



**Stewardship Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 18, 2013, 5:30 p.m.
DOE Information Center
Office of Science and Technical Information**

Committee Members Present

Donna Campbell
Fay Martin, Vice Chair
Norman Mulvenon
Lorene Sigal
Corkie Staley, Chair

Others Present

Dave Adler, DOE-Oak Ridge Office
Carmen DeLong
Sid Garland, UCOR/RSI
Spencer Gross, ORSSAB support office

Absent

Darryl Bonner
Susan Gawarecki
Lisa Hagy
Roger Macklin
David Martin
Scott Stout
Curt Walker
Sam Walker

Discuss potential of merging Stewardship Committee with Environmental Management Committee – Dave Adler

Mr. Adler appeared before the committee to discuss the possibility of merging the committee with the Environmental Management (EM) Committee, creating a committee with a dual purpose.

He said it is an idea that has been discussed before and that DOE-Oak Ridge EM supports, but no decision has been made. Ms. Sigal asked if DOE determines what committees the board has. Mr. Adler said he wasn't sure if DOE could determine what committees the board has, but he would find out.

He said the question is what is the best way to have viable, enduring program for stewardship. He said there must be a group with sufficient numbers of people to participate. He noted that board member participation in the Stewardship Committee is low and public member participation has dwindled over the years.

Mr. Adler said the situation with the committee is perhaps to be expected. The committee did much important work in the early years of the board, but since the early policy development has been completed stewardship on the Oak Ridge Reservation is in the implementation phase. He said interest in stewardship has waned during the implementation phase.

He said one idea is to expand the focus of the EM Committee to include stewardship and perhaps re-name the group the EM and Stewardship Committee. The model could be to have the chair lead one program area and the vice-chair lead the other program.

The EM Committee has a number of board members and public members on its roster who regularly participate.

Mr. Adler said there are areas of common interest between the two committees, such as the effectiveness of remedies implemented, long-term disposal of waste, and potential additional disposal sites that will require long-term stewardship. He said the committee is also interested in land use controls, groundwater, and other areas related to stewardship.

Mr. Adler said a lesser consideration is administrative. Having one committee would not require as much DOE personnel support.

He said the course of action is to discuss this idea with both committees and receive input from them and take the information to the Executive Committee. The hope is to make a decision before the August annual meeting so the board's work plan can be developed around the committee structure.

Mr. Mulvenon said it wouldn't be difficult to merge the committees; the difficulty will be in maintaining interest in stewardship issues. He said in the last few years several new board members have joined Stewardship only to switch to EM or Public Outreach later. He said he understood interest in stewardship has waned because it is a long-term issue and no one wants to follow it. Mr. Mulvenon said it should be determined how stewardship issues can be placed on the EM agenda. He thought perhaps a committee meeting should be dedicated to stewardship every couple of months or so.

Mr. Adler said DOE provides input on areas it would like for the board to pursue each year regardless of how the committees are organized. DOE could ensure stewardship issues receive attention by asking the board to consider those kinds of issues.

Ms. Staley said she had concerns that adding stewardship to EM's work plan would be too burdensome, but she thought Mr. Mulvenon's idea of a dedicated stewardship committee meeting from time to time might help. Mr. Adler said EM sometimes receives multiple presentations on topics where little has changed between presentations. Those kinds of update presentations could be reduced.

Ms. Staley also had a concern about resources, specifically travel, set aside for stewardship that could be lost if merged with EM. Mr. Adler said both committees have their own budgets and they could be merged as well ensuring those resources would not be lost.

Ms. Sigal was concerned that most EM committee members do not understand stewardship beyond monitoring and maintenance. Mr. Garland said merging the committees would be a good opportunity to educate them about the importance of stewardship after remediation of areas with waste left in place.

Ms. DeLong said she would be willing to work up a spreadsheet of EM and stewardship issues and determine what issues overlap. Mr. Adler suggested that the Stewardship Committee members work up a list of stewardship issues to carry forward regardless of what decision is made on merging the committee. Ms. Sigal agreed saying a list of important issues is something that could be taught to all board members. Ms. Staley said when training new members it's important to include stewardship as a topic to cover.

Those committee members present agreed to meet in a work session on Thursday, June 20 at 3:30 p.m. at the Information Center to work up a list of items to carry forward.

Ms. Campbell said if the committees are merged the first year would be important, and she thought perhaps a stewardship item should be on each agenda.

Mr. Adler said again that he would be talking with the EM Committee on July 19 and all comments will be discussed with the Executive Committee at its meetings so a decision can be reached prior to the annual meeting on August 17.

FY 2013 Accomplishments

The committee reviewed the list of FY 2013 accomplishments assembled by staff (Attachment 1). No changes were made. The list will be forwarded to the Executive Committee for consideration prior to the annual meeting.

Action Items

Open

1. Mr. Adler will determine if DOE has the ability to create or eliminate committees.

Closed

1. Mr. Martin will discuss with Dave Adler about having an RER presentation for the full board. **Complete.** RER presentation was done at May ORSSAB meeting.
2. Mr. Martin will check on having a presentation done on the Land Use Manager at either a bi-monthly EM SSAB Chairs' conference call or at the Fall EM SSAB Chairs' meeting. **Closed.** Time did not allow discussion of the topic.
3. Staff will send email invitations to Stewardship Committee members about the May 8 board meeting on the RER. **Complete.**
4. Staff will send email invitations to Stewardship Committee members about the Public Outreach Committee meeting on stream posting on May 21. **Complete.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Attachments (1) are available through the ORSSAB support office.

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