics the committee is working on.

Closed

None

Open

1. Mr. Williams will find out what he can about the status of footprint reduction. *Carryover from November 20. Mr. Williams said he talked to the project manager and learned that field work has been done. Related documentation has been sent to the regulators, but DOE does not know what they're going to say. Mr. Williams said he will update the committee when the regulators respond.*

Next Meeting

Tuesday, March 26, 5:30 p.m. The meeting will be held as a teleconference.