

MINUTES OF THE THIRD MEETING

of the

OREGON STATE AIR POLLUTION AUTHORITY

December 21, 1951

The Third meeting of the Oregon State Air Pollution Authority was called to order by the Chairman at 2:00 P.M., Friday, December 21, 1951, in Room 936, State Office Building, Portland, Oregon. Those present were Carl E. Green, Chairman; Dr. Harold M. Erickson, Merle S. West, Oren L. King, and Harold F. Wendel, Members; and Curtiss M. Everts, Jr., Secretary.

MINUTES: The minutes of the Second meeting of the Authority having been prepared and distributed to the members in advance, MOTION by Dr. Erickson, seconded by Mr. Wendel, and carried -that the minutes as prepared by the secretary be approved.

COMPLAINTS:

Reynolds Metals Company, Troutdale-Corbett Area: Mr. M.B. McKay, a resident in the Troutdale area, appeared before the Authority to present the problem of alleged damage caused by fluorine on plants and livestock in the Troutdale-Corbett area, and to request that a study of this condition be made as early as possible. He advised the Board that the residents in the area affected were also concerned over possible effects on human life as well as on plants and livestock. Mr. McKay assumed that the fluorine being discharged into the air originated from the Reynolds Metals Company, inasmuch as when this plant was closed in 1946 and again in 1948, conditions of plant and animal life were noticeably improved. He also reported that studies on this subject have been made by the Experiment Station at Oregon State College, and the Department of Agriculture, and that the reports are now filed in the Portland Library. Mr. McKay suggested that perhaps since some studies have already been conducted by the Experiment Station, the studies of the Authority could be carried on jointly with the College.

After the presentation by Mr. McKay, the secretary of the Authority was instructed to obtain copies of the Oregon State College reports on the Troutdale-Corbett studies from the Portland Library. He was also instructed to confer with Dean Earl Price and Mr. Ralph Bessie on the work done by the Agricultural Experimental Station.

Mr. King suggested that the delegation from the Troutdale-Corbett area be assured that just as soon as a staff could be assembled for the work, an investigation of the matter would be made.

LANE COUNTY AIR POLLUTION COMMITTEE: Mr. King then introduced to the Board members Judge Day T. Bayly, County Judge of Lane County, and Mr. L. B. Bartlett, City Manager of Springfield. Judge Bayly said that the Weyerhaeuser Timber Company wanted to locate another pulp mill in Lane County to utilize the wood wastes and the county wanted more paper mills; but while everything should be done to encourage industry, at the same time the residents of the area should be assured that everything possible was being done to control air pollution problems caused by industry.

Judge Bayly advised the Authority that Lane County Court had appointed a committee consisting of the District Attorney, the County Health Officer, and Dr. Kunz, Head of the Chemistry Department, Oregon University, to study air and water pollution in the county and report the facts to the County Court together with recommendations. Judge Bayly said that they had been assured by the Weyerhaeuser Company that their company would do everything possible and would spare no expense in solving their pollution problems. The Judge also believed that constant checking of industry for sources of possible pollution should be maintained.

Mr. Green advised the representatives from Lane County that just as soon as the Air Pollution Authority was sufficiently staffed, investigations of conditions would be undertaken. He stated that the Authority was just getting under way and fully realized the complexity of the problems confronting it.

He cited the fact that Dr. Erickson, Mr. Wendel, and Mr. Everts, members of the Air Pollution Authority, were also on the Board of the State Sanitary Authority, who had functioned so ably in that much has been accomplished in the matter of water pollution abatement in the state, and he believed that over a period of time, the Air Pollution Authority would function as efficiently as did the Sanitary Authority.

A discussion then followed, in which Mr. Everts suggested that in approaching the problem of air pollution on the Troutdale-Corbett area, all matters pertaining to same should be investigated very carefully, and more information obtained on the matter. Mr. Everts suggested that it might prove helpful to invite Dean Price or Mr. Bessie from Oregon State College to the next meeting in order to find out what type of work they are doing and what the need for additional studies may be.

The secretary was instructed to invite Dean Price and Mr. Bessie, and representatives of the Reynolds Metals Company to attend the next meeting of the Authority so that more information on fluorine in the Troutdale-Corbett area could be obtained.

PERSONNEL

Mr. Everts reported on his contracts at the A.P.H.A. meeting in San Francisco regarding the employment of personnel, and advised the members that he had met with no success in the matter. He then reviewed his efforts, since then, to employ proper personnel, only to find that the starting salary of \$513 per month was in the low price range for such qualified personnel. Mr. Everts stated that it might be necessary to employ a graduate engineer just out of school and train him for the job, which would necessitate using one of our engineers presently employed in other work to handle the administrative duties. Mr. Wendal asked whether it would be possible for Mr. Spies to work with any young engineer graduates who might be employed.

Mr. Green suggested that the Authority should take immediate action to ask for more money for personnel, and asked who would be the proper persons to see regarding this matter, and was advised that they were Mr. Harry S. Dorman, Director of Finance; Mr. James M. Clinton, Director of the Civil Service Commission; and Governor McKay. MOTION was made by Mr. Wendel that the matter of reviewing the possibility of changing the rating and salary of personnel be studied by Mr. Green, Mr. Everts, and Dr. Erickson, and that they constitute a committee on this problem, and be authorized to proceed in the matter. Mr. Green suggested that perhaps the committee could arrange for a meeting with the three state officials at which time the matter could be presented. Dr. Erickson suggested that if the Board attended such a meeting in a body, it would perhaps carry more weight than if just a few persons represented the Board. He made the suggestion that the next meeting of the Authority be held in Salem and that arrangements be made to meet with the state officials on the same day. He also suggested that the committee develop a program and plan in advance and place it in the hands of other members before scheduling the meeting in Salem.

After some discussion on this matter, the MOTION was amended to read as follows: That a committee consisting of Dr. Erickson, Mr. Green and Mr. Everts be appointed to prepare a planned program for submission to the Governor, the Director of the Department of Finance, and the Director of Civil Service Commission having to do with changes in personnel classifications and salaries, and that arrangements be made for a meeting of the Air Pollution Authority with the three state officials, and that copies of the prepared program, or plan, previously developed by the committee be sent to the state officials at the time a meeting was requested. Motion seconded by Mr. King, and carried.

LABORATORY EQUIPMENT:

Mr. Everts reported on the status of laboratory equipment to carry on field investigations. He estimated that the cost of the equipment would be from \$8,000 to \$10,000, and requested advice as to whether the equipment should be purchased before personnel was available to use it. Dr. Erickson suggested that the purchasing of equipment should proceed, except trucks. MOTION by Mr. Wendel, seconded by Mr. West, and carried - that the matter of purchasing be left to the discretion of the chairman and secretary.

The question of the secretary investigating a little further the matter of equipment before placing an order was raised, but the matter was tabled until next meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Mr. Everts then advised the Board of communications received concerning the M and S Cannery and the Western Door & Plywood Company, both of Milwaukie. The secretary was instructed to advise complainants that just as soon as a staff is obtained to carry on the work of the Authority, they will be asked to appear before the Authority, and will be advised of the date and place of meeting.

No date was set for the next meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

CURTISS M. EVERTS, JR., SECRETARY
Air Pollution Authority