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**Fort Bliss Restoration Advisory Board
Tentative Agenda* for Public Meeting**

Location: El Paso Community College, Transmountain Campus, Administration Building, Room 1005 (off US 54)

RECEIVED

Date/Time: Tuesday, January 11, 2000 at 7:00 p.m.

Introduction of Board members and meeting participants

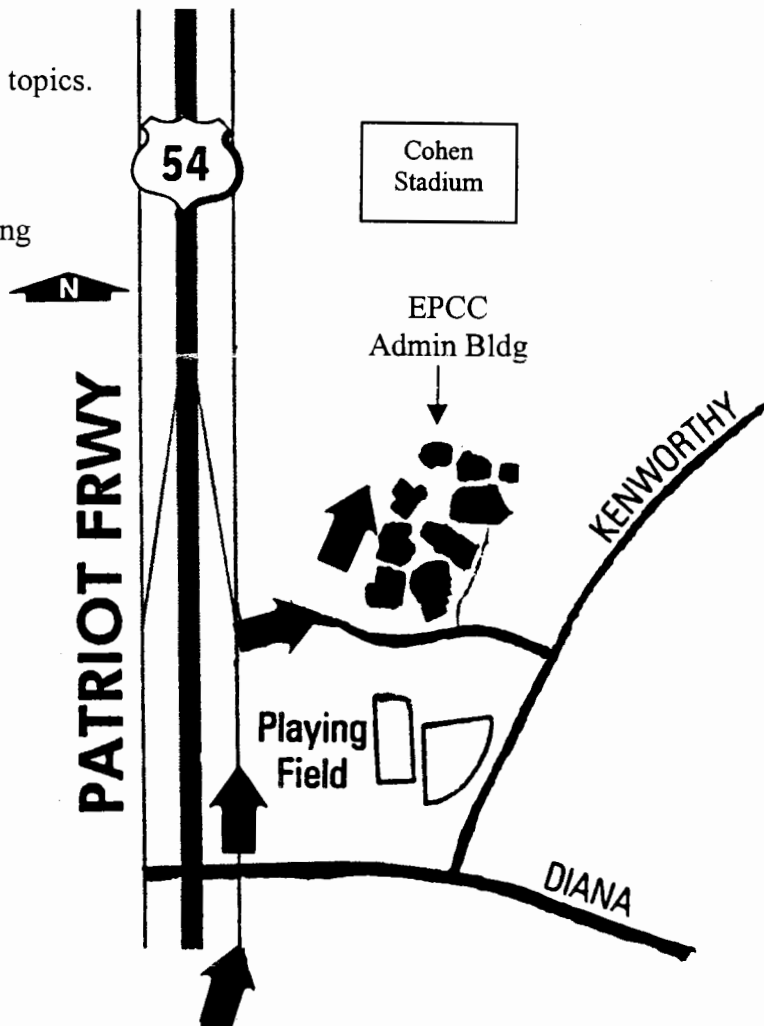
Old Business

Discussion and motion for adoption of minutes from the August 10, 1999 RAB meeting.

New Business

1. Recent Army awards received by the RAB and Directorate of Environment.
2. Updates on current topics on Castner Range including new fencing on the north and west sides, new signage, status of the "boulder" project, and other interests to our community.
3. Open discussion and questions and answers.
4. Selection of next meeting date, location, and topics.
5. Adjournment

*Finalized Agenda will be provided at the meeting



FORT BLISS RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD
Minutes from Meeting on August 10, 1999
Otero County Courthouse, Alamogordo

RAB Members Present

David Dodge
Marianne Thaeler
Robert Lenhart
Russell Smith
Charles Galt
V. W. Howard, Jr.
Dorline Wonciar

RAB Not Present

Col. Ben Hobson
Michael Nivison
Jim Bates

Others Present

Elza Cushing
Maj. Jim McConnon
Rick Smith
Timothy White
Greg Braddy
S. Alder-Schaller
John Knopp
Keith Landreth
John Spraul
Bobbi Sorrell
L. Whatmough

No. of Attendees: 18 (all registered)

A. Call To Order & Old Business

- Meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m. Introductions were made.
- Minutes for the May 18, 1999 meeting at the El Paso Community College-Transmountain Campus were approved with a change on page 4 from DOI to DOT (Department of Transportation).
- Mr. Dodge moved that RAB members could send a substitute who could read from prepared statements but not be able to vote. Motion carried.
- Ms. Thaeler moved that RAB members set up a committee for bylaws. Motion carried. Committee members are M Thaeler, C Galt, R Smith.

B. New Business

1. D Dodge questioned his ability to remain Board member due to accepting a new position as Manager of Ft. Bliss DERA program, replacing Kelly Blough. R Smith asked for time to consider. A decision will be made at a future Board meeting.
2. **Presentation by Sarah E. Alder-Schaller, P.E. – Malcolm Pirnie, Inc.,** "Results of Investigations and Screenings at New Mexico Oxidation Lagoons on Fort Bliss" McGregor, Orogrande, Dona Ana, & Meyer Ranges. Many photos in slides. All slides are included in archives.
 - Ponds are now considered RCRA solid waste management units (SWMUs).
 - All 4 located in sparsely-populated training ranges in New Mexico. All receive sanitary sewage from very few permanent residents or workers and from many soldiers on maneuver vehicle maintenance.
 - Photos showed vegetation & wildlife, but much disrepair of discharge lines, & also of McGregor Range Imhoff tanks & sludge drying beds.
 - Liners are generally torn or disintegrated.
 - Drinking water on two of the ranges is not pumped from brackish water aquifers found on ranges, but pumped from elsewhere. Dona Ana has its own well.

- '96-'97 RCRA Facility Investigation (RFI) focused on assessing the possibility of past activities which may have introduced hazardous constituents. Soil borings were performed and monitor wells installed. Pond & ground water & surface & subsurface soil samples were obtained & analyzed.
- RFI Conclusions:
 - Constituents not found in groundwater
 - Constituents not found above EPA MCLs in surface water
 - VOCs, semivolatiles, pesticides, PCBs, & metals found in sediments and surface soils at levels below the EPA Region III Risk-Based Criteria
 - Ponds serving as wildlife habitats, but not for endangered species
- Additional 1998 Malcolm Pirnie Subsurface Investigations performed at McGregor, Dona Ana, & Orogrande to determine potential for dissolved constituents to migrate to regional aquifer
 - Monitor well installations down to regional aquifer
 - Chemical & Geotechnical analyses & Geophysical logging
 - Analytical modeling of vadose zone
 - Concluded that "the potential for infiltration from the oxidation lagoons to have any impact on the regional aquifer is insignificant"
- 1999 Ecological Risk screening in progress
 - Ducks & other bottom-feeding waterfowl were selected for risk estimates because they have potential exposure risk
 - Hazard quotient for organic constituents in sediments < 1
 - Hazard quotient for inorganic constituents could not be calculated with RFI data
- Next Steps
 1. Additional Sampling to supplement Eco-Risk Data
 2. Complete Ecological Risk Screenings and/or Assessments as appropriate
 3. If appropriate, submit No Further Action recommendations
 4. Remove SWMUs from Part X Permit

3. Questions and Comments on Other Topics

- R Smith will investigate scope of Board to suggest sewage lagoon alternatives on ranges (CHPPM Study of Alternatives in Progress).
- M Thaeler stated the need for stronger warning signs at Castner Range. (Mountain bike club has regular trips at Castner. Public is unaware of dangers & non-trespassing area.)
- M Thaeler moved that due to the monsoon rains which cause erosion and uncovers UXOs, the Board should recommend that the CG inform the public of dangers through press conference or press release. Motion passed.

4. **Next Meeting:** Tuesday, January 11, 2000, at 7:00 p.m.
 EPCC Transmountain Campus, Admin. Bldg., Room 1005
 Tentative Topic: Followup on Castner Range.

C. Meeting adjourned – 8:30 p.m.