



Steve Glass, *Chair*  
Elizabeth H. Richards, *Vice Chair*  
Michael J. Bitner  
John S. Derr  
Pete Domenici Jr.

Kerry J. Howe  
Caroline Scruggs  
Jennifer Thacher  
Erik K. Webb

**Water Protection Advisory Board**  
**c/o ABCWUA**  
P.O. Box 568  
Albuquerque, NM 87103

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Minutes: March 13, 2015

Location: Bernalillo County Public Works Division, 2400 Broadway

Time: 8:40 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

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Board Members Present: Chairman Steve Glass, Vice Chair Elizabeth Richards, Michael Bitner Jennifer Thacher, John Derr, Erik Webb and Kerry Howe

Board Members Absent: Pete Domenici Jr. and Caroline Scruggs

PIC Members Present: Jane DeRose-Bamman, Dan McGregor, Ken Ziegler and Rick Heckes

Guests: Mariana Padilla (NM Rep. Lujan Grisham's Office), Dr. Adria Bodour (AFCEC), Mr. Dennis McQuillan (NMED), Ms. Julie McNeill (AFCEC - Portlago), Dr. Eric Nuttall and David McCoy (CANM)

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**I. Call to Order**

Chair Steve Glass called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

**II. Approval of Agenda**

Chair Glass requested a motion to move approve the agenda.

Motion was moved by member Dr. Erik Webb, and seconded by board member Dr. John Derr. Motion to approve the agenda was carried unanimously.

**III. Approval of Minutes**

Vice Chair Richards moved to table the approval of the February minutes until the April meeting, due to the detailed nature of the minutes, and was seconded by member Dr. Derr. Motion carried unanimously.

**IV. Presentation: Update on Interim Measure Activities at the Kirtland Air Force Base (KAFB) Bulk Fuel Spill Cleanup**

Dr. Adria Bodour of the Air Force Civil Engineering Center (AFCEC) and Mr. Dennis McQuillan of the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) and Dr. John Sigda (INTERA, consultant for the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority or Water Authority) provided the board with a progress report on the interim activities occurring at the KAFB Bulk Fuels Facility (KAFB BFF) Spill.

Mr. McQuillan provided a conceptual model of the regional groundwater hydraulics influencing the flow of the spill plume in the aquifer and Dr. Sigda presented an animation showing the stratigraphy of the vadose and saturated zones that is controlling the flow of the plume towards the Albuquerque Basin's regional cone of depression. Mr. McQuillan also told the board the status of the NMED's 2015 Strategic Plan for the site, which was released in January for a 30 day public comment. Mr. McQuillan added that a response to the public comments would be released soon.

Dr. Bodour discussed the preliminary results of data evaluations that AFCEC has performed on the information gathered during the recent years of investigation on the contamination in the vadose zone and groundwater. Dr. Bodour told the board that the benzene and other petroleum hydrocarbons, such as toluene, ethylbenzene and xylenes appear to be stable near the source area of the aquifer contamination. The larger ethylene dibromide (EDB) plume, however, could be considered relatively stable and slowly moving downgradient, according to Mr. McQuillan.

Dr. Bodour provided highlights for the critical work to begin in 2015, including the installation and sampling of new groundwater monitoring wells being drilled at the estimated edge of the EDB plume, the soil vapor extraction rebound test, the in situ respiration testing and the starting of the first extraction well to begin collapsing the EDB plume.

## **V. Board Business**

- Discussion of Draft Water Authority Governing Board Resolution for the Mixed Waste Landfill – Members Mr. Mike Bitner and Dr. Erik Webb abstained from discussion.

Mr. Rick Shean, Water Quality Hydrologist for the Water Authority, provided the board with a summary of the proposed resolution that was to be introduced at the March 18 Water Authority Governing Board. Mr. Shean explained that the resolution noted Citizen Action of New Mexico's (CANM's) assertions regarding the contents of the Mixed Waste Landfill at the Sandia National Laboratory and requested that the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) respond to CANM's claims at an upcoming Water Protection Advisory Board meeting. Mr. David McCoy, Executive Director of CANM, and Dr. Eric Nuttall, independent expert, were present for the meeting and explained that they had reviewed DOE documents that revealed that high-level nuclear waste and potentially explosive metallic sodium were present in the classified sections of the Mixed Waste Landfill, and the only appropriate course of action was to excavate the impoundment.

Board members discussed the resolution and suggested recommendations that would clearly identify CANM as the source of the information about the

contents of the mixed waste landfill and associated dangers and to provide the board an appropriate option for reporting DOE's response to CANM's assertions.

Vice Chair Richards moved to endorse the resolution as amended and seconded by member Dr. Derr. Motion carried unanimously.

- Discussion of Revised Annual Report

Motion was made by Mr. Bitner to approve the finalized version of the 2014 WPAB Annual Report, seconded by member Dr. Derr. Motion carried unanimously.

- Discussion of Revised Work Plan and Presenter Schedule for 2015

Motion was made by Dr. Webb to approve the revised versions of the 2015 WPAB Work Plan and Presenter Schedule, seconded by member Dr. Derr. Motion carried unanimously.

- Discussion of Support Letter for Rio Grande Water Fund Related Legislation

Members discussed the support letter that was drafted during the interim after the February WPAB meeting by member Dr. Thacher. Members agreed on a minor change and Chair Glass volunteered to revise and send to the legislation sponsors of House Bill 38 – Forest and Watershed Restoration Act, before the state legislative session ended.

No vote was taken, as the board had supported the letter in a previous meeting.

**VI. Other Board Business** – none

**VII. Public Comment Period** – Mr. McCoy and Dr. Nuttall declined comment, as they spoke during discussion of the Mixed Waste Landfill Resolution.