

STATE SANITARY AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF SIXTH MEETING

December 15, 1939

A meeting of the State Sanitary Authority was called to order by the chairman, Mr. Harold Wendel, at 10:05 A.M., in the offices of the State Board of Health, 816 Oregon Bldg., Portland. Other members present were Mr. Albert Burch, Mr. Blaine Hallock, Dr. Frederick D. Stricker and Mr. Charles E. Stricklin. The secretary and assistant sanitary engineer, Mr. C. M. Everts, Jr., were also present. Mr. Veatch was absent.

MINUTES of the previous meeting held on September 15, were read and an omission noted by Mr. Burch. After correction of the omission, the minutes were approved.

ACTIVITIES REPORT: The members of the Authority reviewed an activities report by the secretary for the months of September, October and November, 1939. Mr. Everts discussed his field activities including contacts with officials of cities and industries. He reported that all industries, with one exception, had cooperated in supplying information as requested. Obviously, the financial condition of cities has an important bearing upon their ability to construct sewage treatment works. Financial data, therefore, is being obtained from cities, to supplement information relative to sewerage and sewage treatment plants. He further reported that city and industrial officials were desirous of knowing the date at which they would be required by the Authority to have treatment plants constructed and in operation.

PORTLAND SEWAGE DISPOSAL PROJECT: Chairman Wendel reported a conference with City Commissioner William A. Bowes, regarding the financial aspects of the Portland sewage disposal project. Mr. Hallock

cited his experiences in the Baker city case, in which the city was required by court injunction to construct a sewage treatment plant after a bond issue for its construction had been defeated. Mr. Hallock discussed the sewer service charge method of financing treatment plants on a revenue bond basis and its possible application to the city of Portland.

MOTION: It was moved, seconded, and carried, that the chairman appoint a committee, on which he serve, to confer with Portland city officials relative to the status of the Portland sewage disposal project. The secretary then telephoned City Commissioner William A. Bowes and arranged a luncheon meeting for the Sanitary Authority with Mayor Joseph K. Carson, City Commissioners William A. Bowes and R. E. Riley, and City Engineer Ben S. Morrow.

At the luncheon meeting, Mayor Carson and the other city representatives reviewed the financial condition of the city and stated that the city council would not, at this time, initiate any measure which would seek to raise additional funds to construct the Portland sewage disposal works either by means of a general obligation bond issue or a sewer service charge of approximately 50 per cent of the water bill of each residence or building. Mr. Hallock suggested that the mayor ask the Portland city attorney for an opinion as to various legal methods available to finance the construction of intercepting sewers and sewage treatment works. The mayor indicated that he thought such procedure was unnecessary at this time.

The luncheon meeting adjourned at 1:45 P.M., to reconvene in the offices of the State Board of Health at 2:00 P.M. Further discussion of the Portland project followed.

Mr. Hallock recommended that the state attorney general be requested to give an opinion regarding possible legal methods of financing the Portland sewage disposal project. Mr. Wendel asked Mr. Hallock to draft a letter on this subject for the secretary to transmit to the state attorney general.

BUDGET: The proposed budget for 1940, involving an expenditure of \$5,000, was submitted by the secretary. **MOTION:** It was moved by Mr. Stricklin, seconded by Mr. Burch, and carried, that the proposed budget be adopted.

APPROVAL OF PROJECT PLANS: The secretary presented a list of projects for which plans had been submitted and approval given for the period of July 7 to December 15. **MOTION:** It was moved by Mr. Burch, seconded by Dr. Stricker, and carried, that the Sanitary Authority approve of plans for the projects submitted and ratify the action of the secretary in granting approval of the projects listed below.

SEWERAGE PROJECT PLANS APPROVED
BY
STATE SANITARY ENGINEER

<u>DATE</u> 1939	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>TYPE OF PROJECT</u>
July 7	Silverton	Sewer system extensions
8	Nyssa	Sewage treatment plant (With changes required)
11	Roseburg	Sewage treatment plant
19	Portland	Airport (Columbia R.) Sewers and sewage treatment plant (With changes required)
Aug. 15	Salem	Sewer system extensions
24	Taft	Taft high school sewage disposal system
Sept. 7	Coquille	Sewer system extension (As revised)

<u>DATE</u> 1939	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>TYPE OF PROJECT</u>
Sept. 11	Marshfield	Sewer system extensions
13	Coquille	Sewer system extensions
19	Silver Creek Falls Recreational Area	Camp No. 3 Sewage disposal system
Oct. 10	Grants Pass	Sewerage system extensions, R.R. Addition
11	Pendleton	Sewerage system extensions, Harris Heights (As revised)
20	Salem	Sewerage system extensions, Rosedale and Brooklyn Additions
30	Gilchrist	Sewerage system
Nov. 16	Portland	WPA Blanket sewerage extension and repair project (Tentative approval)
22	Oswego	Sewerage system extensions (As revised)
Dec. 9	Seaside	Sewage disposal system for city park (Tentative)

FEDERAL LEGISLATION: Upon request by the chairman, the secretary discussed briefly the status of federal water pollution control legislation which is before the 76th Congress. MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Hallock, seconded by Mr. Burch, and carried, that the following resolution be adopted.

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, the Oregon State Sanitary Authority is engaged upon a reasonable cooperative program with cities and industries for the reduction and prevention of water pollution, and

WHEREAS, it is the belief of the Oregon State Sanitary Authority that the control of water pollution should be left to indivi-

dual states in cooperation with the federal government, and

WHEREAS, past experience has shown the futility of drastic prohibitory legislation for the control of water pollution, and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. 685 provides for the establishment within the U. S. Public Health Service of a division for the purpose of cooperating with states, cities and industries in an effort to solve the complex problems of water pollution which are of vital importance to the welfare of this country,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Oregon State Sanitary Authority at regular meeting assembled does endorse the type of legislation exemplified by the Barkley Bill, S. B. 685, 76th Congress, if there is to be legislation of this type enacted by the Congress, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that its secretary shall transmit to the senators and representatives of the state of Oregon to the Congress of the United States, and to the chairman of the River and Harbors Committee of the House of Representatives of the Congress, a copy of this resolution.

ACTIVITIES, POLICIES AND STANDARDS OF WATER PURITY: Mr. Everts discussed the Tualatin, Pudding and Molalla rivers investigations, as well as that of the Columbia slough. A request was made for the establishment of a definite policy regarding the time at which cities and industries will be required to construct treatment plants. This subject led to a discussion of the establishment of standards of purity and the control of discharge of sewage and other wastes. Mr. Hallock read sections 39-603 and 40-213, of the Oregon Code, as well as the State Sanitary Authority Act which has to do with the control of the discharge of sewage and other wastes and the establishment of standards

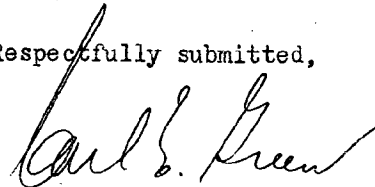
of purity.

Chairman Wendel suggested that cities or industries be asked to write a letter to the Authority setting forth their present financial condition and ability or inability to construct treatment works, together with a statement as to the time when the city or industry will be able to construct needed treatment facilities.

Mr. Stricklin advised that the League of Oregon Cities might be relied upon as a source of information regarding the financial condition of various municipalities. It was agreed that the secretary and the assistant sanitary engineer should continue work on the matter of establishment of standards of purity and that, prior to the next meeting, a list of tentative standards should be prepared for consideration by the Authority.

There being no further business to come before the Authority, the meeting adjourned at 3:20 P.M., to convene at 10:00 A.M., March 1, 1940.

Respectfully submitted,



Carl E. Green, Secretary,
State Sanitary Engineer.