

Hanford Advisory Board



Steve Hudson Chair
Susan Leckband, Vice Chair

Consensus

How the HAB Works



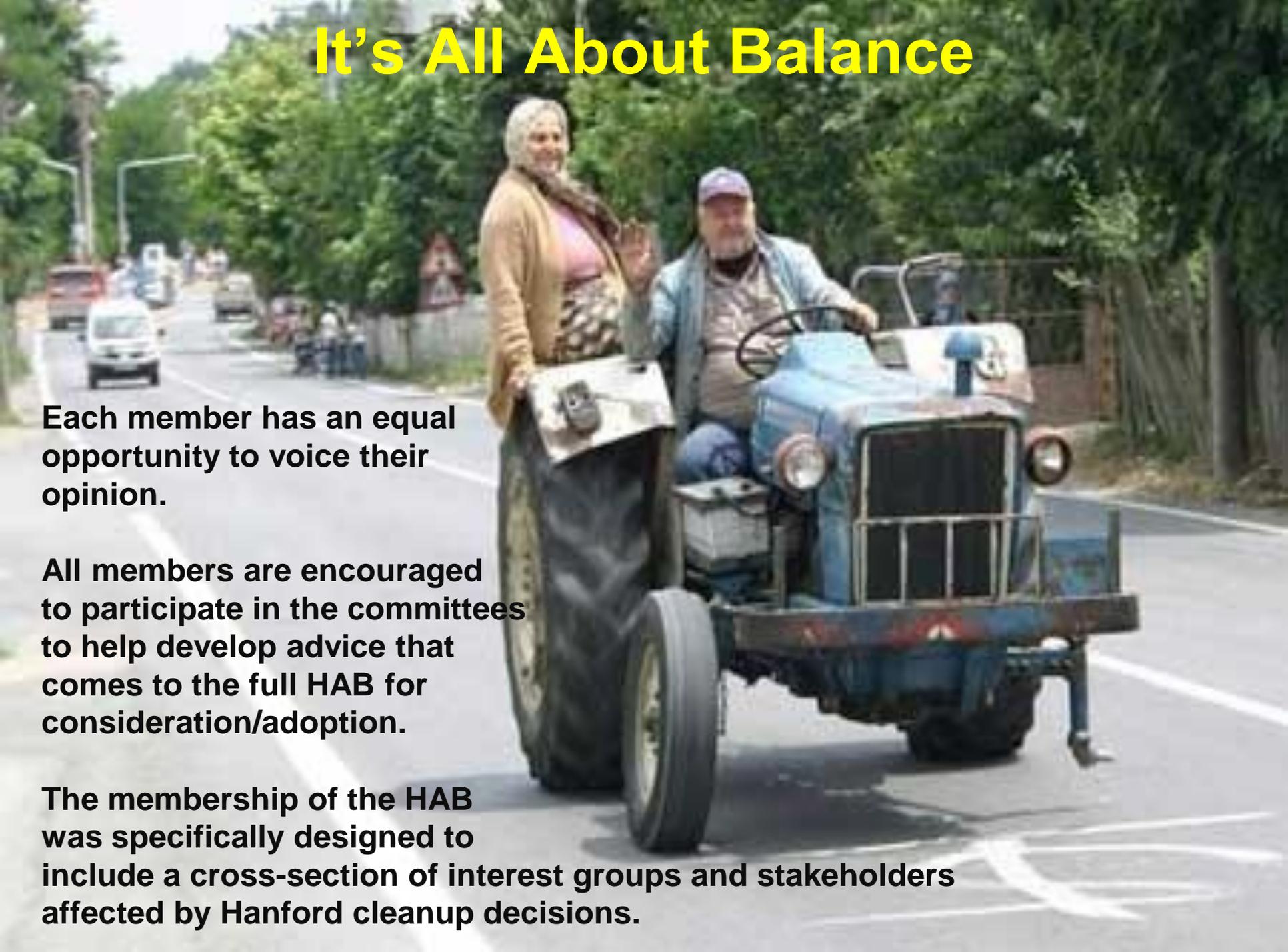
- HAB is chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA)
 - Part of the national SSAB (Site Specific Advisory Board consisting of citizen advisory boards from other Dept. of Energy Environmental Management superfund sites)
- HAB provides policy advice and recommendations to DOE, EPA and Ecology that consider public values in cleanup decisions
 - TPA agencies develop an issues priorities list requesting HAB input. The HAB works that list through the committee structure. Additionally,
 - Committees determine issues for discussion and or a,
 - Committee member brings issue forward
 - Information is requested from DOE and/or regulators or outside sources by committee chair or Issue Manager
 - Information is presented to the committee or issue manager(s) review information and propose path forward. Committee discussion occurs. If advice is developed, the committee must reach consensus on advice before it is brought before the full HAB.
- HAB Website: <http://www.hanford.gov>

HAB – A Board of 31 Interests



- Seven representatives of local government interests
- One representative of business interests from the Tri-Cities area, (TRIDEC or similar)
- Five representatives of the Hanford workforce: 2 Union, 2 non-union/non-mgmt, 1 other
- One representative of local environmental interests;
- Five representatives of regional citizen, environmental, and public interest organizations with an active interest in Hanford cleanup issues, drawn from regional organizations;
- One representative each of local and regional public health concerns, focusing on individuals and organizations that have a particular expertise in this area;
- One representative of each of the three tribes that have treaty rights that are affected by Hanford cleanup decisions: including the Confederated Tribes of the Yakama Indian Nation, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, and the Nez Perce Tribe;
- Two representatives of the interests of the citizens of the State of Oregon including one appointed by the Governor of Oregon or the agency that has the lead role for the State of Oregon on Hanford cleanup issues; and one that can represent the broad interests of Oregon citizens appointed by the Oregon Hanford Waste Board
- Four at-large (members of the public).

It's All About Balance

A photograph of a man and a woman riding a vintage blue tractor on a paved street. The woman is standing on the back of the tractor, wearing a tan jacket and a patterned top. The man is sitting in the driver's seat, wearing a blue jacket and a purple cap. The tractor is a classic model with a large front grille and round headlights. The background shows a street with other vehicles and green trees.

Each member has an equal opportunity to voice their opinion.

All members are encouraged to participate in the committees to help develop advice that comes to the full HAB for consideration/adoption.

The membership of the HAB was specifically designed to include a cross-section of interest groups and stakeholders affected by Hanford cleanup decisions.

Sub-Committees

- River and Plateau
- Tank Waste
- Health, Safety & Environmental Protection
- Public Involvement
- Budgets & Contracts

River and Plateau and Tank Waste committees meet almost monthly. Other committees meet as the work/issues require.

Occasionally the committees will meet jointly or a Committee of the Whole will be convened to discuss an overarching issue where all members need the opportunity to weigh in and hear each others concerns. The HAB may determine that a task force is needed to work a particular issue over some period of time. The HAB remains nimble enough to address issues in whatever manner is required to provide all the membership with equal opportunity to engage in the process.



Cleanup Values/Concerns



- **Safety**
 - Worker
 - Public
- **Groundwater**
 - Protect the Columbia River
 - Integration of groundwater cleanup actions across Hanford (field offices and contractors)
 - Records of Decisions (ROD) and Remedial Actions need to be protective
 - Deep Vadose Zone characterization, remediation
- **Capping waste sites vs. retrieve/treat/dispose**
 - Characterization needed
 - Viability/longevity of barriers/caps
 - Potential risks of waste sites to groundwater (over time)

Cleanup Values/Concerns (cont'd)



- **Funding**
 - Yearly appropriations – will they be adequate?
 - Demonstrated Progress = funding sustainability
- **Hanford site size reduction**
 - Records of Decision for central plateau
 - Future land use
 - Long term stewardship and institutional controls
- **Waste Treatment Plant**
 - Startup schedule may be delayed
 - Current underground tank storage system integrity concerns
 - Are there enough double shell tanks with available space to continue waste removal from single shell tanks? With the discovery of tank leaks the HAB has recommended new tank construction
 - Disposal of WTP output, if not YUCCA Mountain then where?

In Conclusion

The cleanup of the environmental damage created by past operations will continue to require billions of dollars in future funding, innovative solutions, and persistence to complete. The real challenge will be to maintain the momentum and funding to complete the cleanup efforts and provide for long-term stewardship for generations to come. Given the magnitude and longevity of the cleanup operations, it is imperative that we remain mindful to adhere to our most crucial priority, which is protection of public health and the environment, now and in the future. As a citizens' advisory board, we keep those values in mind as we advise the U.S. Department of Energy, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Washington State Department of Ecology to complete the Hanford cleanup mission in a timely, safe, and cost-effective manner.