

## MINUTES

### BOARD OF BENTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Special Board Meeting  
January 6, 2010, 10:00 a.m.  
Commissioners' Conference Room  
Benton County Justice Center, Kennewick, WA

**Present:** Chairman James Beaver  
Commissioner Leo Bowman  
Commissioner Max E. Benitz, Jr.  
Clerk of the Board Cami McKenzie

**Employees Present:** Adam Fyall, Mike Shuttleworth, Susan Walker, Valerie Smith, DPA Ryan Brown

#### Hanford Central Plateau Cleanup Presentation

Briant Charboneau, Department of Energy, gave a presentation on the Central Plateau cleanup strategy as follows: background information, target completion, vision and strategy, inner and outer area approach, groundwater approach, stakeholder involvement, and next steps.

Commissioner Bowman asked about impacts of losing the stimulus money and it was stated that impacts from reduction of employees from the stimulus money would begin in May 2011.

Commissioner Benitz asked about Benton County's role in land use planning, specifically on the McGee Ranch and Vernita Bridge and that he was concerned about restricted areas. It was stated by DOE that the County had a larger role than the State on the land use as a whole and that when cleanup was complete on the River Corridor, it would still be a secure site and there would not be unrestricted land use.

The Board briefly recessed, reconvening at 10:55 a.m.

#### Hanford Advisory Board – Semi Annual Report

Maynard Plahuta and Kenneth Gasper gave the semi-annual report for the Hanford Advisory Board and briefly discussed the following points:

- HAB's view on Central Plateau Cleanup Strategy - have been in favor of comprehensive look that is now taking place and sense of improvement; transition planning being addressed for stimulus money
- There is not sufficient amount of characterization of waste – they need to do more (particularly on solid waste burial grounds); real issue for DOE is dealing with “true waste” as defined
- DOE is not sufficiently addressing vadose zone (between surface and ground water)

- Need to look at the long-term stewardship and consider the exposure scenarios based on land use plan instead of workers that are exposed
- Asking to use the philosophy of “remove, treat and dispose”
- They compliment DOE on the change of attitude to the public
- Progress on tank farms (new systems plan – engineering from start to finish) – living document that needs to be updated annually
- Draft EIS – summarize – consider a variety of alternatives and identify preferred alternatives (includes remove, treat, dispose, and decontamination of FFTF); also a 2<sup>nd</sup> low-level vitrification type plant; open for public comment (maybe write a letter); includes employee estimates; this is HAB’s top priority for the year by the Tri-Party agreement.

### **Hanford Communities – Annual Report**

Pam Larsen gave the annual report for Hanford Communities and briefly discussed the following:

- Ecology contract increase
- Programs for cable
- Stimulus money and how it is being spent
- Groundwater cleanup
- Wastewater treatment plan; disposal facility; burial ground
- Long awaited EIS
- Advocacy issues of local concern
- Combined intergovernmental working group
- Plans for next year

### **Mid-Columbia Energy Initiative**

Gary Peterson, TRIDEC, gave a report on the Mid-Columbia Energy Initiative’s vision to transform the Tri-Cities into a leader in providing sustainable energy solutions and its vision and goals for a Clean Tech Energy Park. Additionally, he briefly discussed their goals for utilities, technology, manufacturing and vendors, and workforce and education.

The Board meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

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Clerk of the Board

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Chairman