



Monday, January 25, 2022  
Savannah River Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB)  
Full Board Meeting Summary  
Hybrid Format  
Aiken Municipal Center, Aiken, SC, and Microsoft Teams

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## Attendance

### Board Members

Phyllis Britt	Kandace Cave	DeAndre Davis
Jim Guille	Charles Hilton	Gregg Murray

### SRS Personnel

Amy Boyette, CAB DDFO, DOE-SR	Avery Hammett, DOE-SR	Bert Crapse, DOE-SR
Bill Clark, DOE-SR	Dave Olson, SRMC	De'Lisa Carrico, CAB Federal Coordinator, DOE-SR
Edwin Deshong (DOE-SR), DOE-SR	Jim Folk, DOE-SR	Jimmy McMillian (online), DOE-SR
Larry Ling, SRMC	Jimmy McMillian (online), DOE-SR	Mark Schmitz, SRR
Michael Budney, Manager SR Operations Office, DOE-SR	Mike Pittman, Parsons	Thomas England (online), DOE-SR
Thomas Johnson, DOE-SR		

### SRS CAB Support Staff (S&K Logistics)

Anika Edwards, Graphic Designer	Heather McWilliams, Meeting Planner	James Tanner, CAB Administrator
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### Agency Liaisons & Public

Jon Richards, EPA	Rick McLeod, SRSCRO	Jim Marra, CNTA
Dara Glass, BWX Technologies	Colin Demarest, Aiken Standard	Wayne Barber (online), Weapons Complex Monitor
Susan Fulmer (online), SCDHEC	Grace Anne Martin (online), SCDHEC	Gene Rhodes, SREL
Sandra Snyder (online), SCDHEC	Larry Ling, SRMC	



**Meeting Summary**  
**SRS CAB – Full Board Meeting**  
**January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022**  
**[Meeting Recording](#)**

Meeting began at 1:00 PM Eastern Standard Time

**Meeting Rules & Agenda Review: James Tanner, CAB Facilitator**

Mr. Tanner welcomed everyone to the first Savannah River Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) meeting of 2022. The hybrid meeting format was planned to have the board in-person, Microsoft Teams for SRS personnel, and the SRS CAB YouTube channel for the public. However, the YouTube channel had some complications and therefore all online individuals would be joining via Teams. Mr. Tanner apologized for the change in format and appreciated all those in the room and online.

**Chair Update: Gregg Murray, CAB Chair**

Mr. Murray appreciated all six board members for being present for the first board meeting in 2022. Mr. Murray thanked the other five board members for participating in CAB activities in-person mainly virtually for the past several months. He stated he was looking forward to the February orientation and meeting the new members. Mr. Murray thanked all speakers and SRS personnel for putting together the meeting.

**Site Manager Update**

Mr. Budney started off by thanking the six members for being in Aiken for the Full Board. Mr. Budney discussed the impacts of COVID-19 at SRS. The site decided to delay the reentry plan for those teleworking to come back to the site. The plan has been delayed for at least another month if not two. Mr. Budney provided a rundown on current contracts at SRS. The preliminary design of the Advanced Manufacturing Collaborative was approved in November 2021 and the final design will be issued soon. Once the final design is approved a groundbreaking ceremony will be planned. Stakeholders like the CAB chairs will be invited to the ceremony. Mr. Budney discussed the budget updates for Environmental Management (EM) related missions at SRS.

**Site Manager Update Q&A**

Mr. Tanner said Gregg Murray had sent an email asking about the High-Level Waste (HLW) interpretation. Mr. Jim Folk, DOE-SR Assistant Manager of Waste Disposition, provided an answer. Mr. Folk said seven years ago DOE looked over the interpretation of waste. The department decided to reclassify HLW by its source. Two years ago, in summer of 2019 the changes were approved. The new administration reviewed the HLW interpretation changes and approved them as well. Mr. Folk said they are taking the next step and evaluating some contaminated equipment which can not be disposed on site but could be disposed potentially at commercial facilities. There is an environmental assessment that has been issued for public comment until February 4<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Guille asked how many gloveboxes are available and in use for down blending. Mr. Budney said one is currently in operation 24 hours a day and the National Nuclear Security Administration plans on installing three more in K Area.

Mr. Murray asked how much waste is being reclassified. Mr. Folk described the bubblers which is part of the legacy waste. He described the size and amount of the bubblers. Mr. Murray asked what DOE's relationship with the contractors is. Mr. Budney said DOE develops a plan each year, so the contractor knows what to do.

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Mr. Hilton asked if the Salt Waste Processing Facility (SWPF) was running on schedule. Mr. Budney said it was lower than they hoped to process due to some technical issues. However, the system is working as designed.

### **Agency Updates**

Jon Richards provided an update on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) activities and personnel changes. Susan Fulmer provided an update for South Carolina Department of Health & Environmental Control (SCDHEC). Grace Anne Martin provided a second update for the Aiken SCDHEC office.

### **Transuranic Waste Overview: Bert Crapse, DOE-SR**

Bert Crapse gave a presentation which covered the Transuranic (TRU) Waste program at SRS. TRU Waste definition: radioactive waste container with more than 100 nanocuries of alpha-emitting transuranic isotopes with half-lives greater than 20 years per gram of waste. Transuranic isotopes have an atomic number greater than 92. TRU Waste does not include waste determined to be HLW, waste determined by DOE, with EPA concurrence, that does not require isolation per 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 191, and waste approved by Nuclear Regulatory Commission for disposal per 10 CFR 61.

### **Transuranic Waste Overview Q&A**

Mr. Guille asked how often the program encounters liquid waste. Mr. Crapse said sometimes the waste would sit for an extended amount of time and some of the liquid would come out from the absorbent. The waste would then be repackaged. Mr. Guille asked if the Waste Isolation Pilot Processing plant was concerned about the liquids. Mr. Crapse said no.

Mr. Hilton asked if 573 cubic meters of waste on the TRU pads everything at SRS was. Mr. Crapse said yes, that includes everything.

Ms. Cave asked if the surplus plutonium require geological disposal as well. Mr. Crapse said it would be disposed through the TRU program. Ms. Cave asked how much can be shipped each trip for the surplus plutonium. Mr. Crapse said it depends on the type of container and the waste streams cannot be mixed.

Mr. Davis asked the difference between the box and 55-gallon drum. He wanted to know if the integrity was different. Mr. Crapse described the construction and making of the different containers.

### **Savannah River Ecology Laboratory Update: Olin Rhodes, SREL**

Dr. Olin Rhodes gave a presentation which discussed the Savannah River Ecology Laboratory (SREL) mission, staffing, funding, work scope, and challenges.

### **SREL Update Q&A**

Ms. Britt asked how far reaching is SREL's outreach. Dr. Rhodes said most of the outreach is on the South Carolina side, but work is done in both states.



Mr. Budney asked what helped increase the number of graduate students from 2 to 74. Dr. Rhodes said leadership started to drive it. The graduate student engages everyone around them and that helped show how the program would benefit everyone. Bringing in faculty with multiple graduate students helped it as well.

Mr. Murray asked what the top research paper or series of papers was. Dr. Rhodes said the broader impact has come from the herpetology side. It would be harder to decide the top scientific paper.

Mr. Davis asked how COVID-19 changed this program. Dr. Rhodes said the work done at SREL doesn't have to be done in different areas. People do not have to be clustered together.

### **Liquid Waste System Status: Mark Schmitz, SRR**

Mark Schmitz talked about the liquid waste system at SRS. He provided a 2021 Year overview with the production performance and notable achievements.

### **Liquid Waste System Status Q&A**

Mr. Guille reference slide 6 about the nonqualifying salt batch reducing the amount of time needed, he asked what changed. Mr. Olson said there was efficiency in the front end to reduce the amount of time needed.

Mr. Hilton said the concrete was eliminated concrete and use a different material, he asked where the new material come from. Mr. Olson said there are a few places, one in Alabama and one in Florida. Mr. Hilton stated the units processed 2.3 million gallons last year against the goal of 4 million. What happened to not reach that goal. Mr. Olson said the start up ran into things they didn't know would happen.

### **Salt Waste Processing Facility: Mike Pittman, Parsons**

Mike Pittman's presentation covered Parson's role in the SRS Liquid Waste System. It provided a timeline of SWPF, and all the milestones reached. Some of the key highlights included the safety record.

### **SWPF Q&A**

*No questions were asked.*

### **Savannah River Mission Completion Introduction: Dave Olson, SRMC**

Dave Olson discussed the new SRS Integrated Mission Completion contract. The presentation covered the missions of the new contract and the company's core values.

### **SRMC Introduction Q&A**

Mr. Budney asked if the nine million gallons would just through SWPF, or if it would include the Tank Closure Cesium Removal unit. Mr. Olson said most would go through SWPF and supplement with TCCR.

### **Public Comment**

Jim Marra from Citizens for Nuclear Technology Awareness to emphasize how well SRS have completed things. He highlighted the relationship between DOE, contractors, EPA, and DHEC. He said the relationship is very



beneficial in getting the mission done. The community can accomplish great milestones due to that relationship. Mr. Marra said the successes talked about at today's meeting shows SRS can take on more things.

### **Committee Chair Voting**

The board on 2022 Committee Chair positions. Kandace Cave was voted for Waste Management, Jim Guille for Nuclear Materials, and Phyllis Britt for Facilities Disposition & Site Remediation.

### **Closing Remarks**

Mr. Tanner stated there will be an informal administrative meeting after the conclusion of the Full Board. The staff would like to receive the boards thoughts on orientation or other general information. Mr. Hilton thanked everyone and adjourned the meeting.

Meeting ended at 2:45pm EST