

Meeting Minutes

**Naval Weapons Station (WPNSTA) Yorktown
Yorktown, Virginia and
Cheatham Annex (CAX), Williamsburg, Virginia
Environmental Restoration Program (ERP)
Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting
Yorktown Library
Thursday, June 9, 2016; 1300-1400**

Attendees:

Name	Organization/Role
Captain Paul Haebler	Commanding Officer (CO), WPNSTA Yorktown and CAX and RAB Navy Co-Chair
Steven Oyer	Citizen and RAB Community Co-Chair
Bryan Peed	Navy Remedial Project Manager (RPM) for WPNSTA Yorktown
Angela Jones	Navy RPM for CAX
Tom Kowalski	NAVFAC MIDLANT
Michael Voss	Public Affairs Officer (PAO), WPNSTA Yorktown and CAX
Jennifer Podbesek	Navy Environmental Director for WPNSTA Yorktown and CAX
Wade Smith	Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ) RPM for WPNSTA Yorktown and CAX
Rashmi Mathur	Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) RPM for WPNSTA Yorktown
Marlene Ivester	CH2M HILL Program Manager for CAX
Stephanie Sawyer	CH2M HILL Deputy Program Manager for CAX
William Friedmann	CH2M HILL Program Manager for WPNSTA Yorktown
Brian Wachter	CH2M HILL Field Team Leader for WPNSTA Yorktown
Mark Pisarcik	Tetra Tech; Navy Remedial Action Contractor
Tom Olexa	NAVFAC Yorktown
Drew Robins	NAVFAC Yorktown
Ray Brake	NAVFAC CAX
David Wilburn	NAVFAC Yorktown
Rhonda Mickelborough	NAVFAC Yorktown
William Stubbs	Community Member
Nancy Rouse	The Management Edge; WPNSTA Yorktown Partnering Team Facilitator

[Note: Attachment 1 is the Public Notice for the RAB Meeting. Attachment 2 is the RAB Meeting Sign-in Sheet.]

Mr. Peed started the meeting with introductions and welcoming everyone to the meeting. Mr. Peed then gave the floor to Captain Haebler for opening remarks. Captain Haebler thanked everyone working on the Environmental Restoration Program (ERP) and said he appreciated everyone taking the time to come to the RAB meeting, because protecting the environment is an important topic. Mr. Oyer echoed Captain Haebler's remarks.

PRESENTATIONS – CAX

CAX Program Overview

Ms. Jones provided an update on the CAX ERP since the November 2015 RAB meeting. She mentioned there will be two documents available for public review in the near future – the Draft Final Site 7 Proposed Plan and the Draft Final AOC 1 North Engineering Estimate/Cost Analysis (EE/CA).

Ms. Jones informed the RAB that recently some employee interviews were conducted and the location of CAX Site 9 was revised. Based on the information provided during the interviews, it was determined that the area between CAD Buildings 6 and 16 was used for the crushing of transformers; therefore, preliminary sampling indicates the presence of elevated polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) concentrations in the soil. Ms. Jones said that the Navy was using this new information to develop a sampling plan and that she hoped to be able to provide the RAB with more information during the next RAB meeting. Mr. Oyer asks if this site was visited during the field trip conducted in November 2015 Ms. Jones said, yes.

Area of Concern (AOC) 2 Removal Action

Mr. Pisarcik informed the RAB of the recently completed removal action at AOC 2. Unused, surplus respirator cartridge canisters and rusted, empty drums were removed. Mr. Pisarcik noted asbestos was part of the respirator cartridge media; however, it was contained within the canisters and not an immediate health risk. Mr. Oyer asked about what time in the cleanup process was it discovered the respirators had asbestos. Mr. Pisarcik said it was discovered during the waste characterization phase, before mobilizing for the removal activities. Mr. Pisarcik said they took preliminary samples before mobilizing; samples were taken from four different characterization areas and sent for testing. In addition, prior to sample collection, research on historic respirator cartridges revealed there was a potential for these cartridges to contain asbestos. With the completion of the removal action, the site was restored and is now considered closed. Captain Haebler asked about the status of the dextrose bottles and uniform clothing that remain onsite. Ms. Podbesek replied they are below ground and not a safety hazard, as such, there is no need or plan to remove them.

AOC 1 North EE/CA

Ms. Sawyer presented the alternatives considered for the AOC 1 North EE/CA. The recommended alternative is Alternative 2, which is the removal and offsite disposal of debris and contaminated soil. Alternative 2 would result in “unrestricted use/unrestricted exposure,” which means since all contamination would be removed, there would be no restriction on future use of the site.

Following resolution of regulatory comments on the draft document, the draft final document will be made available for 30-day public review and comment, which is anticipated to start in June. There will be a Public Notice in the local newspapers and a copy of the document will be placed in the library. After the public comment period, the EE/CA will be final and will be an attachment to the AOC 1 North Action Memorandum, which Captain Haebler will review and sign to authorize the removal action. The removal action will occur sometime in fiscal year 2017 (October 2016 to September 2017).

Captain Haebler asked what debris is onsite. Ms. Sawyer replied, “concrete, railroad ties, and metal debris.” She noted the concrete is not a CAX ERP concern and would not be removed.

PRESENTATIONS – WPNSTA Yorktown

Yorktown Program Update

Mr. Peed led the discussion and reviewed the status of each site at Yorktown. Mr. Peed focused on Site 8, where demo recently started on Building 456; previously, there was investigation work within the wetland, and once the building comes down additional investigation work will occur within the site boundary. Mr. Peed said after the digital geophysical mapping (DGM) survey at site UXO-2¹, an Explosive Safety Submission will need to be approved by the Naval Ordnance Safety and Security Activity (NOSSA) before doing intrusive work. Mr. Peed mentioned that buildings were evacuated at Site 31 due to vapor intrusion, and research is on-going to support developing Navy policy. Mr. Peed said a good path forward for Site 3, which is another landfill, has been developed. Mr. Peed said Site 33 has results for chlorinated compounds in groundwater, so it will require more work. Mr. Peed reviewed the sites that have land use controls; any time there is waste or contamination left in place, then there are land use controls. The land use control prevents residential use in certain areas, and there are requirements for annual inspections. For landfills, the controls are mainly related to maintaining the soil cover (to contain the waste) and making sure future use does not disturb the cover.

Yorktown Site 24 Removal Action

Mr. Pisarcik led the discussion. Mr. Pisarcik reviewed the location and a description of Site 24, its current use as a training area, and the site history. Captain Haebler asked how something gets into the Installation Restoration Program versus the Munitions Response Program. Mr.

¹ UXO = unexploded ordnance

Pisarcik said it is based on the initial investigations. Captain Haebler asks what happens when an item is found later, such as the ordinance found at the site today. Mr. Peed replied when an item is found, the site designation is reevaluated. Mr. Friedmann added Site 24 can still be addressed under without having to go into the MRP; however, an ESS will have to be generated and approved by NOSSA. In addition, a UXO technician will be required to be onsite during any investigation activities. Ms. Sawyer mentioned that no munitions were found during the test pits done previously. Mr. Pisarcik said that the test pits are point locations, but the excavations are deeper and a much wider area, so it is not out of the ordinary to observe something not seen in the test pits. Mr. Pisarcik reviewed the elements of a removal action. The vegetation clearance has been completed. In the last week, excavations have begun. The excavations are directly loaded into dump trucks. Captain Haebler asked how long it takes to go through the process. Mr. Pisarcik replied it generally takes 3-6 months for the ESS process. Mr. Peed added that he contacted Meg White with the Navy Safety Department, and she is trying to get the ESS through NOSSA. Captain Haebler said the Explosive Ordnance Detachment has cleared the area and there is no explosive safety risk. Ms. Podbesek asked if the excavation pits can now be backfilled. Mr. Pisarcik replied that two other excavations where removal has been completed may be backfilled since confirmation soil sample results have been received indicating that there is no contaminated soil remaining. Mr. Oyer asked how the funding works when something like asbestos or a munition is found. Mr. Pisarcik said it depends on the type of contract. For example, a fixed price contract would require a change order to add new scope, while a cost plus contract could potentially cover the added cost through savings in another area.

Yorktown UXO-3 Update

Mr. Friedmann led the discussion. Mr. Friedmann reviewed what has previously been done at the site, what was just accomplished over the last couple weeks, what was found, and the next steps. Mr. Friedmann said since this area, which encompasses former Pier R-1, was an explosives loading area, it is being addressed under the MRP. Mr. Friedmann discussed the history of the site and noted the investigation area was based on the size of ships that would have berthed at Pier R-1 to receive ordnance in order to cover the area where any munitions may have potentially fallen into the water. Mr. Friedmann added there is no documentation that any ordnance fell into the water during loading operations; however, the Navy is confirming to be most conservative. Mr. Friedmann said an ESS was generated, sent to NOSSA, and approved prior to mobilization. Three options were considered to investigate the presence of underwater UXO: remote operated vehicle, higher resolution sonar, or divers specializing in UXO identification. Mr. Friedmann said that divers were determined to be the best option. Previous work was done with a side scan sonar and digital geophysical mapping, then these areas were ranked and divers were sent to the areas considered to be the worst case scenarios. Divers were in the water May 20-25, 2016. Mr. Friedmann presented pictures from the diving activities and pointed out the poor water visibility, which is why divers were preferred over solely using a camera since they can provide a better perspective. There were

no munitions found at the site. Most of the items found were structural washers and seemed to be portions of the old pier. Following the construction of Pier R-3, Pier R-1 was deactivated and left in place. A fire at Pier R-1 burned a large portion of the structure and following further damage from Hurricane Isabell, the remaining vertical pilings were pulled from the river bottom and laid on the sediments. The next step for UXO-3 is to generate a report of all the work that has been done to date. The report will recommend no further action, which normally would allow unrestricted recreational use; however, the area is in a secured zone due to its proximity to the operational Yorktown pier. Captain Haebler noted, although no UXO was expected to be found, all of these precautions were necessary. For example, during vegetation clearance at UXO-2 several weeks ago, ordinance related items were found, which was unanticipated. Ms. Podbesek added vegetation clearance had previously been done at UXO-2 without incident, so finding the items was unexpected.

Final Comments Closing Remarks

Captain Haebler and Mr. Oyer thanked the RPMs for the presentations and appreciated everyone's efforts since the last RAB meeting (November 2015). He noted environmental restoration is a long-term process. Mr. Oyer requested the CAX and Yorktown public websites be kept up-to-date. For example, the website reflected May for the RAB meeting although it had been moved to June.

Action Items:

- None

Next RAB Meeting: November 10, 2016, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
(Will be advertised on the public websites and
in the *Daily Press* and *Virginia Gazette* newspapers)

Location: York County Public Library

Points of Contact for Questions, Comments, or to Request Additional Information:

Ms. Angela Jones, NAVFAC Mid-Atlantic Remedial Project Manager for CAX,
angela.jones1@navy.mil or (757) 341-0485

Mr. Bryan Peed, NAVFAC Mid-Atlantic Remedial Project Manager for WPNSTA Yorktown,
bryan.peed@navy.mil or (757) 341-0480

Public Websites:

CAX: <http://go.usa.gov/DynP>

WPNSTA Yorktown: <http://go.usa.gov/DynG>

ATTACHMENT 1

Public Notice



**Public Notice of
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB) MEETING
for Naval Weapons Station Yorktown & Cheatham Annex**

Thursday, June 9, 2016 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
York County Public Library - Yorktown
8500 George Washington Memorial Highway
Yorktown, Virginia

The Public is Invited to Attend

The Naval Weapons Station Yorktown & Cheatham Annex RAB meets to inform the local community about Environmental Restoration Program (ERP) site cleanup activities. This is your opportunity to participate in the process by providing direct input about site cleanup activities.

For additional information regarding the RAB Meeting or the ERP cleanup programs at Naval Weapons Station Yorktown or Cheatham Annex, please contact:

Public Affairs Officer
Naval Weapons Station Yorktown
160 Main Rd., Bldg. 1959
Yorktown, VA 23691
(757) 322-2853

Notice published in the *Virginia Gazette* and *Daily Press* on June 4 & 5, 2016, respectively. (In addition, post cards of the notice are mailed to the Community Co-Chair and community members on the mailing list.)

ATTACHMENT 2

Sign-in Sheet



Naval Weapons Station Yorktown, Yorktown, Virginia and Cheatham Annex, Williamsburg, Virginia



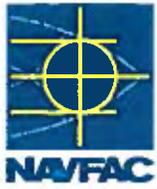
Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting

Thursday, June 9, 2016, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
York County Public Library - Yorktown (Meeting Room)

Attendance Sign-In

Name	Organization	Phone	Email
Angela Jones	NAVY	757.341.0485	angela.jones1@navy.mil
MARLENE IVESTER	CH2M HILL	(757) 671-6282	marlene.iverster@ch2m.com
S. Sawyer	CH2M HILL		
Wade M. Smith	DEQ	(804) 698-4125	wade.smith@deg.virginia.gov
TOM KOWALSKI	NAVY	757-341-0483	TOM.KOWALSKI@NAVY.MIL
CAPT P.C. Haebler	WPNSTA Yorktown	757-887-4961	paul.haebler@navy.mil
STEVE OYER	CITIZEN	757-888-0049	you know it
Rashmi Mathur	EPA	609-334-8411	mathur.rashmi@epa.gov
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MARK PISARCIK	TETRA TECH	757-544-2085	MARK.PISARCIK@TETRA TECH.COM
Bryan Peed	NAVY	757 341-0480	bryan.peed@navy.mil
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Bill Friedmann	CH2M HILL		
Tom Otera	NAVY-NR		thomas.oter@navy.mil

The ship in the background photo is The USS Simpson (FFG-56). It conducted the first frigate to frigate weapons transfer.



Naval Weapons Station Yorktown, Yorktown, Virginia and Cheatham Annex, Williamsburg, Virginia



Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting

Thursday, June 9, 2016, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
York County Public Library - Yorktown (Meeting Room)

Attendance Sign-In

Name	Organization	Phone	Email
Drew Robins	NAVFAC	757-687-4477	hrb@ndowis@navy.mil
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DAVID WILBURN	NAVFAC EV	887-4095	David.Wilburn@navy.mil
RHONDA MICKELBOROUGH	INSTALLATION ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM DIVISION EPD	887-4881	Rhonda, mickelborough@navy.mil
William Stubbs	Concern Citizen	757-887-2563	Teacherstubbs@gmail.com
Nancy Rouse	The Management Edge	760-470-0751	nvrouse@gmail.com

The ship in the background photo is The USS Simpson (FFG-56). It conducted the first frigate to frigate weapons transfer.