

Centers for Disease Control
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health (ABRWH)
148th Meeting

Thursday, October 20, 2022

Summary Proceedings

The Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health meeting convened via teleconference at 11:00 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT), Dr. Henry A. Anderson, Chair, presiding.

Attendees

Members

Henry Anderson, Chair
Josie Beach, Member
David Kotelchuck, Member
James Lockey, Member
Genevieve S. Roessler, Member
Loretta Valerio, Member
Paul L. Ziemer, Member

Non-Members, Registered and/or Public Comment Participants:

Rashaun Roberts, Designated Federal Official
Grady Calhoun, DCAS
Tim Taulbee, DCAS
LaVon Rutherford, DCAS
Chuck Nelson, ORAU Team
Bob Barton, SC&A
Steve Ostrow, SC&A
Joe Fitzgerald, SC&A
Ron Buchanan, SC&A
Rose Gogliotti, SC&A
Asheton Habighurst, SC&A
Chris Crawford

Roll Call/Welcome - Dr. Rashaun Roberts, DFO

Dr. Rashaun Roberts called to order the Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health at 11:00 am EDT on October 20, 2022, via teleconference. A roll call of all ABRWH members confirmed that a quorum was present. The quorum was maintained throughout the meeting. Dr. Roberts turned the meeting over to Dr. Anderson, Board Chair.

Introduction of New Staff – Dr. Henry Anderson, ABRWH Chair

Dr. Anderson introduced Ashton Habighurst, a new attorney with HHS, who will be providing legal support to the EEOICPA program. She described her work experience and expressed gratitude for those who have helped her get oriented in her new job.

Update on Cybersecurity Modernization Initiative – Grady Calhoun, DCAS

Mr. Calhoun reported that DCAS is working with NIOSH's ODIT organization to develop applications that will be similar to those that were available before the Cybersecurity Modernization Initiative. At present, if Board members want access to particular documents, they can make requests to Grady Calhoun, Lavon Rutherford, or Lorie Marion-Moss of DCAS, and the documents will be placed on the virtual drive for them. Mr. Calhoun's opinion is that new applications will not be available for at least 12 months. He commented that DCAS does not have any search capability either. They must request searches from their contractor ORAUT. Josie Beach asked if any particular application had a timeline associated with it. Grady replied that he meets with NIOSH ODID roughly weekly, and they are currently working on an initial case input application. The DCAS applications are quite complex, so compiling requirements and evaluating potential approaches is something of an iterative process.

Ms. Beach asked if it would be possible for Board members or SC&A staff to visit the ORAU facility in order to conduct document searches. Mr. Calhoun couldn't say for sure if that would be possible. Dr. Anderson asked who would decide when a new application was complete and acceptable. Mr. Calhoun replied that NIOSH ODIT would decide if the application was suitably secure, and that ODIT is supposed to provide applications that meet DCAS's functional requirements. He wasn't sure what would happen if DCAS and ODIT disagreed about whether functional requirements had been met.

Finally, Ms. Beach pointed out that the lack of document search capability severely impedes the work of the Board and SC&A.

Special Exposure Cohort (SEC) Petition Status Update – Chuck Nelson

Mr. Nelson reported that DCAS will not present any new SEC Petition Evaluation Reports presented at the December Board meeting. DCAS has received two Form B SEC petitions in the past few months. Mr. Nelson reported on one of those at the August Board meeting. That petition is on hold pending verification that the petitioner was employed by the facility. A second petition, which was received about a month ago, was for a facility that is not currently covered by EEOICPA. DCAS has forwarded information from the petitioner to DOE so that they can determine if the site should be added to the covered facility list.

Updates from Work Groups and Subcommittees

Work Group and Subcommittee Chairs reported progress and plans for their respective groups, with assistance from DCAS staff. Rose Gogliotti, SC&A, reported that SC&A has completed the 31st set of dose reconstruction reviews. Dr. Anderson and SC&A decided that they would wait until the December Board

meeting, when new Board members have been seated, to assign the reviewed cases to individual Board members.

Plans for the December 2022 Board Meeting – Dr. Rashaun Roberts, DFO

Dr. Roberts reported that the paperwork for onboarding new Board members is being reviewed. She expects they will be onboarded prior to the December meeting. An additional announcement, asking for nominations for additional new members has also been published.

For the December Board meeting, Dr. Roberts intends to provide orientation sessions to the new Board members on December 7, along with annual ethics training for the entire Board (including the new members). The meeting's agenda items will fill one full day, December 8. In addition to the customary reports from DCAS, DOL, and DOE, and SEC update, there will be presentations updating status for the Rocky Flats Plant, and the Pinellas Plant. The meeting will be held at the St. Petersburg Marriott – Clearwater, which is in Clearwater, Florida.

With the new members onboard, Dr. Anderson and Dr. Roberts intend to fill some vacancies that have been created in Subcommittees and Working Groups.

Board Correspondence

Dr. Anderson read tribute letters from NIOSH and the Board to retired Board member Phil Schofield.

Meeting Adjourned

Dr. Anderson adjourned the meeting at 12:06 pm.