



November 15-16, 2022
Savannah River Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB)
Full Board Meeting Summary
Hybrid Format
Holiday Inn Beach House, Hilton Head Island, SC, and Microsoft Teams

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Attendance November 15, 2022

Board Members

Phyllis Britt	DeAndre Davis	Jim Guille
Charles Hilton	Gregg Murray	

SRS Personnel

Amy Boyette, CAB DDFO, DOE-SR	De'Lisa Carrico, CAB Federal Coordinator, DOE-SR	Michael Budney, Manager SR Operations Office, DOE-SR
Bert Crapse, DOE-SR	Wyatt Clark, SRNS	Avery Hammett, DOE-SR
Phil Breidenbach, SRR	Jim Folk (online), DOE-SR	Jimmy McMillian (online), DOE-SR
Vahid Majidi, SRNL	Jimmy McMillian (online), DOE-SR	Thomas Johnson, DOE-SR
Matt Baker, DOE-SR	Teresa Eddy, SRNS	Brian Hennessey, DOE-SR
Jeff Hasty, SRNS	Tony Gonzalez, DOE-SR	Angelia Holmes (online), DOE-SR
Chris O'Neil (online), SRNL		

SRS CAB Support Staff (S&K Logistics)

Anika Edwards, Graphic Designer	Stephanie Kemmerlin, Program Analyst	Heather McWilliams, Meeting Planner
James Tanner, CAB Administrator		

Agency Liaisons & Public

Jon Richards, EPA	Grace Anne Marti, SCDHEC	Susan Fulmer, SCDHEC
Wayne Barber (online), Weapons Complex Monitor	Colin Demarest (online), Aiken Standard	Gregg O'Quinn, SCDHEC
Marolyn Parson		



Meeting Summary
SRS CAB – Full Board Meeting
November 15, 2021
[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 in-person CAB meeting since November 2019. Mr. Tanner reviewed the agenda and mentioned there would be a chair and vice chair election. The meeting format would be hybrid with participants in-person, on YouTube, and Microsoft Teams.

Chair Update: Gregg Murray, CAB Chair

Mr. Murray started off by thanking the CAB Support Staff for putting the meeting. He appreciated the communication received from James Tanner and his staff. Mr. Murray stated his frustration with the CAB Membership difficulties which occurred earlier in the year. He appreciated the effort the five other board members put into participating in CAB activities. Mr. Murray gave a summary of the importance of the presentations and was looking forward to great discussions.

Site Manager Update

Mr. Budney started off by the status of the COVID-19 response. He reviewed the vaccination requirements for federal employees and contractors. Mr. Budney mentioned the COVID-19 numbers have been going down and he reviewed the protocols which were being taken at SRS. Mr. Budney discussed the security contract, the liquid waste contract which was awarded to Savannah River Mission Complete. The award was given in October. Mr. Budney gave a summary of the Management and Operations contract. Talking points were provided for current Environmental Management (EM) missions currently going on at SRS.

Site Manager Update Q&A

Mr. Guille asked for an elaboration with gloveboxes and the down blending operation in K Area. Mr. Budney said there is currently one glovebox which is in operation for 24 hours a day. The National Nuclear Security Administration is planning on adding three more gloveboxes.

Mr. Hilton asked about the Salt Waste Processing Facility construction slowdown due to valves. A solution was discovered and put in place. Mr. Hilton wanted to know if there had been any additional problems. Mr. Budney said no, there hasn't been any additional complications.

Mr. Davis asked about the process of double stacking the cannisters. Mr. Budney said the cannisters are just being stacked on top. He explained how the process worked and mentioned everything was safe to do.

Agency Updates

Jon Richards provided an update on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) activities and the Federal Facility agreements activities. 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.



Agency Updates Q&A

Mr. Murray asked EPA if drones were used. Jon Richards said drones were used a few years ago for other programs. Mr. Richards said they recently received headquarters guidance on how to utilize that technology. He is hopeful about future projects with drones.

Mr. Davis asked Susan Fulmer if SCDHEC had an in-house drone program or if it was through another agency. Ms. Fulmer stated it was an in-house program.

Recommendation 367- Stakeholder Survey Report 367: James Tanner, CAB Facilitator

Mr. Tanner presented the findings from the Stakeholder Survey which was completed in the summer of 2021. The survey was done due to CAB Recommendation 367 which was voted on in November 2019. Over 1600 individuals from South Carolina and Georgia were interviewed for the survey.

Recommendation 367 Q&A

Mr. Hilton asked about the why most of Burke County got their news from social media. Mr. Tanner stated the total number of individuals from Burke County was 17. That could influence those numbers.

Ms. Britt asked how people were selected. Mr. Tanner the company who handled the survey found the participants. Mr. Murray said the company contracted handled this type of survey frequently.

Mr. Murray wanted to receive more raw data from the company. Mr. Tanner said he would request that information from the company. Mr. Murray commented on some of the demographics. Ms. Britt wondered if the process possibly skewed the data. Mr. Murray wondered if large area was almost too much to cover with the amount of funds given to complete the project. Mr. Murray brought up a study done by another CAB, but it was his opinion this study was lightyears above that study.

Mr. Davis commented on the communication style differences between Gen Z and Younger Gen Y. Mr. Tanner said those conducting the survey may not have been able to get younger participants and that could impact the data. Mr. Tanner commented the age groupings seemed interesting and he wanted to look more into how the sampling was done to understand the conclusions.

Mr. Murray wanted to know if media coverage would impact the views of the respondents. Mr. Murray wanted to know if someone at SRS tracked media hits. Ms. Boyette, CAB DDFO, said she would investigate that question.

Mr. Davis talked about his managerial role at the airport how to relates to the communication questions. He mentioned the airport wanting to put information out on the airport via radio but sometimes that information gets misinterpreted by the group delivering it. Mr. Davis mentioned younger generations getting incorrect information from these types of sources.

Ms. Boyette appreciated on all the comments. Ms. Boyette was surprised at the cost to finance a survey like this. She noted the site M&O completed a survey years ago and it cost \$100,000+. Ms. Boyette was please on the information they received from the research group even though it wasn't cheap. Ms. Boyette was not surprised word of mouth was the most popular way of knowing about SRS. Ms. Boyette said the site has downsized over the years so there are fewer workers. Ms. Boyette wasn't surprised people did not know the location of the site. Several people think the site is in Savannah. Ms. Boyette want to make the CAB meetings a little less technical so younger generations can learn about SRS. The SRS CAB staff will be holding a drop-in



informational event tomorrow so the public can learn more about the CAB and SRS. The drop-in information was given to local colleges in the area.

Ms. Britt discussed the different age groups and how some people do not identify with some people in their age groups. Ms. Britt was surprised television wasn't in the top 5 communication preferences.

Mr. Murray wanted to know if Mr. Tanner had the quantitative on the list of concerns. Mr. Tanner said he did not have the quantitative data, but he did have the raw data. Mr. Murray volunteered to review the raw data on that information.

Major Accomplishments since the Last In-Person Meeting

SRNS Accomplishments: Wyatt Clark, SRNS

Wyatt Clark, Senior Vice President of Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS), provided a presentation on the SRS M&O contract. Details on the presentation included the current workforce, budget, major milestones, and workforce for the future. Mr. Clark highlighted the very successful apprentice program and how it is expanding.

SRNS Accomplishments Q&A

Mr. Hilton asked if the electrolytic dissolver has been utilized. Mr. Clark said the failed dissolver has been removed and the system is being updated so startup testing can begin. Mr. Hilton noted there were two dissolvers and wondered if one was on the hot side and the other on the cold side. Mr. Clark said they both run on the warm side. Mr. Hilton asked if budget would ever prevent H Canyon from maintaining the level of efficiency it should be. Mr. Clark said SRNS and DOE carefully evaluated and prioritized the needs for H Canyon. Mr. Clark said there was a detailed infrastructure evaluation of SRS, and it was presented to headquarters. The report assessed the risks of the area.

Mr. Murray heard years ago more than 50% of SRS workers are eligible for retirement. He wanted to know if that stat was still true and if all the posted jobs had been filled. Mr. Clark said was unsure of the exact amount of people eligible for retirement. Mr. Clark said there are a few areas like fire protection is hard to fill, but operationally the site is doing very well. Telework has been very beneficial for the workforce.

Savannah River Remediation: Delivering Results: Phil Breidenbach (online), SRR

Phil Breidenbach, Savannah River Remediation (SRR) President and Project Manager presented via Microsoft Teams with an overview of SRR's work at SRS.

SRR Delivering Results Q&A

No questions were asked.

Transition to Battelle Savannah River Alliance: Vahid Majidi, SRNL

Dr. Vahid Majidi gave a presentation on the new SRNL M&O contract. The transition completed in June of 2021. The presentation covered the workforce development initiative, management expectations, regional impact of the transition to BRSA, core competencies, and the five-year strategic objectives.

Transition to BSRA Q&A

Mr. Guille asked how many people were employed at SRNL. Dr. Vahid around one thousand and forty-six as of today. Mr. Guille asked about education levels of the employees. Dr. Vahid said one third of all employees had post-doctoral degrees.



Public Comment

No public comments were made.

EM SSAB Recommendation: Charge 1 and Charge 2

James Tanner reviewed the two charges which came from the EM Site Specific Advisory Board (SSAB) meetings. The first charge was on increasing community engagement at EM sites. The second charge was a draft on holding yearly strategic vision meetings with the public. EMSSAB charges may not be edited, they just need to have a vote taken. Mr. Murray said the charges were challenging but he felt SRS was able to get proper input in for each charge. Mr. Murray reviewed the charges and reviewed the details of each charge. The group had a brief discussion on the charges.

EM SSAB Recommendation: Member Appointment Process

Mr. Murray gave an overview on an EM SSAB recommendation which came from SRS. The recommendation asked DOE to revise the membership approval process. The goal was to keep “the continuity of Board and Committee activities” by ensuring there wasn’t a lapse in membership. After giving the recommendation summary Mr. Murray complimented DOE with their encouragement on this recommendation. Mr. Murray said at the fall virtual Chairs meeting, DOE was very receptive to the recommendation.

CAB Chair and Vice Chair Voting

The board voted on 2022-2023 CAB Chair and Vice Chair positions. Gregg Murray was selected as CAB Chair and Charles Hilton was selected as Vice Chair.

Closing Remarks

Mr. Guille asked if the SRS CAB would be at full capacity in 2022. Mr. Tanner said the membership package was at headquarters and was confident it would be approved before February. Mr. Murray said the current board will play a key part in getting the reinstated and new members up to speed on the role of the CAB.

Meeting recessed at 4:25pm EST



Attendance November 16, 2022

Board Members

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

SRS Personnel

Amy Boyette, CAB DDFO, DOE-SR	De'Lisa Carrico, CAB Federal Coordinator, DOE-SR	Michael Budney, Manager SR Operations Office, DOE-SR
Bert Crapse, DOE-SR	Wyatt Clark, SRNS	Avery Hammett, DOE-SR
Angelia Holmes (online), DOE-SR	Jim Folk (online), DOE-SR	Jimmy McMillian (online), DOE-SR
Chris O'Neil (online), SRNL	Jimmy McMillian (online), DOE-SR	Thomas Johnson, DOE-SR
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Meeting Summary
SRS CAB – Full Board Meeting
November 16, 2021
[Meeting Recording](#)

Meeting began at 9:00 AM Eastern Standard Time

Meeting Rules & Agenda Review: James Tanner, CAB Facilitator

Mr. Tanner welcomed everyone back for the second day of SRS CAB November Full Board.

235-F Deactivation Progress Update: Tony Gonzalez, DOE-SR, Brian Hennessey (online), DOE-SR, and Jeff Hasty, SRNS

The 235-F Deactivation Progress Update presentation was handled by Tony Gonzalez and Brian Hennessey from DOE-SR and Jeff Hasty from SRNS. As project manager of 235-F, Mr. Hasty covered the work done in fiscal year 2019 and 2020 for building 235-F. Mr. Hasty also discussed the path forward with the 235-F project. Mr. Hennessey joined via Microsoft Teams to cover the decommissioning portion of the presentation.

235-F Update Q&A

Mr. Hilton asked how the fans in 292-2F are ventilated. Mr. Hasty reviewed slide 6 and explained how the ventilation works.

Mr. Murray ask how much material is left to come up in 235-F. Mr. Hasty did not have an exact number but estimated 500 grams total.

Mr. Hilton asked if the material left in 235-F usable for something else. Mr. Hasty said it is not accessible or weapons grade.

Mr. Guille asked about the engineered roof on the facility. Mr. Hennessey said the roof currently on the facility will not last enough to provide adequate protection. Therefor an engineered roof would be constructed.

Mr. Hilton asked if the building had a basement. Mr. Hasty said it did not.

Mr. Guille asked about some the items outlined in yellow on the Final Planned End State diagram slide. Mr. Hasty explained how those items fell into the decommissioning plan.

Ms. Britt asked for the definition of a half-life. Mr. Budney said once a material reaches its half-life, half of it has decayed away. Mr. Budney broke down the math with half-lives.

Annual Site Environmental Report: Matt Baker, DOE-SR, and Teresa Eddy, SRNS

Matt Baker with DOE-SR and Teresa Eddy with SRNS gave a detailed overview of the SRS Annual Site Environmental Report (ASER).

ASER Q&A

Mr. Guille asked what monitoring takes place on the Georgia side. Ms. Eddy mentioned in Chapter 5 of the report it highlights the sampling in Georgia compared to South Carolina.



Mr. Hilton made comments about the number of outfalls and how easy it could be to exceed the limit.

Mr. Murray asked Mr. Budney if this report was considered a summary of year. Mr. Budney said it's an importance surveillance which needs to be done. Ms. Eddy said the ASER team covers a lesson learned meeting after the report has finished. Mr. Murray asked if the report was accessible online and if so, does the ASER group know how many people view it. Ms. Eddy said the report is online. Ms. Eddy said she is given the total number of website hits but is not sure how many are onsite compared to offsite.

Ms. Britt asked if the public would be able to fish on site and take home what they catch. Mr. Budney stated, there has been finishing competitions on site, but the fish are caught and released.

Mr. Davis said his question had already been answered but he had similar questions as Gregg. Mr. Davis said this was his first in-person CAB meeting since joining in 2020. He noted having the stakeholder survey was helpful because his wife had questions about his first in-person meeting. Mr. Davis was wondering if the ASER could be packaged in a way to reach more people.

Public Comment

Marolyn Parsons from Bluffton, South Carolina made public comments. Ms. Parsons was disappointed she was only member of the public in attendance. Ms. Parsons was very pleased to see the CAB in the low country area. Marilyn was a former CAB member. Marilyn made comments about her home's water quality. Ms. Parsons was saddened to see what occurred with the CAB membership package, but she has faith the issues will be resolved soon. Ms. Parsons made comments on 235-F, and she enjoyed seeing the update on it.

Voting

Charge #1

Mr. Hilton motioned for a vote; Mr. Guille seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Charge #2

Mr. Murray motioned for a vote; Mr. Davis seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Revise Member Appointment Process

Mr. Murray motioned for a vote; Ms. Britt seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Closing Remarks

Ms. Boyette was impressed and proud on how the board handled the proposed recommendation for membership appointment process. She said the board members should be proud of what they accomplished. Mr. Murray hoped this recommendation be helpful to other boards. Mr. Budney thanked everyone for participating in the meeting, board members and staff.

Meeting adjourned at 1:25pm EST