

MINUTES OF THE EIGHTEENTH MEETING

OF THE

STATE SANITARY AUTHORITY

November 13, 1942

The regular business meeting of the State Sanitary Authority was called to order by Chairman Harold F. Wendel, at 10:20 A. M., November 13, 1942, in Room 816 Oregon Building, Portland, Oregon. Those in attendance were Harold F. Wendel, Chairman, Dr. Frederick D. Stricker and the Messrs. Albert Burch, Blaine Hallock, John C. Veatch and Charles E. Stricklin, Members, Kenneth H. Spies, Secretary and Roy E. Dodson, Jr., Associate State Sanitary Engineer.

MINUTES: Copies of the minutes of the previous meeting having been submitted to the members in advance, MOTION: it was moved by Mr. Veatch, seconded by Mr. Burch and unanimously carried that the Authority dispense with the reading of the minutes of the August 14 meeting and that the minutes stand approved as prepared by the secretary.

ACTIVITIES REPORT: The secretary reviewed the activities of the engineering staff for the months of July, August, September and October. This report included chiefly the items pertaining to municipal sewage treatment and disposal, industrial wastes surveys, sewage treatment at military and defense establishments and educational activities.

CORVALLIS SEWAGE: A report was given summarizing the developments which had taken place since the citation hearing August 14, pertaining to the matter of Corvallis sewage disposal.

Most of this report was included in the activities report and, therefore, need not be included in these minutes.

It was recalled that the city officials at the August 14th meeting had promised the Sanitary Authority they would expedite an application to the Federal Works Agency for financial assistance in constructing the required facilities, they would prepare the necessary engineering plans and specifications and they would investigate all possible methods of finance. During the meeting Mayor H. W. Hand was reached by long distance telephone and it was learned that except for filing an application with the F.W.A., the city officials had not fulfilled these promises.

The new procedure for review of the Lanham Act applications was discussed. Formerly the applications were filed with the Seattle office of the Federal Works Agency but now all such projects submitted in the state of Oregon are first reviewed by the Portland office of the W.P.A. The Corvallis application had been sent to Seattle and the secretary was instructed to contact that office to see that the application would be forwarded to the W.P.A. immediately. After the application has been submitted to the W.P.A. for review, a certificate of necessity must be obtained from the United States Public Health Service. Several letters have already been written by the Sanitary Authority to this federal agency asking for such a certificate. The Public Health Service has not granted the certificate for the reason that they feel that since this project is entirely for the benefit of the Army, the Army itself should certify as to its need. After the application has been passed by the Portland office of the W.P.A., it must then be transmitted to Salt Lake City for review by the regional office, finally it goes to Washington, D. C., for review

either by the Facility Clearance Board or by the Facility Review Committee depending upon whether the estimated cost of the project exceeds or is less than \$500,000.

At the suggestion of the Portland Field Service Office of the War Production Board, the city of Corvallis was requested by the Authority to submit a request for priority assistance to the War Production Board. Form PD-200 was finally submitted by the city, but with many apologies.

The members of the Authority discussed at length the public health hazard existing in connection with the water supply at Camp Adair.

Because of the lack of cooperation on the part of the city of Corvallis and after much discussion regarding the most satisfactory legal steps which might be taken by the Authority, MOTION: it was moved by Mr. Hallock, seconded by Mr. Veatch and unanimously carried that the Sanitary Authority arrange to hold a public meeting upon due notice, summon witnesses, take testimony and examine the facts relating to the sewage situation at Corvallis, Oregon, publish its findings and recommendations as they may be developed, enter its order in the premises and take such other action as may be appropriate; and that for such purpose the Attorney General of the state of Oregon be immediately contacted and an expression sought from him respecting appropriate procedure to be followed, extent and character of cooperation to be expected and as to a convenient date and place for such hearing. The attorney general was contacted immediately by telephone. He informed the members of the Authority that Mr. Rex Kimmell, Assistant Attorney General, would be assigned as his representative to take charge of such a public hearing. The secretary was instructed to contact Mr. Kimmell as soon as possible regarding the matter of testimony, witnesses, summons, etc. It was re-

quested that the hearing be held in Portland during the month of December if possible.

PROJECT PLANS: It was moved by Mr. Hallock, seconded by Mr. Stricklin and unanimously carried that the following project plans which the State Sanitary Engineer had approved for the months of July, August, September and October, 1942, be approved by the State Sanitary Authority:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Type of Project</u>
7-3-42	Pendleton	Sewer extensions
7-13-42	Swan Island Shipyards	Sewer extensions
9-9-42	Stanfield F.S.A.Camp	Sewage disposal additions
9-9-42	Fairview F.S.A.Camp	Sewage disposal
9-16-42	Air Support Command Base, Medford	Sewage disposal
9-16-42	Air Support Command Base, Corvallis	Sewage disposal
9-16-42	Air Support Command Base, Salem	Sewers
9-16-42	Operational Training Unit, Redmond	Sewage disposal
9-16-42	Bombing Range	Sewage disposal
9-16-42	Air Base, Portland	Sewer extensions
9-16-42	Umatilla Ordnance Depot	Sewage disposal
10-10-42	Operational Training Unit, Madras	Sewage disposal

Class C Permits were granted to discharge untreated sewage into the Willamette River from the Swan Island Bunkhouses project and into the North Portland Harbor (Oregon Slough) from the Kaiser Company War Apartment House Project.

PORTLAND SEWAGE: Mr. Wendel informed the members of the Authority that on September 28 the lead editorial of the Oregonian commented on the gross pollution of the Willamette River in the vicinity of Portland as reported to the Oregonian by Mr. Charles Castner of the quartermaster department, Terminal No. 4. The editorial asked the question "When are we

going to?" which meant when is Portland going to construct sewage disposal facilities? Mr. Wendel attempted to answer this question and his letter of October 6, which appeared in the Oregonian under the title of "Status of Anti-Pollution Project", discussed the activities of the Sanitary Authority in endeavoring to obtain the cooperation of the city council in abating this stream pollution problem. On November 5 a letter was addressed to the city council by the chairman and later personal interviews were held with them. Their attitude in the matter was that nothing would be done at the present time with respect to increasing the sewer service charges.

At the request of the chairman, MOTION: it was moved by Mr. Veatch, seconded by Mr. Burch and unanimously carried that the communication to the city dated November 5 be ratified by the Sanitary Authority. A copy of this communication is attached to these minutes.

It was decided by the members of the Authority that, except for increasing the sewer service charge to the maximum amount as authorized by the vote of the people and preparing engineering plans and specifications nothing could be done by the city of Portland at the present time to provide sewage disposal facilities. It was agreed, however, that an attempt should be made to secure the cooperation of the city council in this respect and in order to do this an educational program should be inaugurated.

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Burch, seconded by Mr. Hallock and unanimously carried that an estimate be made of the cost of placing the desired information before the various influential clubs and organizations of the city relative to the Portland sewage situation, that the state budget director be asked to approve expenditure of money for such a purpose and that if the expenditure is approved, the chairman be authorized to

employ a person capable of conducting the desired educational program.

BIENNIAL REPORT: The secretary was instructed to contact the state printer regarding two suggested changes in the report of the Sanitary Authority for the last biennium. These changes were (1) include a discussion of the municipalities in the state which are creating sinking funds for financing sewage works by means other than the sewer user service charge, (2) revise the list of special hearings as held by the Sanitary Authority.

COLUMBIA RIVER POLLUTION REPORT: The written material of the final report covering the survey of the pollution in the lower Columbia River was submitted to the Sanitary Authority by the secretary for approval. The matter of publishing the report was discussed briefly and it was suggested that perhaps the Commercial Fisheries would be willing to finance the cost of printing. It was felt that the cost of this survey was most excessive and that the information obtained did not warrant any additional expenditures on the part of the state of Oregon. If the Authority desires to publish the report at a later date, it will probably be printed in abstract form.

BUDGET: The budget for the next biennium as recommended by the state budget director was submitted to the members for consideration.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 1:15 P.M. It was decided that the next regular meeting of the State Sanitary Authority would be held in Portland, Oregon, on Friday, March 12, 1943.

Respectfully submitted

Kenneth H. Spies

Kenneth H. Spies
Acting State Sanitary Engineer
and Secretary.