

US Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control
National Institute for Occupational Safety and
Health
Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health
146th Meeting
Wednesday, June 15, 2022

The Advisory Board convened via teleconference at
11:00 a.m. Eastern Time, Henry A. Anderson, Chair,
presiding.

NEAL R. GROSS

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Members Present:

Henry A. Anderson, Chair
Josie Beach, Member
Bradley P. Clawson, Member
R. William Field, Member
David Kotelchuck, Member
James E. Lockey, Member
Genevieve S. Roessler, Member
Phillip Schofield, Member
Loretta R. Valerio, Member
Paul L. Ziemer

Also Present:

Rashaun Roberts, Designated Federal Official
Nancy Adams, NIOSH Contractor
Bob Barton, SC&A
Kathy Behlin, SC&A
Finn Black, SC&A
Nicole Briggs, SC&A
Ron Buchanan, SC&A
Grady Calhoun, DCAS
Chris Crawford, DOL
Joe Fitzgerald, SC&A
Al Frolas
Regina Kelleher, DOE
Steve Ostrow, SC&A
Michael Rafky, HHS
LaVon Rutherford, DCAS
Tim Taulbee, DCAS

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Proceedings

(11:01 a.m.)

Roll Call

Dr. Roberts: Good morning and welcome, everyone. I am Rashaun Roberts. I'm the Designated Federal Official, or DFO, for the Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health. And, of course, I'd like to welcome you again to this teleconference.

The meeting agenda for today is posted on the NIOSH website for this program under schedule of meetings. You can look at this month and get the agenda off the website.

Since this is a telephonic meeting, I just want to discuss our use of this basic technology. So, in order to keep things moving efficiently without interruption, I just ask that everybody make sure that their phones are on mute, unless they're speaking, of course. If you do not have a mute button, you can press *6 on your phone to mute. If you need to take yourself off, you can press *6 again. And because we will be unable to see each other for this meeting, it would be helpful if you would identify yourself before your comments or questions.

With that, I'd like to formally start. The primary purpose of this Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health meeting is to prepare for our August 17th to 18th Board meeting, although there are a few other items on the agenda for today.

And I can hear someone, so if we could again make sure that the phones are on mute, that would be great.

So, with that, let me go ahead and move into roll call. I'll start with the Board Members in alphabetical order. We don't need to address conflict of interest since this is primarily an administrative meeting.

(Roll call.)

Dr. Roberts: Thank you very much, everyone. Let's go on and move into the agenda. Again, I have heard some interference with the line, so you do want to make sure that you're keeping your phone on mute throughout the meeting unless you want to speak. Again, if you don't have the mute button, press *6 to mute. If you need to take yourself off, press *6 again.

And, with that, without any further delay, I'll turn the floor over to Dr. Henry Anderson, who is our Board Chair. Andy?

Welcome

Chair Anderson: Good morning. Welcome, everybody. This is the 146th meeting of the Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health. Let's move right on to getting our update on the cybersecurity modernization initiative. Grady, or whoever.

Mr. Calhoun: Are you ready for me, Dr. Anderson?

Chair Anderson: Go ahead.

Update on Cybersecurity Modernization Initiative

Mr. Calhoun: This is going to be short and sweet, too, but basically what we're doing, we're still in the process of what we call documenting the processes of our systems. As many of you know, NOCTS and our other systems were very complicated, and so we're actually having to go through and document, if you do this, then that happens, and if we need this and then that happens. And it's a step-by-step, if/then kind of flow path. And then once we get that documented, the rebuild will begin.

So we're getting really close on that. We've actually stood up a few of our minor applications, and we're in the process of testing those to make sure they work.

And so, ultimately, the goal is going to be to have all of our systems in a secure environment and they'll be accessed by everyone who needs them, rather than right now we had a system that ORAU was operating and we had a system that we were operating. But we're working towards the pool of one system in this secure environment.

And so we're still managing to get the cases out as quick as they're coming in and we're meeting all of our goals of no significant delays with cases and all of our expedited cases we're getting out just as they were prior to the pause.

So that's it.

Chair Anderson: Any questions for Grady?

(No response.)

Chair Anderson: Do you want to give us an update on how the schedule is looking?

Dr. Roberts: Yes. There's something that's going wrong with my computer. Let me -- if you will just give me a moment, I can pull that up.

Chair Anderson: Okay.

Plans for the August 2022 Board Meeting

Dr. Roberts: Okay, I just kind of wanted to give an overview of the agenda items right now and just make sure that I'm including everything that needs to be included and then we can move on to other issues related to the meeting.

So some of the standard agenda items are still on there, the NIOSH program update, the DOL/DOE program update. There's an agenda item, as Josie had said, for the Subcommittee for Procedures Review, and opportunities for them to present the documents that they're looking to finalize.

There is the Sandia agenda item to follow up on the

SEC discussion and I think we per phone doing the vote on that, but that's an agenda item.

There's the SEC petition status update. There's an agenda item to present RPTR-89 for Argonne National Lab West. And then there's the Board work session and then also the public comment session on the agenda so far.

So that's a brief overview. Is there anything that should be on the agenda that I may have missed?

Chair Anderson: You do have the Sandia vote on there, right?

Dr. Roberts: Yes, that is on there.

Member Beach: Do we have a location for the meeting?

Dr. Roberts: Well, that sort of segues into the next piece of the conversation. So again, if there's anything else that needs to be added to what I've already described, you know, speak now.

If there's nothing, then what I'm finding is that if those are the only agenda items that we have, we really only have enough to make up for a one-day meeting.

I know that we had tentatively discussed doing a face-to-face meeting in Idaho Falls I think was the location that we agreed upon back in April, but we are -- the agenda is just to cover one day, so that meeting.

The other issue and I've only recently become aware of this is that there are a few Board Members, for legitimate reasons, are anticipating that they will not be able to make it to this Board meeting. So there's that factor.

Another factor that we have discovered in trying to find meeting locations and hotel rooms for folks is that apparently this is a popular time in Idaho Falls

for conferences and meetings. And so basically, we would have to go above per diem for meeting rooms which means that we would be spending more than anticipated to cover people's accommodations out there.

So all of these things together has kind of made me revisit the notion of doing a face-to-face, you know, and consideration of doing this virtually again.

Another development that I think is somewhat relevant to this is that I did get word from CDC that there has been some movement in terms of identifying new Board Members to come on. Things with that are not finalized, but it sounds like we're getting close to identifying those new folks coming on to the Board. It isn't clear at this point in time that we would have enough time to process everybody and get everybody onboard by August. It's sometimes difficult to tell how long it will take to get everybody, all the new Members situated. So that's kind of another variable that's out there. So I say all that to say just kind of get input from folks about your thoughts about doing this face-to-face versus virtually and we do need to come to a final decision about that today.

Chair Anderson: Right.

Member Ziemer: This is Ziemer. I'll make a comment. As much as I love going to Idaho, we're talking about a full day of travel prior to, and a full day of travel afterwards, so that's a lot of travels for a one-day meeting.

Chair Anderson: Yes, I would agree with that, Paul.

Member Kotelchuck: Yes, it's Dave. I agree, too. I agree, too, folks. I think everything points to the fact that we should have a Zoom meeting on one of those two days, and that hopefull we'll be able to have a good meeting, a good face-to-face meeting in the fall.

Chair Anderson: Sounds good.

Dr. Roberts: And just to clarify, if it's done virtually, we would do the same thing we've been doing which is to do like a half day each instead of trying to do a full day on Zoom.

Member Ziemer: Fine.

Member Kotelchuck: Yes, that would help the timing issue, East Coast to West coast.

Chair Anderson: I agree with you, Sean. And it would really be good to be able to have the face-to-face when we have the new Members coming in and so forth, so that will give us better opportunity. I understand.

Dr. Roberts?

Dr. Roberts: Yes.

Mr. Frolas: This is Al Frolas. I'm the Petitioner on Lawrence Livermore. Is that issue that was mentioned earlier by LaVon, is that on the agenda for August?

Dr. Roberts: Are you referring to Sandia?

Mr. Frolas: No, Lawrence Livermore. I believe LaVon said that they're working on an addendum and it would be coming quickly. It's only been going on seven years.

Mr. Rutherford: Dr. Roberts, this is LaVon Rutherford. No, that will not be ready by that time. And it will need, too, some time, even when it's approved, to get the Advisory Board to review it before we present it.

Dr. Roberts: Actually, just to advise you and others of the public, this meeting doesn't have a public comment session. So, I think we've responded to the question about that agenda item, but technically this is -- there's no allowance for today for public

comments or questions. But thanks, LaVon, for responding.

Chair Anderson: So it sounds to me like there's agreement to go with doing it by Zoom and virtual and we'll use both days and a half day of each of the days. We'll get the times on it and invites out when we get closer to the time.

Dr. Roberts: Okay. So is there -- so it's settled, then. We're going to be doing the August 17th to 18th virtually.

Chair Anderson: Good.

Dr. Roberts: Okay. Great.

Chair Anderson: And I guess we will decide on a fall face-to-face location. If we do have the new Board Members ready to go by that time, would the location make a difference? Just remembering a previous onboarding of getting your computer and getting the training and getting up to speed to do that and our remote area may be more problematic, so -- go ahead.

Dr. Roberts: Andy, we had talked about Pinellas. We had talked about Pinellas for the December meeting.

Chair Anderson: Yes.

Dr. Roberts: They should go to Cincinnati to get all that stuff set up ahead of time, though. If I remember correctly, that's what usually happens.

Chair Anderson: Because I know at one point we talked about doing some legal advisory as to how we deal with conflicts and other things, update everybody, which would include the new Members, rather than have them get a briefing and kind of training separately.

But I guess it would be good to hear, if there's going to be a need to have the new Members, since

there will be more than one, certainly, have a training program for just them might well be the most efficient way to do some of it.

Dr. Roberts: Yes, I think in the past there has been some orientation with new Members. From my understanding, it's taken place in Cincinnati in the past. But, yes, I think we need to do a little more thinking about what that would look like this time around as we kind of get more information --

(Simultaneous speaking.)

Chair Anderson: -- Pinellas, going down to Florida?

Dr. Roberts: I think that Josie said that was the tentative suggestion for December.

Chair Anderson: Okay.

Dr. Roberts: But we can certainly revisit, perhaps at the August meeting.

Chair Anderson: Okay. Just knowing that wintertime is a Florida vacation period, too. You don't want to be caught behind finding a location and facilities.

Okay, do we have any other issues?

(No response.)

Chair Anderson: Okay, Rashaun, do you have anything else? Or Grady?

Dr. Roberts: That was it for me.

Adjourn

Chair Anderson: Thank you. Okay. So with that, I think we can adjourn. We have nothing else.

Member Beach: I'll second that.

Chair Anderson: Okay. Okay, thanks. We stand adjourned.

(Whereupon, the above-entitled matter went off the

record at 11:29 a.m.)