

Restoration Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Ramsey County Public Works Complex
Monday, 6 April 2009 – 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Tom Barounis, Paul Bloom, Mike Fix, Keith Maile, Karie Mars, Dagmar Romano, Lyle Salmela, and Kay Welsch

Members Absent: Jan Heaberlin, Robert Ramgren, and Lois Rem

Visitors Present: See attached sign-in sheet.

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Lyle Salmela at 7:02 p.m.

Review

- Agenda
No changes to the agenda.

- Minutes of the Last RAB Meeting
Minutes were approved.

Aquatic Sites Feasibility Study

Paul Bloom stated that he and Lyle Salmela reviewed the draft Feasibility Study, dated January 2009. As part of the review, the RAB held a working session on February 23rd, which Kay Welsch participated in along with Paul and Lyle. Paul submitted comments to the Army on March 27th. Lyle also had comments, which will be forwarded to the Army. The Army also received comments from the MPCA, USEPA, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS).

Lyle indicated that his primary concern is with on-going and future runoff into Round Lake, and making sure the Army (and taxpayers) don't get stuck having to clean up contamination from other sources. There are plans for re-construction of the Highway 10-Highway 96 interchange in the next 2 years and Lyle wonders what the impact will be to Round Lake and will the Army be accused of being the source. Lyle has the same question for the re-development on TCAAP when that happens, since some of the runoff goes to Round Lake. Lyle believes there should be additional testing done in Round Lake to establish the current conditions as a baseline to protect the Army, since the most recent data available is from circa 1992.

Paul stated that based upon his review, Marsden Lake has not been strongly impacted, but it is a valuable resource that should be protected. He added that Sunfish Lake appears to have a concern only if there is future development and recreational use of the lake. Pond G is just a tiny water hole. Paul indicated that he had seen the comments submitted by the USFWS and was surprised at how strong the comments were. For Round Lake, Paul said the available data is relatively old and incomplete compared to current sampling practices; thus, it is hard to make a judgment on impacts. Paul and Lyle feel that digging up the lake sounds drastic. Paul speculated that natural recovery could take a long time. Paul noted that the USFWS desire to actively manage the lake through drawdowns is a significant issue that the Feasibility Study attempts to address. Paul said that a reasonable effort had been done on the literature review researching the effects of a drawdown, but unfortunately, not all of the papers are directly applicable to the conditions at Round Lake so it is difficult to know for sure.

Lyle asked the MPCA and USEPA how they view the levels of contamination in Round Lake versus acceptable standards. There was discussion of the fact that there are no promulgated standards for contaminant concentrations in sediment. There are some guidance values being used. It was noted that the Tier II Ecological Risk Assessment discussed the probabilities for risk in a qualitative sense, not a true quantitative sense. A decision has not been made as to the magnitude of the risk or whether it is acceptable. This risk issue is at the core for many of the comments on the draft Feasibility Study and will be the key to resolution of comments.

There was discussion of the process going forward. The Army received significant comments both in terms of number and level of concern. The Army is preparing responses to comments, and hopes to distribute these to the stakeholders by May 8th. After at least 2 weeks for review, there will be a comment resolution meeting for the stakeholders (including the RAB). Once the Feasibility Study is approved, then a document called a Proposed Plan would be prepared and made available for public comment. After comment, the selection of the remedial action will be documented in a Record of Decision.

535 Primer/Tracer Area Soil Removal

The public comment period for the Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis ended on March 6th with no comments received. The Army signed the decision document, called an Action Memorandum, on March 20th. The Action Memorandum selected excavation, stabilization (if necessary), and disposal at a permitted off-site landfill as the removal action for contaminated soil at the 535 Primer/Tracer Area. The Army submitted a Work Plan in February to the MPCA, USEPA, and RAB. Comments were received from the MPCA and USEPA last Friday, April 3rd. The Army will prepare responses to comments and redlined revisions, and the goal is to have an approved Work Plan by early to mid-May. Assuming the Work Plan and contracting fall into place, the goal is to complete the field work in June.

Site K Soil Removal

The Army signed the Action Memorandum on March 20th, selecting excavation and disposal at a permitted off-site landfill as the removal action for contaminated soil at Site K. Alliant Techsystems (ATK) submitted a Work Plan to the MPCA, USEPA, and RAB in January. The Work Plan has gone through two rounds of comments and revisions. The MPCA and USEPA said they would send the consistency approval letter this week. ATK said the goal is to complete the field work in late-May or June.

OU2 Land Use Control Remedial Design

The Army is preparing the document and plans to submit it to the MPCA, USEPA, and RAB in early May for review.

Site C Closeout Report

The Army received comments from the MPCA and USEPA in February. The Army prepared responses to comments and redlined revisions that were distributed on March 24th, and are under review until April 24th.

Five-Year Review

The Army is preparing a draft report that should be sent to the MPCA, USEPA, and RAB on April 21st. A site inspection has been scheduled for May 19th and RAB members are invited. Lyle Salmela, Paul Bloom, and Keith Maile expressed interest in attending. A notice will be

emailed confirming the date, time, and meeting place. In January, a notice was published in local newspapers announcing the start of the five-year review process. Another notice will be published around April 21st announcing the availability of the draft report for public comment.

TCAAPRAB.ORG

The Army continues to update the webpage with dates of RAB meetings and meeting minutes, as well as any newsletters published. No other changes.

Committee Reports

- Technical Committee
 - Nothing to report beyond the Aquatic Sites Feasibility Study already discussed.

- Communications and Membership Committee
 - Nothing new to report.

Election of Community Co-Chair

Paul Bloom nominated Lyle Salmela. Keith Maile seconded the motion. Upon unanimous vote, Lyle Salmela was re-elected as the RAB Community Co-Chair.

Date and Agenda for the Next Meeting

Similar to the discussion at the October 2008 RAB meeting, it was agreed that the primary role remaining for the RAB is to provide input to the remedial action decision for the aquatic sites. It was agreed that the RAB will hold an internal working session after receiving the Army responses to comments, and before the comments resolution meeting. The working session is intended to help the RAB prepare for the comments resolution meeting. The working session will tentatively be in late-May or June. It was agreed not to schedule any regular RAB meetings at this time; meetings can be scheduled in the future as needed.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Lyle Salmela adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.