

STATE SANITARY AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF ELEVENTH MEETING

December 13, 1940

The meeting of the State Sanitary Authority convened in the offices of the State Board of Health, 816 Oregon Building, Portland, at 10:15 A.M., December 13, 1940.

All members were present; namely: Chairman Harold F. Wendel, Dr. Frederick D. Stricker, and Messrs. Albert Burch, Blaine Hallock, Charles E. Stricklin and John C. Veatch.

MINUTES: Copies of the minutes having been supplied to the members in advance, the chairman, with the consent of the board, dispensed with the reading of minutes of the meeting of September 20.

ACTIVITIES REPORT: The secretary summarized the activities report for the months of September, October and November, 1940, and supplied all members with copies of the report.

APPROVAL OF PROJECT PLANS: After a review of project plans approved by the state sanitary engineer for the months of June, July, August, September, October and November, 1940, MOTION: it was moved by Mr. Hallock, seconded by Mr. Stricklin, and unanimously carried, that the project plans approved by the secretary be approved by the board. A list of the approved projects follows:

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL PROJECT PLANS

<u>DATE</u> 1940	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>TYPE OF PROJECT</u>
June 7	McMinnville	City Park sewage disposal system

<u>DATE</u> 1940	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>TYPE OF PROJECT</u>
June 11	West Slope	Northwest Home for Aged, sewage disposal system, as revised
July 24	Newport	Lincoln Co., Fairgrounds sewage disposal system as revised
Aug. 1	Klamath Falls	Moore Park sewage disposal system, as revised
12	Roseburg	Supplement project, sewage treatment plant
20	Ontario	Dist. #14 sewer extensions, as revised
22	Metzger	School sewage disposal system, as revised
Sept. 9	Silver Creek Falls State Park	Sewer System
27	Bend	County Court House sewer system
27	Butteville	School sewage disposal system, approved with provisos
Oct. 21	Prineville	Sewer system
29	Dallas	Sewer system extensions, as revised
29	Falls City	City Jail, sewage disposal system, as revised
Nov. 4	Silver Creek Recreational Area	Sewage disposal system
6	Lebanon	Evans Products Co. Sewer system and sewage treatment plant
14	Molalla	High School sewage disposal system, tentatively approved
14	West Slope	Water District sewage disposal system, approved as revised

Nov. 14	Salem	Sewer extensions, North Salem Addition
15	Salem	State Highway Commission Lot, Bldg., Sewer System
16	Wichita	School sewage disposal system, tentatively approved
20	Molalla	High School sewage disposal system, tentatively approved
20	Park Place	School sewage disposal system, approved as revised

BUDGET, 1941-43 BIENNIUM: The secretary advised the Authority that the budget request submitted by the Authority for \$36,540 had been cut to approximately \$25,000, by the state budget director. A general discussion of budget matters followed. Chairman Wendel stated that it would be wise to write to the governor and advise him relative to the Authority's position on budget matters. Mr. Veatch pointed out that we should record our stand on this matter. He also mentioned that he had asked the fishing industry of the Columbia River Basin to contribute \$10,000 to the Sanitary Authority, for its water pollution control work.

MOTION: After additional discussion by board members, it was moved by Mr. Hallock, seconded by Mr. Burch and unanimously carried, that the secretary address a letter to Governor Sprague, explaining in some detail how the proposed budget cut would curtail activity of the Sanitary Authority during the next biennium.

Chairman Wendel raised the question of what should be done if the Ways and Means Committee of the legislature should further reduce the budget for the next biennium. Mr. Stricklin, Dr. Stricker

and Mr. Burch advised that the budget, together with supporting data, should be discussed with the sub-committee of the Ways and Means.

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Burch, seconded by Mr. Hallock and unanimously carried, that the secretary write to the chairman of the Ways and Means Committee of the legislature after it convenes, and ask for a hearing before the sub-committee and/or committee of the whole, in order that the budget requests of the Sanitary Authority might be explained and substantiated.

Chairman Wendel directed the secretary to advise all members of the Authority of the time and place of any such hearing, in order that as many members as possible may arrange to attend.

The secretary discussed the matter of a separate budget request for the continuation of the Columbia River pollution studies, which will be needed if the investigations are to continue for a period of one year or more. It was the consensus of opinion of the Authority that the Columbia River Packers, the Fishermen's union and other interested persons and organizations should prepare a bill and urge its passage, and that the request for such funds should not come from the Sanitary Authority.

PORTLAND SEWAGE DISPOSAL PROJECT: The secretary distributed a report in which various sewer service charges of the city of Portland as proposed and actually in effect were discussed. It was reported that some preliminary engineering work on the Portland project had been started, but that intensive work would not begin until early in 1941. Chairman Wendel described the colored motion pictures taken by representatives of the Wild Life Federation during the summer of 1940, which show pollution of the Willamette River at various points from Springfield

through Portland. He also mentioned a plan for showing the films at an evening gathering on December 13, to which the city commissioners were invited to attend.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL, STATE INSTITUTIONS: The secretary reviewed activities during recent months relative to plans and budget items for sewage disposal facilities of various state institutions at Salem, Woodburn and Pendleton. Estimates for the improvements have been included in budgets approved by the state budget director.

SOUTH SANTIAM RIVER AND TUALATIN RIVER POLLUTION: The secretary reported that he had addressed letters to the city officials of Lebanon, Forest Grove, Gaston and Hillsboro relative to the pollution of the South Santiam and Tualatin rivers, in which their attention was called to pollution of the two streams. The cities were asked to proceed with plans for the reduction of pollution of the two streams.

GRAND RONDE RIVER POLLUTION: A petition signed by 367 residents of Union County, relative to the discoloration and pollution of the Grand Ronde River by hydraulic mining operations in the upper watershed, was read by the secretary.

POLLUTION BY MINING WASTES: Mining operations and conditions generally in the Grand Ronde River Basin were discussed by all board members. Mr. Stricklin pointed out that certain soils when mixed with water form a colloidal solution which cannot be settled out. There is no practical way to eliminate discoloration of water when hydraulic mining operations are being conducted in soils of this type. Mr. Burch reviewed his experience, relative to hydraulic mining operations in southern Oregon and in northern California, and stated that there was no certain method for the removal or prevention of such wastes from streams,

short of stopping mining operations. Mr. Burch called attention to the fact that hydraulic mining operations may be so conducted as to coincide with periods of high flow in streams without interference with fishing and recreational uses, and that during the remainder of the year, hydraulic operations might have to be stopped. Mr. Hallock reviewed the success of certain mining operators in eastern Oregon in passing waste water from dredging operations through gravel deposits and tailings for the removal of silt before the water re-enters streams. Mr. Burch pointed out the fact that such gravel deposits gradually become plugged with the material removed, and, as a consequence, their life as filtration units is limited. Mr. Stricklin raised the question of whether or not the discoloration of waters by mining wastes should concern the Sanitary Authority. Mr. Hallock read sections of the State Sanitary Authority act which pertain to the Authority's jurisdiction over such matters.

GRAND RONDE RIVER COMPLAINT: Chairman Wendel directed the secretary to write a letter to the attorney representing the petitioners in the case for the purpose of obtaining the names of the persons or firms causing the pollution of the Grand Ronde River. Following receipt of such data, the secretary was directed to communicate with the persons conducting mining operations in the upper Grand Ronde River Basin and advise them that a complaint and request for action had been made of the Sanitary Authority, and further to inquire of such persons and firms what they can and will do to correct the conditions about which complaint has been made. The secretary was further directed to investigate the complaint when weather conditions will permit.

MARSHFIELD SEWERAGE PROJECT: The secretary advised the Authority that a request had been received from the city of Marshfield for a permit to discharge raw sewage into Coos Bay, from a proposed addition to the Marshfield sewer system. After discussion of the matter and a description of local conditions in Coos Bay by the secretary, MOTION: it was moved by Mr. Hallock, seconded by Mr. Veatch and unanimously carried, that a temporary permit for the discharge of raw sewage into Coos Bay be granted to the city of Marshfield, after such investigations as may be necessary have been made, and after having included in such permit any safeguards or provisos that the secretary may deem advisable.

INDUSTRIAL WASTE DISPOSAL PROBLEM: Chairman Wendel raised for discussion the matter of industrial waste disposal and mentioned that considerable progress had been made with municipalities, but that to date, little had been accomplished with industries. After a discussion in which all members of the Authority participated, MOTION: it was moved by Mr. Stricklin, seconded by Mr. Hallock and carried, that the secretary and assistant sanitary engineer be authorized to select an industry in consultation with Chairman Wendel, which could be used for a special study, and that the engineers should proceed with plans for the reduction of pollution by that industry, insofar as the time and resources of personnel will permit.

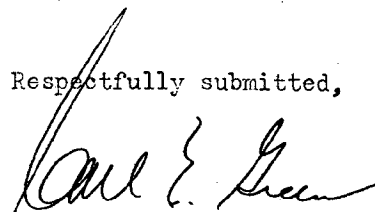
LEGISLATION: Chairman Wendel called attention to a letter from Governor Sprague regarding the submission of any legislation which should be sponsored by the Authority. It was reiterated that no legislation would be submitted at this time.

SALARIES: In connection with the refusal of the state budget

director to grant the full salary changes for the secretary and assistant sanitary engineer as previously requested by the Authority, the secretary was directed to again confer with the budget director in an endeavor to establish the salaries on a basis previously approved by the Authority.

There being no further business to come before the Authority, the meeting adjourned at 1:00 P.M., to re-convene Friday, March 14, 1941, at 10 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Carl E. Green
State Sanitary Engineer
Secretary

CEG/hs