

## MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

of the

STATE SANITARY AUTHORITY

February 4, 1944

The special business meeting of the Oregon State Sanitary Authority was called to order at 10:15 A.M., Friday, February 4, 1944, in the Library Room, 816 Oregon Building, Portland, Oregon. Those present were: Harold F. Wendel, chairman; Dr. Harold M. Erickson, substituting for Dr. Frederick D. Stricker who was ill; Messrs. Blaine Hallock, John C. Veatch, Charles E. Stricklin, and B. A. McPhillips, members; Kenneth H. Spies, secretary; and Mr. Charles Ohling, Public Relations Counsel.

MINUTES: Copies of the minutes of the December 16, 1943, meeting had been submitted to the members in advance and the reading of them was dispensed with. Changes in the minutes, as recommended by Mr. Hallock, were made and the minutes were then approved as corrected.

The purpose of the special meeting was to decide what action, if any, should be taken at this time regarding the issuance of an order to the city of Portland relative to abatement of pollution of the Willamette River.

The discussion was opened with a report by the Chairman that the Portland city council had finally proposed a definite course of action. It was reported that Public Works Commissioner, William Bowes, had introduced an ordinance by which a contract can be entered into with the local consulting engineering firms of Stevens & Koon and John W. Cunningham & Associates for the preparation of detailed plans and specifications including limited supervision. The contract price for such work is only \$200,000, for the reason that a credit of at least a like

amount has been allowed by the engineers for the data and studies already completed by the city engineering department. Action on this ordinance will undoubtedly be completed before the end of February.

It was reported further than Commissioners Lee, Peterson and Cooper have proposed submitting to the voters at the May primary election an act to authorize the issuance of \$12,000,000 in general obligation bonds. Action on this proposal scheduled for Wednesday, January 26, was postponed by the council until after a public hearing has been held on the subject, February 24. Commissioner Bowes apparently opposes this proposal because; (1) he considers it unwise to vote on a bond issue until after the engineering studies are fairly complete and more accurate cost estimates are available; and (2) he says the manner in which the bond issue has been written does not contain any adequate plan for establishing a sinking fund to take care of repayment.

A discussion of the bond proposal brought forth the following comments: (1) it is the easiest way for the council to take immediate action on the finance problem, but it places the responsibility upon the voters; (2) it will require considerable publicity and campaigning to get the bond issue passed by the voters, especially since the council itself is not unanimous in its support; (3) if the bond issue does carry, the problem of financing the Portland sewerage project will undoubtedly be solved; and, (4) increasing the sewer-user charge to the legal limit is still desirable and is considered to be the most businesslike method of attacking the problem of finance.

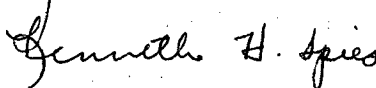
It was also the opinion of the members of the Authority after the matter had been considered at length that no order should be issued to the city council at this time for fear of aggravating the confusion which already exists in the public mind; and furthermore, that the Authority should not participate actively in the campaign for the bond issue. Action on the

part of the Authority was, therefore, postponed until the next regular meeting which is scheduled for Friday, March 17, 1944.

The Selleck account was discussed and it was agreed to make no further attempt to collect the balance, but instead to allow Mr. Selleck this balance of \$100 as payment for services performed.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:45 A. M.

Respectfully submitted,



Kenneth H. Spies  
Acting State Sanitary Engineer and  
Secretary