

STATE SANITARY AUTHORITY  
MINUTES OF THE TWELFTH MEETING  
March 14, 1941

The meeting of the State Sanitary Authority was called to order at 10:15 A.M., March 14, 1941, in the offices of the State Board of Health, 816 Oregon Building, Portland.

Those present were Chairman Harold F. Wendel, Dr. Frederick D. Stricker, and the Messrs. Albert Burch, Blaine Hallock, Charles 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 the minutes of the meeting of December 13, 1940.

ACTIVITIES REPORT: The secretary reviewed the contents of the activities report for the months of December, 1940, January and February, 1941. A general discussion of budget and appropriation matters followed. The secretary reported that \$23,574 had been allowed for the 1941-43 biennium, but that no additional funds had been appropriated for continuation of the Columbia River Pollution Survey.

PROJECT PLANS: After a review of project plans approved by the state sanitary engineer for the months of December, 1940, and January and February, 1941, MOTION: it was moved by Mr. Burch, seconded by Mr. Hallock and unanimously passed, that the project plans approved by the state sanitary engineer be approved by the board. A list of the approved projects follows:

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL PROJECT PLANS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Type of Project</u>
1940		
Dec. 4	Salem	Intercepting and outfall sewer and sewage treatment plant, preliminary designs

Dec.	9	Eugene	U. of O. sewer system reconstruction and additions
	14	Tygh Valley	School sewage disposal system as revised
	14	Marshfield	Sewerage Extensions
<u>1941</u>			
Jan.	9	Woahink Lake	Honeyman State Park sewage disposal system as revised
	11	Portland	Powell Valley Rd. Water Dist. Sewage disposal system, tentatively approved.
	16	Clear Lake (Marion Co.)	School sewage disposal system as revised
	24	Portland	Carson Heights, Burlingame, Capitol Hill sewer system extensions
	29	Woahink Lake	Honeyman state park Kitchen waste disposal system
Feb.	10	Klamath Falls	Sewer extensions, Hot Springs Addition
	12	Latham (Lane Co.)	School sewage disposal system
	17	Medford	Sewer extensions, Medford and Hillview Additions
	21	Portland	U. S. Army Air Base, Sewer system and sewage treatment plant, preliminary plans approved
	24	Albany	M & M Wood Working Co. Sewage disposal system Tentative approval
	27	Wichita (Clackamas Co.)	School sewage disposal system

LABORATORY AND OFFICE FACILITIES: The secretary advised that the 1941-43 appropriation provides money for a laboratory and additional office space. He raised the question of where the laboratory facilities might be

located because additional office space would be required if laboratory facilities were to be installed in space now occupied by desks. Dr. Stricker advised that there was no further space available on the 8th floor of the Oregon Building, but that some space was available on the 4th floor. After a thorough discussion by board members, MOTION: it was moved by Mr. Hallock, seconded by Mr. Veatch and unanimously carried, that a special committee consisting of Mr. Wendel, Dr. Stricker and the secretary be delegated to outline the requirements of the Authority as to office and laboratory space.

COLUMBIA RIVER POLLUTION SURVEY: The secretary distributed a statement of expenditures made in connection with the Columbia River Pollution Survey, in which it was shown that the total Washington state expenditures as of January 31, 1941, were \$1346.49 and the Oregon expenditures at the same time were \$1535.10. Oregon expenditures as of February 28, 1941, totaled \$1763.14.

The secretary then reported that Mr. M. T. Hoy, of the State Fish Commission, had advised him that the Fish Commission had been able to transfer only \$500 of the \$1500 previously allocated for the survey, because of limited funds in present Fish Commission accounts. Mr. John C. Veatch, Chairman of the State Fish Commission, explained that the Fish Commission must pay the State Tithing Fund and its share of the State Police Fund before money becomes available to the Commission for other purposes. After discussion by various board members, Mr. Veatch stated that the Fish Commission could draw a voucher for \$1000 to be paid the State Sanitary Authority, which voucher could be transmitted to the State Treasurer for payment as soon as the funds become available.

The secretary was asked how long the field staff could continue with present funds. He advised that sufficient funds were on hand to

continue operations through the months of March and April. Chairman Wendel stated that he would be glad to accompany the secretary on any visit to Salem for the purpose of collecting funds authorized by a State Fish Commission voucher.

PROPOSED REVISED AGREEMENT, COLUMBIA RIVER POLLUTION SURVEY: The secretary submitted a revised agreement for approval by the State Sanitary Authority and the Washington State Pollution Commission, from which had been removed all reference by name to persons employed for field work. The revision was made necessary by the resignation of two of the original field staff. Mr. Hallock pointed out that the new agreement did not make mention of the fact that it superseded the original agreement dated October 3, 1940. He suggested the inclusion of the following item:

"Item 7. Former Contract Superseded. This agreement shall stand in lieu of and shall supersede and be deemed as annulling the contract between the parties hereto, executed in behalf of the State Sanitary Authority on October 3, 1940, and in behalf of the Washington State Pollution Commission on October 4, 1940, but shall be considered effective as of the date of said prior contract."

Item 7 being acceptable to the Sanitary Authority, MOTION: it was moved by Mr. Burch, seconded by Mr. Veatch and unanimously carried that the revised agreement be adopted.

The secretary next reported on the status of the field work of the Columbia River Pollution Survey, and of the activities of the Interstate Technical Advisory Committee.

## MUNICIPAL SEWAGE TREATMENT PROJECTS

Portland: Chairman Wendel reported that he had discussed the project with Commissioner William A. Bowes, and that Mr. Bowes advised him of the city's efforts to employ a competent engineer to supervise the field investigations and the preparation of plans. Mr. Bowes reported that the city is considering five applicants. Mr. Bowes estimated that it would take six more months to complete the engineering surveys, and that data should be ready for consideration in October or November, 1941, following which, a method of financing may be submitted to the voters in May, 1942, unless a special election were called sooner. The secretary reported that six men are at present employed in gathering data pertaining to the Portland project.

Springfield: The secretary advised that a suit filed against the city of Springfield in November, 1940, by Mr. D. T. Bayly who operates a swimming resort at Eugene, had been thrown out of court on a demurrer. A copy of the decision of Judge Skipworth was read, and the secretary reported his plans to obtain further data regarding the case.

Eugene: The Authority was advised that plans were being prepared for the construction of a sewage treatment plant at Eugene during the summer of 1941.

Prineville: The new Prineville sewer system and sewage treatment plant were placed in operation since the last meeting of the Authority.

State Institutions: The secretary reported that the legislature had appropriated \$75,000 for sewage disposal of the various state institutions in and near Salem, and \$20,000 for the Eastern Oregon State Hospital, Pendleton.

GRAND RONDE RIVER POLLUTION: The secretary read correspondence which he had had with the Oroplata Mining Company, following which it was decided that nothing additional should be done at this time, but that a field investigation should be conducted as soon as a representative of the Authority happened to visit Union County.

SOUTH SANTIAM RIVER POLLUTION: The secretary read letters which he had written to the city of Lebanon in regard to pollution of the South Santiam River and advised that no action had yet been taken by the city. He also read a letter from Mr. George H. Randell, City Recorder of Lebanon, dated March 13, 1941. After a discussion by board members, MOTION: it was moved by Mr. Hallock, seconded by Mr. Veatch, and unanimously carried, that the secretary of the Sanitary Authority address a letter to the Mayor and City Council of Lebanon, advising them that unless they give immediate written assurance to the Sanitary Authority that they are employing a competent engineer and otherwise vigorously proceeding with a program calculated to abate the nuisance created by the discharge of sewage and industrial wastes into the South Santiam River, the Authority will issue a citation directing the city to appear before the Authority and show cause why the Authority should not proceed with an action for the abatement of a nuisance.

#### TUALATIN RIVER POLLUTION

Hillsboro: The secretary read correspondence between himself and Mr. J. W. Barney, the City Manager of Hillsboro, pertaining to the treatment and disposal of sewage and industrial wastes into the Tualatin River at Hillsboro. After a thorough discussion of the problem and a review of the data obtained by the Sanitary Authority engineers, MOTION: it was moved by Mr. Burch, seconded by Mr. Hallock and unanimously carried, that the secretary address a letter to the city of Hillsboro similar to that being addressed to

the city of Lebanon, in which the city would be advised that unless they proceed to carry out the instructions of the Sanitary Authority, the city would be cited to appear before the Authority and show cause why an order to abate a nuisance should not be issued.

Forest Grove and Gaston: The secretary was directed to write to the city officials of Forest Grove and Gaston, and request compliance with previous instructions calling for the installation and operation of chlorination equipment at their respective sewage treatment plants.

PUDDING RIVER POLLUTION: The secretary reported relative to his correspondence and conversations with Mr. Carl Huber, plant superintendent, and Mr. Arthur L. Reiling, production manager of the Ray Maling Company Cannery at Woodburn, relative to matters of waste treatment and pollution of the Pudding River. It was pointed out that no plan had yet been prepared for the reduction of pollution of the Pudding River and that the secretary had advised Mr. Reiling of the necessity for at least removing all cores, peelings, etc., by efficient fine screening. MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Hallock, seconded by Mr. Burch and unanimously carried, that a letter similar to that addressed to the cities of Lebanon and Hillsboro be sent to the Ray Maling Company.

POLLUTION COMPLAINT STUDIES FILE: The secretary raised the question of what type of complaint reference file the Authority members would like for their use. It was agreed that the secretary should keep a comprehensive file showing the status of all pollution complaints, and that board members should be supplied with a master index which would show the status of each complaint.

INDUSTRIAL WASTE PROBLEM STUDY: The secretary reported that the Authority was committed to a program of investigation of possible treatment

methods of flax waste at the Oregon State Penitentiary during the coming summer. In response to Mr. Veatch's inquiry, the secretary reported that the use of an inmate of the institution to assist in the research work had been discussed with the warden and a representative of the State Board of Control. After a discussion of the general problems of industrial waste treatment, it was stated by Chairman Wendel that in his opinion, it was not the place of the Sanitary Authority to work out all treatment or disposal methods for the many industries of the state.

OREGON SHIPBUILDING COMPANY: The secretary reported regarding his correspondence and investigations pertaining to sewage disposal from the Oregon Shipbuilding Company yards. MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Burch, seconded by Mr. Hallock and unanimously carried that a temporary permit be given to the Oregon Shipbuilding Company for the discharge of raw sewage into the Willamette River, until such time as the Portland sewage disposal project is constructed, and at that time provision for connection to the Portland system must be made or a treatment plant installed in accordance with plans acceptable to the Sanitary Authority.

PENDLETON: SEWAGE DISPOSAL: The secretary discussed the activities of Mr. Everts and himself pertaining to the disposal of sewage from the city of Pendleton, the Eastern Oregon State Hospital and the new Army Air Corps Base. The Authority was advised that plans were being prepared and money had been allocated for the complete treatment of sewage from the Eastern Oregon State Hospital and the Army Air Base, but that the Pendleton city treatment plant provided for only primary treatment. MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Stricklin, seconded by Mr. Hallock and unanimously carried that the city of Pendleton be required to treat its city sewage to the same extent



as that required of the U. S. Army and the Eastern Oregon State Hospital. Mr. Hallock suggested that if assurance was not obtained from the city officials that they would proceed in accordance with the requirements of the Authority, that steps be taken to issue a citation. Mr. Wendel stated that evidence of progress should be at hand at the time of the next meeting of the Sanitary Authority in June, 1941.

#### NEW POLLUTION COMPLAINTS

Fanno Creek: The secretary reported that a petition had been received complaining of the pollution of Fanno Creek, a tributary of the Tualatin River in Multnomah and Washington Counties. Mr. Everts reviewed his field investigations of the complaint and stated that milk wastes from the Elco, Alpenrose and Pleasant View Dairies were the principal cause for the complaint. It was found, however, that sanitary sewage from various places also was being discharged into the Creek, and that a more detailed investigation of such pollution was under way.

Chemawa Indian School: The secretary reported that a complaint had been received regarding faulty waste disposal by the Chemawa Indian School, that a field investigation had been made, and that the matter had been referred to the U. S. Public Health Service and the U.S. Indian Service for correction.

FEDERAL LEGISLATION AND MATCHING FUNDS: The secretary advised that HR-1110 had been introduced into the 77th Congress by Representative Spence. This bill is similar to the Barkley-Vinson bill of previous sessions of Congress.

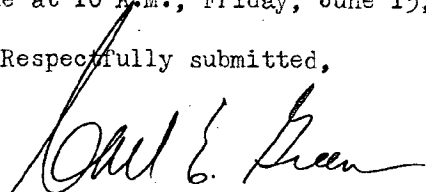
The possibility of obtaining federal funds on a matching basis for Sanitary Authority work was considered, following which MOTION: it was moved by Mr. Hallock, seconded by Mr. Veatch and unanimously carried, that any action on this matter be delegated to the chairman, Dr. Stricker and the secretary.

MERIT SYSTEM: Chairman Wendel advised that the U. S. Public Health Service had demanded that each state to which it allocates funds set up a merit system for employees. He discussed the merit system specifications for engineering personnel, and stated that he felt the Sanitary Authority should have been consulted regarding salaries of the staff. After a discussion of salaries for personnel, MOTION: it was moved by Mr. Hallock, seconded by Mr. Veatch and unanimously carried, that the salary ranges specified for Sanitary Authority personnel described in the proposed merit system of the State Board of Health should be as follows:

State Sanitary Engineer	\$260 to \$350 per mo.
Principal Assistant (Associate) Sanitary Engineer	\$235 to \$300 per mo.
Assistant Sanitary Engineer	\$200 to \$250 per mo.

There being no further business to come before the Authority, the meeting adjourned at 12:40 P.M. to visit the Columbia River Pollution Investigations Laboratory, and to reconvene at 10 A.M., Friday, June 13, 1941.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Carl E. Green  
State Sanitary Engineer  
Secretary

CEG/hs