NAS JRB WILLOW GROVE
RAB MEETING No. 34 MINUTES

Meeting Date: October 17, 2007
Meeting Time: 6:00 p.m.
Meeting Place: Horsham Township Public Library Meeting Room

	Name	Organization
Attendance:	Mary (Liz) Gemmill (R)	Community Co Chair
	Jim Vetrini (R)	RAB Member
	Eric Lindhult (R)	RAB Member
	Rick Myers (R)	RAB Member
	CDR. Eric Humphries (R)	NAS JRB Willow Grove Executive Officer
	Bob Lewandowski (R)	Navy, BRAC PMO
	Curt Frye (R)	Navy, BRAC PMO
	Gloria Abarca (R)	Navy, Willow Grove
	Hal Dusen (R)	Navy, Willow Grove
	Bruce Beach (R)	US EPA
	Russ Turner (R)	Tetra Tech NUS, Inc
	Rich Frattarelli	PAANG
	Joe Carlucci	State Representative Rick Taylor
	Don Carmeans	Joint Interagency Installation, Willow Grove
	Robert Kowalczyk	L. Robert Kimball and Associates, Inc.
	(R) Designates RAB Member	

Bob Lewandowski welcomed everyone to the 34th Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting and introduced some new Navy RAB members, replacing personnel who have rotated to new assignments or left the Navy. Commander Eric Humphreys replaces Commander Brown as the Base Executive Officer (XO) and he will be our new military co-chair for the RAB. Hal Dusen, a familiar face to this group, will be replacing Marge Johnston as the environmental supervisor for the Naval Air Station. Gloria Abarca will be the new point of contact (POC) from the Base, replacing Jim Edmond in that capacity. Mr. Lewandowski mentioned that Bill Downs, who works for headquarters, Air Force Reserve, could not be at this meeting, but supplied a fact sheet (attached) of the Air Reserve Station (ARS) status. The fact sheet includes a contact phone number to call for anything to do with the ARS side.

The next item on the agenda is something the team is proud of. Mr. Lewandowski informed the meeting that the fiscal year 2007, which ended on September 30, 2007, goal of signing the Record of Decision (ROD) for Site 5 soil was achieved. After the public meeting in July to present the Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP) the Navy and EPA prepared and finalized the ROD for Site 5 soil. The Navy signed the final ROD on September 13, 2007 and EPA signed it September 21, 2007. Public notice of availability of the Site 5 soil ROD was scheduled to be published in the Intelligencer newspaper on Friday, October 19, 2007. Copies of the ROD were available at the RAB meeting for distribution to any interested person, and a copy was placed in the Horsham Township Public Library NAS JRB Willow Grove information repository.

Mr. Lewendowski introduced Curt Frye to discuss Site 3 Landfill delineation status. Mr. Frye indicated that the Navy provided an update on investigations at the Site 3 landfill at the last RAB meeting, but there were several people present tonight that were not at the previous RAB meeting. After a brief description of the site setting and history, Mr. Frye mentioned that eight test pits had been planned, but after finding buried landfill wastes, the number of test pits was increased to 12, and then to 14 test pits. Soil (sometimes mixed with waste) samples were analyzed for a full scan of metals and organics. A series of photos were projected to demonstrate the test pit installation process, as well as photos showing the clean soil and waste fill encountered in the excavations. In the area of the MWR ball field, the test pits were relatively clean. Only light debris (not landfill-type waste) and dirt fill was found. At test pit number five, in the wooded area, chunks of metal and mess hall type buried waste was encountered in the test pit

excavation. The range of debris excavated included metal scrap, maintenance shop waste like engine parts, and general refuse like bottles, cans, broken china plates, and eating utensils. This waste appeared charred, showing evidence of burning before burial; even some of the bottles were partially melted. Soil samples obtained from the test pits did not indicate a wide range of compounds of major significance. However, significant concentrations of lead, around 2,000 to 2,500 parts per million, were found that will have to be dealt with as we go forward. Future investigation being planned will include electromagnetic (EM) survey using a back pack GPS (geographical positioning system) and a hand-held detector to delineate the shape and depth of the known trenches and to scan in other areas not yet investigated recently, as well as more test pitting to confirm the results of the EM survey. The Navy plans to perform this field work this winter while the brush will be a bit more manageable. Then if we've been able to properly identify the boundaries of the landfill zones, we will be able to move ahead finishing the remedial investigation, followed by the rest of the CERCLA process, feasibility study, proposed plan and record of decision.

> Mr. Frye asked if there were any questions. Mr. Lewandowski mentioned that if there were no questions on the proposed investigation at Site 3, then Mr. Frye would talk about Sites 4, 6 and 7, that had been proposed for no further action (NFA) quite a while ago. One stumbling block we had been waiting for was a visit from the Biological Technical Assistance Group (BTAG) coordinated by EPA. BTAG made a visit in March of 2007 to provide that piece of the puzzle, but now we are looking a little more closely at all of these sites to make sure all issues have been considered.

Mr. Frye provided a brief summary of Site 4 – North End Landfill history, location and results of screening investigations performed to date. Nothing of significance was uncovered in the site screening process except for one nagging thing. The first study done at Site 4, back in the early 1980's, reported seeing some kind of black tarry waste on the ground surface. Not much information or a good description of the appearance and extent was provided. No photos were provided, only an indistinct figure of the location and a minimal mention in the text. We imagine it to be an approximately 50 square feet pool of solidified tar on the surface of the ground. Sampling performed indicated very high concentrations of total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH). Since this site was considered a low priority over the years, this issue has always been left aside. Now with Base Closure mandated, with the possibility of alternate use of land, we are ready to write agreement documents for no further action, but Bob Lewandowski and I want to perform additional investigations to pin this issue down. The scope of these investigations is still being formulated but could include soil borings, test pits and possibly groundwater monitoring.

Mr. Frye explained that Site 7 is a former rifle range near the North West end of the runway. This is another site where there was tentative agreement for NFA based on initial sampling. We still believe that to be the case, but when we looked at the documentation for NFA, the Navy decided to perform human health risk screening to current standards because human health risk assessment guidance and standards have changed over the years. We expect that the status of this site to remain NFA as it has been all along.

Mr. Frye mentioned that the last site of this group is Site 6, another former rifle range. This is the site of the current Marine Corps Reserve Center, which was built in the mid 1990's. This site is in the process of documenting agreement of NFA. We have a letter from PADEP for NFA. All that is needed now is to obtain formal sign-off of the NFA documentation between EPA and the Navy.

> Mr. Frye asked if there were any questions Mr. Lewandowski added that when the BTAG visited, they said that from an ecological point of view that they didn't have any concerns and that they were satisfied that there are no ecological issues with any of these sites.
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> Mr. Myers asked if there are any more sites like these that may be looked at? Mr. Frye replied that those are all of the sites we are currently aware of. That's not to say that any day a new site could not be identified. Mr. Myers asked if the first one you talked about (Site 3 – Ninth Street Landfill), by the MWR ball field, is the trash there going to be cleaned up too if there is no

ecological concern? It's not going to be just left there as it is, is it? Mr. Frye replied that we don't want to presume what the remedy will be; we have the whole (CERCLA) process to go through to select a remedy. Mr. Lewandowski explained that remedial investigation will be followed by a feasibility study (FS) to go through what the options are. We will look at the hazards from the site and determine what needs to be done. The remedy could range from what we call land use controls, to adding additional soil cover to protect people from contacting materials beneath, or even the grandfather of all remedies, dig up the entire landfill for off-site disposal. We will be looking at potential land use for the site to see which alternatives are contenders. Mr. Frye added that based on what we know now, and we don't know everything we will need to decide, there is probably not sufficient environmental risk to justify digging it all up. Mr. Myers asked if the Navy foresees any surprises down the road like the other side of the Base (at Site 4) that may crop up that you would have to fix before you pass it (the property parcel) on to somebody else ? Mr. Lewandowski replied that we don't foresee anything, but like Curt says, if through our investigation or if someone comes forward with information we do not have right now, the Navy will definitely take a look at it. Any potential site would be dealt with through the prescribed screening process. So if there is any information out there we should know, please let us know so that we can get to work on it.

Mr. Lindhult asked if it was only Sites 4, 6 and 7 that BTAG looked at, not Site 3? Mr. Frye replied that that is correct, and the reason was that as we looked at the chain of historical documents and e-mail correspondence as project managers were changed over the years, there was this one issue of an EPA recommendation for a BTAG visit that was unresolved. That was how this process got started with our request to have BTAG visit the sites.

Mr. Lewandowski announced the end to the technical presentations part of this meeting. At the last RAB meeting the Navy asked if there were suggestions to improve the process of our RAB. One of the suggestions was to provide individual name tags or name plates to help associate a name with a face. It was felt that this would help RAB members and the Stenographer identify those speaking. These name tags were implemented tonight with what seems like good results. Mr. Lewandowski suggested that the Navy will continue to supply a stack of cards and markers that can be used to make name tags that can be folded and placed on the table with the RAB member name. The Navy will collect them after the meeting and bring them to the next meeting for reuse. You won't have to prepare a new name card every time and we will save some trees.

Another topic discussed, but tabled at the last meeting pending a better turn out of community RAB members, was the meeting time. Someone suggested that 6:00 p.m. may be too early for some people. Mr. Lewandowski asked the community RAB members if they felt there was sufficient representation this evening.

Liz Gemmill and the said that they felt there was better community representation than was present at the last meeting. Mr. Lindhuldt suggested that, at least for the topic of meeting time, he could speak for Jack Dunleavy as well. Since their other meeting (Horsham Township sewer authority) starts at 6 o' clock he doesn't think the RAB meeting start time is an issue with Jack. Mr. Lindhuldt stated his preference would be to keep the time as it is. Liz Gemmill mentioned that the only RAB member that she knows of that has a preference for a later meeting time is Ted Roth. Based on consensus of RAB members it was agreed that the meeting start time would remain as it has been at 6 p.m. Mr. Lewandowski reiterated that this question is always open. If in the future there is ever a need to change the meeting time or location, bring it up and we will work on that.

Mr. Lewandowski mentioned that Marge Johnston was going to contact Captain Remington about the opportunity for RAB members to go out to see the sites, but that she is no longer a part of the RAB. Commander Humphreys replied that shouldn't be a problem as long as we can coordinate the time and have the names of everyone on the tour. As long as we have the names in advance, we'll plan the tour earlier when it is light out. The Navy can provide a couple of nice vans for the tour.

Mr. Lindhultd mentioned the topic of RAB meeting notification and meeting minute's distribution by e-mail to save postage and paper costs. Ms. Gemmill also mentioned that there may be people on the distribution list (currently about 45 names and addresses) who no longer want to attend RAB meetings, or may not be able to.

> Mr. Frye suggested that the Navy could send everyone on the RAB list a (return postage-included) postcard and ask them to sign and return the postcard if they still want to come to RAB meetings. If they don't return the postcard, we will take them off the list. Mr. Lindhultd suggested that we include a place for e-mail address on the post card. Ms. Gemmill and all RAB members generally agreed this is a good idea.

Mr. Lewandowski raised the issue of document review for discussion. We would like to get them out so we can get input from the RAB members. Possibly we could use the same post card to ask if you want to see copies of reports.

> Mr. Frye mentioned that he would like to see what the RAB interest is first. We can bring a few copies of each report to the RAB meeting, but we only have these meetings once a quarter. Mr. Lewandowski mentioned that some RAB members are not interested in receiving the extensive analytical data as part of the report. Mr. Lindhult clarified that tables, figures and text are all he needs to receive, and that drafts sent via e-mail in PDF files would be fine. Jim Vetrini suggested that he would need time to review the document before the scheduled RAB meeting, but if he receives it electronically, he would be able to makes copies of any part he wants to, and he would prefer that it all be in one document rather than two documents. Mr. Frye added that there may be a way to place the document on the Horsham Township Library's web site and then just e-mail notice to RAB members, letting them know a document is available. Russ Turner noted that the Library puts the documents on the Web very quickly when we send them final documents, but we do not send them draft documents. Mr. Turner said he would prefer to send draft documents by e-mail. Maybe we could make PDF files of documents in an efficient small size that can be sent in the e-mail. The figures would have less resolution for instance. Mr. Frye asked to whom will we e-mail these documents such as reports and work plans? Mr. Lindhult suggested a line and a place for a check mark on the same post card mentioned earlier "Do you want to receive e-mail versions of draft reports?" It will end up cutting down postage and hopefully make your staff's life easier. Mr. Lewandowski summarized, maybe we can put several blocks on the post card, "Do you want to see draft work plans?", "Do you want to see draft reports?", and asked if there were any other thoughts about RAB improvements.

Mr. Lewandowski asked anyone not singed in, to do so and opened the floor to any last questions before we agree on the next RAB meeting date. Mr. Vetrini mentioned that Jim Edmond always appreciated a call if a RAB member would not be able to attend a planned meeting. Is there a contact person now? Gloria Abarca is the point of contact. Ms. Abarca requested that contact be made through her e-mail account (Gloria.abarca@navy.mil). Don Carmeans introduced himself as the newly appointed state project manager to transition from the Air Station to Governor Rendell's vision of a homeland security base. A letter of introduction went out to the (Horsham) township manager today. We don't have any oversight in this, but we want to be involved with current tenants and the community to make sure we are aware of everything as we move forward. I'd like to get on the RAB mailing list and attend meetings. Mr. Lewandowski said you are certainly welcome.

Of the two proposed dates for the next RAB meeting, both of which are Wednesday's when Horsham Sewer Authority meetings are not planned, the group prefers January 30, 2008.

Mr. Lewandowski thanked everyone for being here; especially those attending since day one, confirming that the next RAB meeting will be at 6:00 PM on January 30, 2008 here in the Library community meeting room.

Mr. Lewandowski adjourned the 34th Restoration Advisory Board meeting.