



Waikane Valley RAB Purpose and Charter Overview

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Tonight's Training

- RAB Overview
 - Waikane Valley RAB Charter
 - Membership
 - Responsibilities
 - Operating Procedures
 - Dissolution of the RAB
 - RAB Lessons Learned
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RAB Definition

“A public forum for the discussion and exchange of environmental cleanup information between the Department of Defense, state and federal regulatory agencies and the local community”



A RAB may only address issues associated with environmental cleanup activities.

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RAB Purpose

To give members of the public an opportunity to

- learn about Department of Defense environmental cleanup projects and
- provide input, opinions, and concerns to project managers **throughout the process.**

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Advisory not Consensus

- A RAB is not a decision-making board – it is an advisory board.
- Consensus votes are not required for RAB comments or for project management decisions

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Typical RAB Voting Situations

- Charter approval/changes
- Election or re-election of members
- Election of Community Co-Chair

RAB Voting should not be a surprise – Members should be informed in advance either during previous meetings/minutes or as agenda items in routine invitation letters.

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Waikane Valley RAB

- Established in 2007.
- Deals solely with the study and potential cleanup activities at the U.S. Marine Corps parcel of the Waikane Valley Impact Area.



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Waikane Valley RAB Guidance

- Department of Defense RAB Rule
 - Establishment
 - Characteristics
 - Composition
 - Funding
- Waikane Valley RAB Charter
 - Membership
 - Responsibilities
 - Operating Procedures
 - Dissolution of the RAB

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Waikane Valley RAB Members

- **Local citizens –**
 - goal between 10 and 20
 - Currently 16
 - **Navy/Marine Corps representatives**
 - One official member – Marine Co-Chair, Captain Hudock
 - Other participants are to provide information
 - **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency representatives**
 - No official involvement because not a National Priorities List (NPL) site
 - Delegated the authority to Hawaii Department of Health
 - **State environmental regulatory agencies representatives**
 - Hawaii Department of Health – Steven Mow
 - **Local government representatives**
 - None at this time
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Waikane Valley RAB Membership

- **RAB Members volunteer for a 2 year term.**
 - **Member re-election or acceptance of new members is done by a majority vote of the community RAB members present during the voting meeting.**
 - **Members receive no compensation – this includes interviews to gather historical information.**
 - **Members all have equal status, except the two co-chairs.**
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Waikane Valley RAB Co-Chairs

- The Marine Corps representative is selected by the installation's Commanding Officer.
- Community Co-Chair:
 - **Elected for 2 year term**
 - **Can serve consecutive terms.**
 - **Can be removed by a majority vote of the community members before the 2 year term is complete.**
- The co-chairs will serve as equal partners.

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RAB Member Responsibilities

- **Reviewing** and commenting on various technical documents and related site information;
- **Attending** RAB meetings and discussing and exchanging information regarding site cleanup;
- Serving as a **liaison** with the community and providing them with information discussed at the RAB meetings



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Waikane Valley RAB Attendance

- All RAB members are expected to attend all regularly scheduled RAB meetings or to send an alternate if they can't attend.
 - Please notify the Community Co-Chair in advance.
 - If you send an alternate on a voting night he/she can vote for you.
- If you miss 2 consecutive meetings without sending an alternate the other RAB members can require you to resign.

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RAB Co-Chair Responsibilities

All RAB member responsibilities **PLUS:**

- Jointly determine meeting agendas
- Act as focal point for community outreach
- Various administrative duties



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Waikane Valley RAB Meetings

- **RAB meetings will be held at least 2 times a year**
 - Wednesday evenings
 - 6:30 to 8:30 pm
 - Waihole Elementary School
 - **Additional meetings will be scheduled as needed**
 - There have been 3 official meetings in the last 6 months
 - **RAB Meeting reminders**
 - Sent to all RAB members and others signed-up for the mailing list at least 1 week prior to each meeting
 - Will include the planned agenda
 - **All meetings are open the general public.**
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Running the Meetings

- **Currently RAB meetings are run jointly by the Co-Chairs**
 - **Community members or the Marine Corps may request the use of a facilitator.**
 - **Facilitator's Role would be to ensure the meeting stays on track while providing everyone equal opportunity to comment on agenda items and presentations.**
 - **Facilitators must be neutral and have no decision-making authority**
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RAB Comments

- RAB Consensus is not required on official or unofficial comments.
 - RAB members are encouraged to submit all comments/suggestions/concerns.
 - Co-Chair may poll members or hold an unofficial vote on an issue to facilitate RAB discussion.
 - Written comments on documents will have a 30 to 60 day comment period.
 - Provide comments to Randall Hu
(randall.hu@usmc.mil)
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Dissolution of Waikane Valley RAB

- If all required work is complete
 - If the property is transferred out of DoD
 - If 75% of members agree in writing
 - If there is no longer sufficient, sustained community interest
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RABs Work Best When: Lessons Learned

- Routine attendance is high
 - RAB members speak-up when they don't understand or need additional training or assistance
 - Co-Chairs keep agenda manageable and appropriate
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Technical Assistance for Public Participation (TAPP)

- DoD grant program to hire technical experts to help RAB members better understand the munitions response program
 - Community Co-Chair and RAB members need to work together to identify specific areas or topics where assistance is needed
 - TAPP Handbook is posted on the MCBH website
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For More Information

MCBH Website

www.mcbh.usmc.mil/g4/environ/WaikaneRAB.htm

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