

***Restoration Advisory Board
Former Lowry Bombing and Gunnery Range (FLBGR)
20 August 2008
FINAL MEETING MINUTES***

The 20 August 2008 meeting of the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) was held at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Site Compound, 25950 East Quincy Avenue, Aurora, CO 80016. The scheduled start time was 5:00 p.m.

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

In the absence of Mr. Jerry Hodgson, USACE Co-Chair, Mr. Julio Iturreria, Arapahoe County, motioned that the meeting be called to order at approximately 5:05 p.m. Mr. James Schrack, City of Aurora, seconded the motion.

ATTENDANCE

The following RAB members were present:

- Julio Iturreria, Arapahoe County
- Bob Hastings, Citizen
- James Schrack, City of Aurora
- Joe Freund, Citizen
- Carol MacLennan, Tri-County Department of Health

Other attendees:

- Lynn Robbio Wagner, Tri-County Department of Health
- Marilyn Null, CDPHE
- Monica Sheets, CDPHE
- Warren Smith, CDPHE
- Ken Vogler, CDPHE
- Randy Hawbaker, Cherry Creek School District
- Larry Liebrecht, Colorado Aviation Historical Society
- Morey Engle, Shaw Environmental, Inc. (Shaw)
- Steve Gehring, Shaw
- John Mullen, Shaw
- Lisa Stahl, Shaw
- Chris Sundeen, Shaw
- Meggan Pickner, Sky Research (Sky)

GENERAL RAB ITEMS

Mr. Schrack, City of Aurora, asked if the Board had an opportunity to review the minutes from the 16 April 2008 RAB meeting. As there were no comments, the minutes from the April RAB meeting were approved.

The first item scheduled on the meeting agenda was a presentation by Mr. Rick Mueller (Aurora Parks Department) regarding proposed future land use at the Jeep/Demolition Range Area. However, because Mr. Mueller had not yet arrived, Mr. Chris Sundeen (Shaw Environmental, Inc.) proceeded with the presentations on the progress at the Lowry Training Annex (FLTA) and the Former Lowry Bombing and Gunnery Range (FLBGR).

FORMER LOWRY TRAINING ANNEX (FLTA)

Air Force Update

(presentation posted on the web)

Mr. Sundeen reported that munitions response activities are considered complete at the FLTA, based on data collected to date. Remaining un-cleared areas (i.e. approximately 30 acres which include the southwest drainage area and the area immediately adjacent to Quincy Avenue) were not impacted by historical military activities. Based on field evaluations and findings from munitions response activities conducted in and around these areas, the remaining debris consists mainly of general trash and refuse that do not contain munitions hazards. The State Land Board (SLB) and Colorado Department of Health and Environment (CDPHE) have supported this assessment. Consequently, debris within these areas will be removed by a private contractor hired by the SLB. Once hired, it is anticipated that the contractor will have 45 days to complete the debris removal. As a safety precaution, the USACE and Shaw will provide onsite UXO support during the SLB debris removal effort. The SLB debris removal is anticipated to occur sometime this fall.

Final USACE Quality Assurance (QA) activities for the FLTA area are ongoing. These activities include final review and acceptance of existing geophysical data and data processing procedures, geophysical remapping of approximately a half dozen grids, and, if necessary, limited additional field work including digging of any additional identified anomalies. Upon final USACE QA acceptance, post-removal verification activities will be performed. The planning document for the post-removal verification has been reviewed by USACE and CDPHE and is currently being finalized. Geophysical transect mapping associated with the post-removal verification effort should begin within the next month. Additionally, the USACE is currently assessing the cost-to-complete for the FLTA effort and any additional Air Force funding requirements. Final reporting for the Air Force portion of the FLTA should be completed in late 2008.

FORMER LOWRY BOMBING AND GUNNERY RANGE (FLBGR)

Project Status and Field Work Update

(presentation posted on the web)

Mr. Sundeen presented a short briefing on the current project status of FLBGR activities. To date, the project has had 3,128 days without lost time due to injury. Currently, there are three munitions response teams in Bombing Target 2 (BT2), one team in the No Name Area of Interest (AOI), and one team in the Rocket Range. Currently, there is one geophysical team in Bombing Target 3 (BT3) and one geophysical team in Bombing Target 4 (BT4). Mr. Sundeen pointed out that since the last RAB meeting (16 April 2008), significant progress has been made at BT4 in particular (25% complete). Lesser progress was also made at the Rocket Range, Mortar Range, BT2, and BT6. Currently, munitions response activities are estimated at 66% complete at the FLBGR. A more detailed report of current activities being conducted at the FLBGR will be presented at the next RAB meeting, scheduled for 15 October 2008.

Mr. Sundeen closed the FLBGR presentation by reminding RAB members that meetings are now held quarterly and that the next meeting would be held on 15 October 2008. Mr. Sundeen noted that the location of the October meeting had not been finalized; however, when asked their preference, the RAB voted unanimously to hold future meetings, for the time being, at the Arapahoe County Fairgrounds. Finally, the RAB asked that future **draft** meeting minutes be posted to the project website (flbgr.org) as soon as possible after the RAB meeting and subsequent to the following meeting. This would give the Board members and the public earlier access to project and meeting information.

TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATION AND SITE TOUR

Mr. Morey Engle (Shaw) invited meeting attendees to remain for a briefing by Mr. Brian Hamilton, Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) Safety Officer (Shaw), on munition recognition training aides, which addressed differing types of munitions items either discovered at or potentially present at the FLBGR. Attendees surrounded two tables displaying the sample munitions, which included ordnance used for training during the World War II years, as well as Vietnam and post-Vietnam era munitions.

Mr. Engle then invited the RAB members and other attendees outside to the Site Compound for a demonstration of how the munitions clearance is conducted by an UXO team. Because Mr. Hodgson (USACE Co-Chair) was unable to attend the meeting, the planned site tour was significantly reduced and the focus of activities shifted to a technology demonstration consisting of a simulated “mag-and-dig” demonstration and a hands on session with the “mag-and-dig” instruments. Lastly, the demonstration moved to the USACE Geophysical Compound where Ms. Meggan Pickner (Sky Research) gave a brief overview of the different types of geophysical equipment utilized at the FLBGR. A general question and answer period followed the demonstration activities.

During the technology demonstration, Mr. Rick Mueller (Aurora Parks Department) arrived, having misunderstood the earlier start time for the meeting. Mr. Mueller then provided an update on the City of Aurora’s land use plans for the Jeep/Demolition Range (JDR) area. Mr. Mueller stated that at this time, the City does not have any definite plans for the JDR area beyond knowing that the area will eventually be used for some form of public recreation. It’s possible that the City will eventually build a regional sports park on the site, but no formal land use designation has been made. Mr. Mueller cited budget constraints and other City of Aurora priorities as the reason for the lack of details on the future land-use of this area.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was officially adjourned at approximately 7:30 p.m.