



Many Voices Working for the Community

Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board

Approved June 11, 2014, Meeting Minutes

The Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board (ORSSAB) held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, June 11, 2014, at the DOE Information Center, 1 Science.gov Way, Oak Ridge, Tenn., beginning at 6 p.m. A video of the meeting was made and may be viewed by contacting the ORSSAB support offices at (865) 241-4583 or 241-4584. The presentation portion of the video is available on the board's YouTube site at www.youtube.com/user/ORSSAB/videos.

Members Present

Jimmy Bell
Noel Berry
Bob Hatcher
David Hemelright, Chair

Bruce Hicks, Vice Chair
Jennifer Kasten
Jan Lyons
Scott McKinney

Donald Mei
Belinda Price
Coralie Staley

Members Absent

Alfreda Cook
Carmen DeLong
Lisa Hagy, Secretary
Howard Holmes¹
Fay Martin
Greg Paulus¹
Mary Smalling
Wanda Smith¹
Scott Stout

¹Second consecutive absence

Liaisons, Deputy Designated Federal Officer, and Federal Coordinator Present

Dave Adler, Department of Energy-Oak Ridge Office (DOE-ORO), Alternate Deputy Designated Federal Officer (DDFO)
Susan Cange, DOE-ORO, Deputy Designated Federal Officer
Kristof Czartoryski, Liaison, Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC)
Melyssa Noe, ORSSAB Federal Coordinator, DOE-ORO

Others Present

Aditya Chourey, Student Representative
Steven Cooke, DOE
Spencer Gross, ORSSAB Support Office
Pete Osborne, ORSSAB Support Office

Five members of the public were present.

Liaison Comments

Mr. Adler – Mr. Adler said the board will not meet on July 9 as that date is set aside for an orientation and training session for two new members. The board's annual planning meeting is scheduled for Saturday, August 16 from 8 a.m. to noon at the DOE Information Center. There will be no Wednesday evening meeting in August. The September 10 meeting date is tentative. Mr. Adler said the EM SSAB Chairs' meeting may be scheduled during that week. He said if it is the Executive Committee will decide whether to reschedule the meeting or cancel.

Mr. Adler said there are three outstanding recommendations from the board for DOE to consider. The Recommendations on the FY 2016 DOE Oak Ridge Environmental Management Budget Request will be included with the DOE Oak Ridge EM budget request to DOE Headquarters in Washington. The Recommendations on Additional Waste Disposal Capacity on the Oak Ridge Reservation and Recommendations on Additional Off-site Groundwater Migration Studies have been assigned to appropriate DOE staff to develop responses.

Ms. Cange – Ms. Cange reminded the board that Mark Whitney, who had been the manager for the DOE Oak Ridge Environmental Management (EM) Program, has been called to Washington, DC, as DOE's principal deputy assistant secretary for EM. Ms. Cange will be acting manager for EM in Oak Ridge until a permanent replacement is named for Mr. Whitney.

Ms. Cange said completion of all of the demolition work associated with the K-25 Building at East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP) will be finished by the first of July. Walk downs of the area with the project contractor will be done over the next few weeks to ensure all requirements have been met. Demolition of K-25 began in December 2008, although preparation for demolition had been underway for several years prior to that.

There will be a community workshop on Tuesday, June 24 from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Riverside Grill, 100 Melton Lake Peninsula, Oak Ridge, Tenn. The purpose of the workshop is to engage with the community and identify a few key issues, and work with the community to move toward resolution of those issues. The workshop will consist of three breakout sessions:

1. Short- and long-term priorities and how they can be accomplished with available funding.
2. Contracting strategies for large projects that are in the planning stage. Ms. Cange said this is a way to involve small business contractors and other small businesses and get ideas on contracting strategies.
3. When cleanup is completed what is next for the community. The focus will be on reindustrialization and historic preservation and other things DOE Oak Ridge EM is planning to prepare the community when cleanup is completed.

The workshop is open to the public and Ms. Cange said other community groups in addition to ORSSAB have been invited to participate.

Mr. Czartoryski – This was Mr. Czartoryski's first meeting as the TDEC liaison. He said he has been with TDEC for 23 years – two years in the permitting program and 21 years in the TDEC oversight office. He currently is TDEC's Federal Facility Agreement program manager.

He said the Tennessee Department of Water Resources will hold a meeting concerning the Emory River and Watts Bar Reservoir. The intent of the meeting is for all agencies and groups involved in the watersheds to discuss their activities in a poster session-like setting. The meeting will be held in September with a date and site to be determined.

Public Comment

None.

Presentation

Mr. Cooke's presentation was the status of property and infrastructure transfer at ETTP. The main points of his presentation are in Attachment 1. He began by saying the vision for ETTP incorporates more than just industrial development. Conservation and historic preservation are part of the vision for the site. DOE has set aside about 3,000 acres to the north of ETTP as part of the Black Oak Ridge Conservation Easement. Mr. Cooke said there are other areas around ETTP that could be set aside later for conservation. The area around the footprint of the former K-25 Building and a portion of the fire station will be used for historic preservation purposes. Some small areas of ETTP will be retained by DOE, such as the K-1070 Burial Grounds.

The map on page 4 of Attachment 1 shows the current status of ETTP. The blue areas have been transferred from DOE to the Community Reuse Organization of East Tennessee (CROET). Some of those areas have, in turn, been sold by CROET for private industrial development. The green areas are leased to CROET and in some cases have been subleased to private industry. Areas in gray are undergoing review and documentation for transfer.

Mr. Cooke said about 1.3 miles of roads at ETTP have been transferred to the City of Oak Ridge (Attachment 1, page 5). He said sewer lines have been transferred to the city and the process is underway to complete transfer of the water distribution system to the city later this year. The power distribution system is also in the process of transfer.

The blue and green highlighted areas on page 6 of Attachment 1 show the most recent transfers of about 28 acres (Parcels ED-11 and ED-12) to CROET in May. Page 7 is an overhead view of the area, which is mostly clear and flat and ready for development.

Page 8 of Attachment 1 shows an area in yellow, about 171 acres, that has been proposed by the Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority for transfer for use as an airport. Mr. Cooke said work is underway to determine environmental impacts. The proposed area includes parcels that have already been transferred. The airport would be used for mid-size aircraft to relieve some traffic from McGhee-Tyson airport, which would be used primarily for larger aircraft. The airport authority did two studies that evaluated several sites on the Oak Ridge Reservation and the preferred location is at ETTP. A request for transfer was submitted in June 2013 and the notional schedule is to begin construction in 2017 and be operational by the end of 2021.

The chart on page 10 of Attachment 1 depicts the transfer process. Mr. Cooke said it's a lengthy process that takes a lot of documentation and regulator and Congressional review. Mr. Cooke said DOE has been looking for ways to do the process that is more responsive to the needs of the community. He said DOE works ahead in the analysis phase and regulator review phase in anticipation of receiving proposals for transfer.

Mr. Cooke showed a photograph of the site where the K-33 Building once stood (Attachment 1, page 11) and a photograph (page 12) of what the site looks like today. Mr. Cooke said his office is preparing the documentation and preparing for the environmental review process in anticipation of receiving a transfer request.

He showed a photograph from 1945 of the powerhouse area (Attachment 1, page 13). The photograph on page 14 shows what the site looks like today. Most of the area is leased and a portion is subleased to Oak Ridge Forest Products for a wood chipping operation. He said work is being done on the regulator review process to transfer the site. He said by doing the work ahead of time his office is able to work more proactively and efficiently ahead of transfer proposals.

Page 16 of Attachment 1 is a summary of what has been done at the ETP. Mr. Cooke said in order to facilitate reindustrialization, areas of ETP accessible to the public have been expanded and the secure areas of the site have been reduced.

After Mr. Cooke's presentation there were a number of questions. Following are abridged questions and answers.

Mr. Bell – When CROET sells property, where does the money go? Mr. Cooke – As a not-for-profit organization they are committed to reinvesting the money to the redevelopment of the site. A lot of improvements have been made in terms of landscaping, signage, renovation of buildings, things like that.

Mr. Bell – You mentioned that CROET sub-leased some property for a wood-chipping operation. I didn't know they leased property. Mr. Cooke – We lease that property to CROET and they in turn lease it to Oak Ridge Forest Products. Ms. Cange – When the reindustrialization program was established in 1996, it was predominately a leasing program. In about 2003 the program transitioned from a leasing program to a title transfer program. But there continues to be property that is leased and then sub-leased, sometimes before they are transferred or sometimes because there is no desire to take over ownership of the property. Both mechanisms are in use today. Mr. Bell – Does anyone pay taxes on the properties? Mr. Cooke – It is my understanding that Anderson County and Roane County collect taxes on the properties.

Mr. Hatcher – Could you give us more information about the airport? Is it for private aircraft or commercial? Mr. Adler – It's being referred to as a general services airport. It would have a 5,000-6,000 foot runway. It would not be for large commercial aircraft. It would be suitable for small jets. It could be used by private pilots, but primarily to augment the services of the industrial park. If large companies have facilities at the park and they need to get people or material to the facility quickly they are interested in having an airstrip nearby.

Committee Reports

Budget & Process – Mr. Hemelright reported that DOE Headquarters has developed a template for bylaws for all the EM SSABs to follow. He said the committee will review the template and make comments and then provide it to board members for review and comments. He noted that one of the provisions is to make passage of recommendations a simple majority of board members rather than a quorum of a certain number of members. He said a simple majority to pass recommendations will make the process of approving recommendations easier.

The committee recommended that ORSSAB's annual meeting be held on Saturday, August 16, beginning at 8 a.m. at the DOE Information Center. The meeting generally will follow last year's agenda.

EM & Stewardship – Ms. Staley reported that the committee heard presentations on the DOE geographical information system, an update on the Land Use Manager system for tracking stewardship requirements, and the status of the Oak Ridge Reservation groundwater strategy document. Part of the geographical information system includes links to parcels that have been remediated. Committee member Ellen Smith is drafting a recommendation that the fact sheets include information about any actions that are planned for future use of remediated parcels. The committee will consider the draft recommendation at the June 18 meeting.

Public Outreach – Mr. McKinney reported that work continues to update the ORSSAB exhibit at the American Museum of Science and Energy. The primary focus is on updating a poster for the exhibit on ETP.

Mr. McKinney said ORSSAB had an exhibit at the Earth Day celebration in April. He thanked board members who staffed the exhibit. Regarding the Secret City Festival, Mr. McKinney said because it is a two-day event and exhibits must be staffed continuously, there have not been enough board members volunteer to staff the booth. ORSSAB has not participated in the festival the last few years.

Mr. McKinney noted the board's *Advocate* newsletter is in production and due to be published July 1.

Mr. McKinney said public outreach was a topic at the EM SSAB Chairs' meeting and several boards do different things. He said the committee will review some of those activities and determine if they can be implemented by ORSSAB.

Executive – Mr. Hemelright said the committee met on May 28 and reviewed the agenda for this meeting. He noted that he has been serving on DOE's K-25 historic preservation committee. A firm has been contracted to develop museum exhibits for K-25 historic interpretation.

He reminded the board that the Secret City Festival is being held June 13 and 14. He reiterated Mr. McKinney's statement that staffing a booth requires several people. However, he invited board members to attend the festival.

The Executive Committee will not meet in June. The next scheduled meeting is July 23.

Mr. Berry asked if it were possible to have contractors staff exhibits at the Secret City Festival and Earth Day. Mr. Osborne noted that historically DOE prefers not to have non-board members staffing these types of exhibits or making presentations. Mr. Adler agreed, but said it might be possible to allow non-board members to provide materials, but not talk about any positions the board may have on topics. He said that could be discussed at the Executive Committee meeting.

Ms. Price said it would be helpful for board members to have talking points available that could be used in speaking with the public about the board and what it does.

Announcements and Other Board Business

ORSSAB will not meet in July. The next meeting will be the board's annual planning meeting on Saturday, August 16 at the DOEIC.

The minutes of the May 14, 2014, meeting were approved.

Mr. McKinney was recognized for his service on the board since July 2011. Mr. McKinney will be resigning from the board in July.

The EM SSAB Recommendation EM SSAB Chairs' Recommendation on Publicizing EM Successes was approved (Attachment 2).

The EM SSAB Recommendation on EM SSAB Chairs' Recommendation on Funding was approved (Attachment 3).

Mr. Berry and Ms. Price were elected to the Nominating Committee for ORSSAB officers for FY 2015.

Federal Coordinator Report

Ms. Noe said headquarters has not yet confirmed the appointments of two new members. She said the appointment process is currently in the fifth and longest stage of the process, but once that is completed all that remains is a signature from Mark Whitney in Washington.

Additions to the Agenda

None.

Motions**6/11/14.1**

Mr. Hicks moved to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2014, meeting. Mr. Berry seconded and the motion passed **unanimously**.

6/11/14.2

Ms. Price moved to approve the EM SSAB Chairs' Recommendation on Publicizing EM. Mr. Hatcher seconded and the motion passed **unanimously**.

6/11/14.3

Mr. Hatcher moved to approve the EM SSAB Chairs' Recommendation on Funding. Mr. McKinney seconded and the motion passed **unanimously**.

6/11/14.4

Mr. McKinney moved to nominate Mr. Berry and Ms. Price as members of the Nominating Committee for officers for FY 2015. Ms. Staley seconded and the motion passed **unanimously**. Staff will notify all members by email asking for additional volunteers for the Nominating Committee.

The motions to consider two consecutive absences for Ms. Price and Ms. Smith were removed from the agenda. Ms. Price was present and Ms. Smith notified staff that she had been ill.

The meeting adjourned at 7 p.m.

Action items

1. Staff will email all members requesting additional volunteers to serve on the Nominating Committee.
2. The idea of non-board members staffing exhibits will be discussed at an Executive Committee meeting.

Attachments (3) to these minutes are available on request from the ORSSAB support office.

I certify that these minutes are an accurate account of the June 11, 2014, meeting of the Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board.

Dave Hemelright

Dave Hemelright, Chair
Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board
DH/rsg

September 11, 2014