



January 27-28, 2025
Savannah River Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB)
Full Board Meeting Summary
Emeline Hotel, Charleston, SC

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Monday January 27 Attendance

CAB Attendees

Marty Ball	Phyllis Britt	Michelle Bush
Kandace Cave	Donald Colson	Scott McKay
Janie Scott	Sade Shofidiya	John Thomas
Hubert Van Tuyl		

Absent Board Members

Carlos Cato	Carolyn Fortson	Nate Hartley
Patrick Kilroy	Kim Ray	Kenneth Sajwan

SRS Site Personnel

Mike Budney, DOE-SR	James Tanner, CAB DDFO, DOE-SR	Edwin Deshong, DOE-SR Deputy Manager
Herbert Crapse – DOE SR	Avery Hammett, DOE-SR	John Clark, DOE-SR
Lewann Belton, DOE-SR	Emily Saleeby, SRMC	

SRS CAB Support Staff (S&K Logistics)

Audrey Barron, Communications Coordinator	Juanita Campbell, CAB Administrator	Heather McWilliams, Meeting Coordinator
Chris Parker, Meeting Coordinator		

Agency Liaisons & Public

Susan Fulmer, SC DES	Gregory O'Quinn, SC DES	Shelly Stancil, GDNR
Heather Cathcart, SC DES		



**Meeting Summary
SRS CAB – Full Board Meeting
Emeline Hotel, Charleston, SC
January 27, 2025**

Meeting began at 1:00 PM Eastern Standard Time

Meeting Introduction: Juanita Campbell, CAB Facilitator

Ms. Campbell welcomed everyone to the January Full Board meeting. She reminded those seated in the U-shape to speak directly into the microphones and she asked each person in the U-shape to introduce themselves.

Chair Update: Phyllis Britt, CAB Chair

Ms. Britt welcomed everyone to the first CAB Meeting of 2025.

Environmental Management (EM) Manager Update

SRS Environmental Management (EM) Manager, Mr. Michael D. Budney, provided an update on current Savannah River Site (SRS) projects. He extended his best wishes to departing CAB members and welcomed the new Lab Director, Dr. Green.

EM Manager Update Q&A

Ms. Cave asked if the recent weather had affected work at SRS.

Mr. Budney stated the site was closed for one day but there was no impact to productivity.

Agency Updates

Ms. Susan Fulmer, with South Carolina DES, provided an update on recent meetings and workshops. She stated in December 2024, DES attended the Inter-governmental Meeting with DOE sites. Additionally, their core team conducted a DND Workshop to update and collaborate on processes. She said in January 2025, DES participated in the Soil Remediation and Legacy Land Cleanup meeting. She also informed the board that the Five-Year Review of Native Soil was recently signed.

Mr. Gregory O'Quinn, with South Carolina DES, stated their Environmental Surveillance and Oversight Program (ESOP) Data Report has been published and is available online.

Ms. Shelly Stancil, with Georgia DNR reported, that recent weather conditions have affected their environmental sampling cabinets, and crews are working to restore them. She also informed the board that the Mobile Radiation Lab equipment has been updated. Additionally, she noted that their organization has increased staffing and is now fully staffed. She also mentioned that Georgia has confirmed its first case of Chronic Waste Disease (CWD) in a 2.5-year-old white-tailed buck.

Agency Updates Q&A

Mr. Thomas asked if there were any new takeaways from the Soil and Legacy Cleanup meeting.

Ms. Fulmer said the meeting primarily focused on their assessment of progress and processes. She stated their methods are successful and advancing as planned.



Mr. Thomas asked what CWD is. Ms. Stancil stated it is a Chronic Waste Disease, which is a disease white tail deer can contract.

Subcommittee Updates

Each subcommittee chair provided an update on recent work and upcoming recommendations.

Site Lead Post-Transition Update: Michael Budney, DOE-SR Manager

Mr. Budney provided an update on the EM landlord transfer to NNSA. He stated four major responsibilities were transitioned from EM to NNSA: the M&O Contract, Pro-Force Contract, K-Area Complex, and Environmental Permits and Agreements.

Site Lead Post-Transition Update Q&A

Ms. Shofidiya asked if employees have remained in their same roles since the transition.

Mr. Budney stated the employees remaining under Environmental Management (EM) are still performing their work scope. He is unsure if those who transitioned to NNSA are performing the same job scope.

Ms. Shofidiya asked what his plan of action is for filling vacancies.

Mr. Budney stated that there is currently a federal hiring freeze.

Mr. Van Tuyll asked if EM has any role in monitoring NNSA activities that could impact the environment.

Mr. Budney stated that EM does not have such a role; NNSA along with regulators, would monitor their work.

Mr. Colson asked about the K-Area glove boxes and the status of the EM glove box.

Mr. Budney explained that there is only one EM glove box, which is being used for plutonium downblending. He added that NNSA has a project underway to install three additional glove boxes.

Ms. Britt asked what the different roles are between Michael Mikolanis and Michael Budney.

Mr. Budney explained that he oversees EM's missions, while Mr. Mikolanis is responsible for NNSA's missions. He also stated that Mr. Mikolanis serves as the Site Manager for SRS.

Board Business

Ms. Britt stated that the board needs new members and encouraged current members to invite others to join.

Ms. Shofidiya encouraged everyone to attend the Administrative & Outreach (A&O) meeting to strategize on recruiting new members.

Closing Remarks

Meeting recessed at 2:14 PM EST



Tuesday January 28 Attendance

CAB Attendees

Marty Ball	Phyllis Britt	Michelle Bush
Carlos Cato	Kandace Cave	Donald Colson
Pat Kilroy	Scott McKay	Janie Scott
Sade Shofidiya	John Thomas	Hubert Van Tuyll

Absent Board Members

Carolyn Fortson	Nathaniel Hartley	Kim Ray
Kenneth Sajwan		

SRS Site Personnel

James Tanner, CAB DDFO, DOE-SR	Bert Crapse, DOE-SR	Karen Morrow, DOE-SR
Edwin Deshong, DOE-SR Deputy Manager	Avery Hammett, DOE-SR	Lewann Belton, DOE-SR
Trey Gilland, SRNS	Larry Romanowski, SRMC	Emily Saleeby, SRMC
Zachaery Todd, DOE-SR	Manuel Terronez, SRNS	Alex Komendantov, SRNS

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Greg O'Quinn, SC DES	Susan Fulmer, SC DES	Shelly Stancil, GDNR
Heather Cathcart, SC DES		



**Meeting Summary
SRS CAB – Full Board Meeting
Emeline Hotel, Charleston, SC
January 28, 2025**

Meeting began at 9:00 AM Eastern Standard Time

Meeting Rules: Juanita Campbell, CAB Facilitator

Ms. Campbell welcomed everyone back for the second day of the January Full Board meeting.

Chair Opening Remarks: Phyllis Britt, CAB Chair

Ms. Britt was pleased with the success of yesterday's meeting and hoped the board would be equally engaged today.

Work Plan 2025: Topics for Consideration, Avery Hammett, Bert Crapse, and John Clark, DOE-SR

Ms. Hammett, Mr. Crapse and Mr. Clark presented proposed work plan topics for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025.

Work Plan 2025: Topics for Consideration Q&A

Mr. Kilroy inquired about videos providing views of buildings rooftops.

Ms. Hammett explained that drone footage was under review as part of the site process but had not yet cleared.

Mr. Kilroy mentioned the presence of moisture on top of the buildings and stated the need for preventive measures. He asked about the site's preparedness for potential drone attack but clarified that he did not expect an immediate response but rather thoughtful consideration of his concerns.

Mr. Kilroy asked when will the drone videos be available. Ms. Hammett said she is working on having those videos distributed.

Mr. Tanner informed the board that the meeting purpose is to identify discussion topics for the year and establish a timeline for achieving goals.

Ms. Cave asked whether the drones have thermal imaging.

Ms. Hammett said she is unsure but would follow up.

Mr. Colson expressed interest in adding Heavy Water as a discussion topic.

Ms. Britt asked for detailed clarification on SRMC 2037 proposal.

Mr.

Mr. Clark clarified that the 2037 date refers to the Liquid Waste closure, not the closure of SRS.



Mr. Kilroy asked what happens to the tanks as the liquid waste is removed.

Mr. Clark said once the tanks are cleared, they undergo a washing and inspection process, followed by sampling. Finally, the tanks are grouted.

Budget Update/Site Priorities Discussion: Zach Todd, DOE-SR

Mr. Todd gave a presentation on the Federal Priorities Planning Process, FY 25 Presidents Budget Request, FY 26 and 27 Priorities.

Budget Update/Site Priorities Discussion Q&A

Mr. Ball asked whether the budget allocation included other entities, such as forestry, or if it was solely for DOE.

Mr. Todd responded that everything covered in the presentation is appropriated to DOE. However, he noted that there are funds that support forestry.

Mr. Hubert asked where Hanford was mentioned on slide 4.

Mr. Todd clarified that Hanford appears in two categories: the Richland Office and the Office of River Protection.

Ms. Britt stated that two years ago, during a chair meeting, they conducted a simulated budget process and asked if it could be done again.

Mr. Tanner said we could inquire about it and see if it is feasible.

Ms. Shofidiya ask if there was any information comparing the appropriated budget for 2024 with actual spending.

Mr. Todd said he could not provide actuals but explained that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) oversees the process to ensure funds are spent appropriately.

Mr. Budney added that all appropriated funds are being utilized.

Ms. Shofidiya asked whether the current administration had approved a budget.

Mr. Todd replied that the administration had not been in place long enough to do so.

Mr. Thomas asked whether the FY 25 budget had been finalized.

Mr. Todd stated that it is still under review by Congress.

Mr. Tanner informed the board that they will be working on the Priorities List at the March meeting. He encouraged the board to focus on what's important rather than the costs.

Mr. Budney emphasized that the Priorities List must be completed by the end of March.



Cybersecurity Program: Lewann Belton, DOE-SR

Lewann Belton, DOE-SR, gave a presentation on cyber security, covering topics such as home security, what cyber security is, risk and challenges, tools and capabilities, and partnerships.

Cybersecurity Program Q&A

Mr. Van Tuyll inquired about Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attacks.

Mr. Belton explained that a DDoS attack, also known as a denial-of-service attack, happens when a server is intentionally overloaded with requests, causing the website to shut down and become inaccessible. He used an analogy, comparing it to 1,000 people trying to pass through a door simultaneously, which can lead to information being compromised.

Mr. Thomas asked whether inappropriate websites would be blocked.

Mr. Belton stated in theory, they should be. He said SRS wants to ensure that certain websites are not being attempted on government devices.

Ms. Britt asked when government phones are distributed, what restrictions are on the phone and do you tell the employees.

Mr. Belton said employees are required to read and sign a policy before using the device. He also mentioned that the Mobile Device Monitoring system identifies which apps are approved or restricted on government phones.

Ms. Britt asked if the cyber security team is concerned about text messages on government devices.

Mr. Belton said text messages can be reviewed, so there is no concern.

Ms. Stancil asked if there is a risk of someone getting in your phone using the face feature.

Mr. Belton acknowledged that there is always some level of risk.

Ms. Shofidiya asked if there have been any partnerships with private companies.

Mr. Belton confirmed that there have been, specifically with direct support contractors who have been vetted by the government.

Ms. Shofidiya asked what companies. Mr. Belton stated he could not disclose that information.

Mr. Kilroy asked how many intrusion attempts were encountered last year. Mr. Belton said SRS has millions of attacks per day.

Mr. Kilroy asked if SRS has any off-network systems. Mr. Belton confirmed that they do.

Mr. Scott asked if Mr. Belton foresees a larger role with Cyber Army command considering NNSA is taking over. Mr. Belton stated the Cyber industry is growing.



Waste Tank Closure Process – Sampling and Analysis: Larry Romanowski, SRMC

Mr. Larry Romanowski, SRMC, gave a presentation on the SRS Liquid Waste tank closure process with a focus on the sampling and analysis phase.

Waste Tank Closure Process – Sampling and Analysis Q&A

Mr. Thomas mentioned on the last slide there were gaps in the preliminary and wanted to know why.

Mr. Romanowski explained the gap is because of the type 4 tanks used to blend tanks to prepare salt waste, when they become available for closure. He added that as the system plans are updated, the dates shift, and the milestones primarily apply to the older-style tanks.

Mr. Thomas asked about the decontamination process for the sampling robots.

Mr. Romanowski said the robots remain inside the tank along with other equipment.

Mr. Thomas asked how samples are taken if the robot remain in the tank.

Mr. Romanowski explained that a sample carrier retrieves the sample cup from the robot, so the entire robot does not need to be removed from the tank.

Ms. Shofidiya asked why there are gaps in the tank closure schedule.

Mr. Romanowski explained that Tanks 17 and 20 were closed in the 1990s under a different regulatory strategy. He said in the early 2000s, SRS began operating under new regulations, requiring new processes to be implemented to comply with updated laws.

Ms. Shofidiya asked about the timeline for the tank closure process.

Mr. Romanowski stated that the timeline for waste removal is influenced by the availability of space in other tanks. He explained that it can take years to install the necessary equipment for waste removal, and during the process, there must be available tanks to transfer the waste. As a result, the timeline can vary.

Mr. Kilroy asked when you investigate the different layers of the tank, are the heavier actinides in the bottom.

Mr. Romanowski confirmed that the actinides are typically found in the sludge at the bottom.

Mr. Kilroy asked are there any monitoring outside the tanks to detect in the groundwater.

Mr. Romanowski assured him that sludge does not leak outside the tanks and monitoring is in place.

Mr. Kilroy asked has there ever been any consideration to collapse the tanks.

Mr. Romanowski stated that to his knowledge, this has not been considered, as the tanks are filled with grout.

Mr. Kilroy asked how many tanks are currently grouted. Mr. Romanowski said eight tanks have been grouted.



Mr. Kilroy asked after everything is pumped out of the tanks how do you prevent water from getting inside. Mr. Romanowski stated that some older tanks experience minor water infiltration. He said SRS continues to maintain the level detection to ensure no serious water infiltration. He added that the tanks have heating and ventilation systems, and water infiltration is not a concern.

Mr. Ball asked if there is a contingency plan in place if one of the tanks ruptures. Mr. Romanowski stated that the Documented Safety Analysis (DSA) outlines the required response.

Mr. Kilroy asked how much plutonium remains at the bottom of the tanks. Mr. Romanowski said that he would follow up with that information.

Mr. Kilroy said based on closing three tanks per year it should be completed by 2039. Mr. Romanowski stated that the tank closure process is scheduled to be completed by 2037.

F/H Laboratory Deactivation Project Update: Trey Gilland, SRNS and Bert Crapse DOE-SR

Mr. Crapse gave a presentation on the Facility Deactivation and Decommissioning of three surplus facilities: 235-F, F/H Laboratory, and F-Canyon. He emphasized the importance of this work and eliminating hazards.

Mr. Gilland presented on the F/H Laboratory Deactivation Project.

F/H Laboratory Deactivation Project Update Q&A

Ms. Britt asked where the chemicals go during the deactivation process. Mr. Gilland explained that clean chemicals can be repurposed to other locations on site. He said contaminated chemicals are either solidified and disposed of as low-level waste or added to the high or low activity drain tanks.

Ms. Britt wanted to verify that gloves are transuranic (TRU) waste. Mr. Gilland answered yes. He explained that the gloves would be removed, packaged as TRU waste, and dispositioned at the solid waste facility.

Mr. Kilroy asked if any hot spots had been in the lab during deactivation. Mr. Gilland answered yes, and cited Shielded Area-C as an example.

Mr. Kilroy asked if the plan is to take the building down. Mr. Gilland said SRS does not expect to demolish the building, they do plan to grout the first and second floors.

Public Comments

No public comments.



Board Business:

Ms. Britt thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and gave a farewell to the Board Members that would not be returning.

Ms. Campbell expressed her appreciation to Heather McWilliams for everything she had done for the past six years. She also welcomed Chris Parker and introduced him as the new meeting coordinator.

Closing Remarks

Ms. Britt announced that there will be no committee meetings in February and mentioned the board is waiting on information for March. Ms. Campbell stated that the CAB Support Team will send information.

Meeting adjourned at 2:38pm EST.