



# Restoration Advisory Board Meeting

SUBJECT: Former Naval Station Roosevelt Roads  
DATE: Meeting Number 50 – November 6, 2019  
LOCATION: Ceiba, Puerto Rico

*Note: This meeting summary is based on informal notes taken at the meeting. It is not intended as a verbatim transcript. Rather, it is intended to summarize the overall discussions. If comments or additional notes are provided within 30 days of distribution of these minutes, they will be considered and potentially added as an attachment to this summary.*

## Welcome and Introductions

The meeting began at 6:11 p.m. after participants enjoyed a community gathering in celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> Naval Activity Puerto Rico (NAPR) Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting. Refer to Attachment 1 for a list of meeting attendees. Madeline Almodovar (Facilitator) greeted attendees and facilitated the meeting.

NAPR Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Program Manager Thuane Fielding (Navy) discussed the agenda and thanked the attendees for participating in and supporting the cleanup program at the former Naval Station Roosevelt Roads; including community members of the RAB, the Navy, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Roosevelt Roads Local Redevelopment Authority (LRA), and the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources (PRDNER, formerly Puerto Rico Environmental Quality Board [PREQB]). Thuane introduced Ramón Figueroa (RAB Community co-chair) and thanked him for the celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> RAB meeting and for providing participants with traditional Puerto Rican food. She acknowledged all members of the RAB for their commitment throughout the years and helping maintain communication with the community regarding their environmental concerns.

EPA representatives, Jessica Mollin (NAPR Remedial Project Manager) and her supervisors Doug Pocze and Angela Carpenter introduced themselves and expressed appreciation to the RAB members for their continued support of the cleanup process. Juan Baba Peebles (PRDNER) also introduced himself and thanked the community for their involvement in the RCRA program. Ian Carlo Serna, the LRA Executive Director, indicated there is a meeting regarding local redevelopment activities on November 21, 2019, at Alianza Pro Desarrollo Económico de Ceiba's (APRODEC) office.

Naida Davila (RAB community member) indicated she has some questions and clarifications from the August 2019 meeting. Thuane Fielding indicated the questions could be discussed at the end of the meeting as part of the questions and discussions topic.

Thuane Fielding discussed the Action Items from the last meeting and gave a status update.

## Action Items from the Last Meeting

The following table summarizes the status of the action items, including new and ongoing tasks discussed at the RAB meeting.

Action Item Description	Status as of November 6, 2019
Provide Rafael Montes the closure documents for SWMU 19.	<b>ONGOING</b>
Distribute Final RAB Charter with signature page.	<b>ONGOING</b>

## RAB Charter and Ground Rules

Thuane Fielding indicated efforts have been made with a letter, flyers, and phone calls to solicit community involvement and confirm RAB member continued interest. To date, four members have responded that they would like to continue participating on the RAB. Thuane reviewed the redline changes with the group during the meeting. Thuane Fielding asked if there was a motion to approve the revised charter. Ian Carlo Serna submitted a motion to approve. Ramon Figueroa seconded the motion. All RAB members present at the meeting approved, no members rejected the approval.

The signature page was distributed to memorialize RAB members and agency representatives continued interest in participating in the RAB. Naida Dávila communicated that she is resigning from the RAB as a community member, but that she continues to be interested in NAPR matters. Thuane Fielding thanked her for her many years of service to the RAB and wished her well in her endeavors. Thuane added that Naida has been essential in coordinating the RAB meetings, NAPR site visits and representing the community. She reminded the audience that the RAB meetings are always open to the public and that Naida is welcome to continue to attend the meetings as part of the audience.

A copy of the RAB charter signature page will be provided to RAB members as part of the final charter distribution following the meeting.

## Waste Characterization and Disposal Process

Thuane Fielding introduced Hope Wilson, an environmental manager with CH2M/Jacobs that supports the NAPR Environmental Restoration Program. Hope provided a presentation on the definition of waste and requirements under waste management regulations that apply to NAPR environmental operations. The presentation included the types of typical wastes generated at NAPR and the containers used to contain wastes. Some of the types of general NAPR wastes throughout the investigation process include soils, groundwater, decontamination, or investigation derived water and debris. Hope explained the differences between hazardous waste and non-hazardous waste and its classifications. She added that most NAPR waste is classified as non-hazardous. But when hazardous waste is disposed of, it is sent to a permitted hazardous waste facility in the continental US because currently, there are no facilities in Puerto Rico that are permitted to accept hazardous waste.

- Manuel Martinez (APRODEC) asked if asbestos is classified as a hazardous waste.
  - Hope Wilson (CH2M/Jacobs) responded that asbestos is not considered a hazardous waste but is a special waste and depending on how it is encountered (building demolition vs remediation effort) it is treated following a specific regulation in terms of abatement or appropriate disposal.

## SWMU 71 (Quarry Disposal Site) Interim Corrective Measures

Tim Wenk (Navy) provided a status update on the SWMU 71 interim corrective measures. Tim gave historical background information about the site. He shared that during the site investigations evidence of soil contamination and buried drums were found which prompted the corrective measures. The Navy started drum removal activities in October 2019. The initial estimates for the potential area and number of drums have increased and the Navy is removing additional material. Waste characterization from the removed drums and soil has resulted in non-hazardous waste characterization. The Navy is removing the

material to prevent it from becoming a risk to human health and the environment in environmental media including groundwater.

- Naida Dávila (community member) asked about the timeline of the SWMU 71 investigation efforts.
  - Tim Wenk (Navy) explained that the investigation is ongoing. The Sampling and Analysis Plan (SAP) was finalized in 2017, and the investigation began in late 2017 after hurricanes Irma and Maria. The drums were discovered in January 2018 and shortly thereafter a contract was issued for a removal action. The work plan was finalized in September 2019 and the field work began in October.

## Status Update on Completed, Planned, and Ongoing Activities/Public Review and Comment Periods for Statements of Basis

- Tim Wenk (Navy) provided an overview of current activities for several sites including SWMU 1, SWMU 3, SWMU 2, SWMU 54/61, SWMU 7 and 8, SWMU 79, SWMU 11 Building 38, and SWMU 55.
- Tim Wenk (Navy) mentioned that reports are continuously being developed and they are in different phases of regulatory review. Navy, EPA, and PRDNER (formerly PREQB) work together setting priorities and gaining consensus on how to address each site.

## Safety Reminder- Land Use Controls

- Tim Wenk (Navy) emphasized the importance of the public adhering to established Land Use Controls (LUCs). Tim shared the standard 3Rs of munitions safety messages conveyed in all sites where munitions may be present. The 3Rs represent Recognize that you may have encountered a munition, Retreat to a safe distance, and Report to the corresponding authorities. Tim shared the contact information including phone numbers for the 911 or local police if a citizen spots a potential munitions within NAPR.
- As part of regular site activities, the Navy performs sign maintenance and inspections. These signs are installed to inform the public of the activities that can be performed at a site and warn them of any safety risks associated with the sites. He urged the RAB community to spread out the word to prevent trespassers from going into restricted areas of the property and to obey any posted signs and closed gates.
- Ian Carlo Serna (LRA) added that signs installed in NAPR sites with land use controls include contact LRA's phone number. The LRA works with the Navy and other entities to provide security around NAPR and will follow up with cases in which calls are placed.
- Naida Davila (Community member) indicated she believes there should be additional efforts made to convey the hazards to the community.
  - Tim Wenk (Navy) concurred and stated that the Navy is also making a concerted effort to work with local outfitters and marinas to distribute 3Rs information.

## Adjournment

Thuane Fielding (Navy) thanked the participants for attending the RAB meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM. The next RAB meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 25, 2020.



Attachment 1  
Meeting Attendees:  
November 6, 2019

<b>RAB Members</b>	
<b>RAB Community Members Present</b>	<b>RAB Community Members Absent</b>
<b>Ramón D. Figueroa, Community Co-Chair</b> , Luis Velázquez, Ismael Velázquez, Naida Dávila	Samuel Caraballo, Michael Dalton, Jorge Fernández Porto, Lirio Márquez D'Acunti, Ramón M. Ríos, Rafael Montes, José Julio Díaz, and Agustín Velázquez
<b>Community Members Visiting</b>	
Gilberto Camacho	Pedro Tejada (Navy Contractor)
Edgar Vázquez, ACE Environmental (LRA Contractor)	Carlos R. Mendez (Equino Terapia de Puerto Rico)
<b>RAB Agency Representatives</b>	
<b>Thuane Fielding, Navy Co-Chair</b>	Navy – Base Closure Manager
Tim Wenk	Navy – Remedial Project Manager
Maria Danois	Navy – Local Site Manager
Angela Carpenter	Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2
Doug Pocze	Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2
Jessica Mollin	Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2
Juan Babá Peebles	Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources/formerly Puerto Rico Environmental Quality Board (PRDNER/PREQB) – Federal Facilities Coordinator, Emergency Response Area
<b>Other Agency Representatives</b>	
Ian Carlo Serna	LRA Executive Director
Adalberto Molina (absent)	LRA
Nilda Marchán (absent)	LRA
William Sarriera (absent)	LRA
Manuel José Martínez	Alianza Pro-Desarrollo Económico de Ceiba (APRODEC)
Damaris Delgado (absent)	Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources
Santiago Oliver (absent)	Puerto Rico Conservation Trust (Para la Naturaleza)
Carlos Morales (absent)	Puerto Rico Conservation Trust (Para la Naturaleza)
Neida Pumarejo (absent)	Puerto Rico Conservation Trust (Para la Naturaleza)
<b>Support Staff</b>	
Jamie Butler	CH2M/Jacobs (Navy Contractor – NAPR Activity Manager)
Hope Wilson	CH2M/Jacobs (Navy Contractor – Presenter)
Andy Bogdanski	CH2M/Jacobs (Navy Contractor)
James Frank	CH2M/Jacobs (Navy Contractor)
Madeline Almodóvar	CH2M/Jacobs (Navy Contractor – Facilitator)
Daniel G. Concepción	CH2M/Jacobs (Navy Contractor – Facilitator)