

MINUTES OF METROPOLITAN SEWERAGE DISTRICT BOARD

PURPOSE OF SPECIAL MEETING & SPECIAL GUESTS
PROGRESS REPORT: MR. HENDON
MR. HUBBARD OF STATE STREAM SANITATION COMMITTEE
STATEMENT OF MR. WALKER
OPINIONS OF MR. WEIR & MR. CANDLER
MOTION TO APPOINT COMMITTEE

The meeting of the Metropolitan Sewerage District Board was held in the Council Chamber, City Building, Asheville, North Carolina at 2:45 p. m. on Tuesday, November 20, 1962.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Peterson. Mrs. Swicegood, Secretary, called the roll with the following members being present: Mr. Peterson, Mr. Spicer, Mrs. Swicegood, Mr. Adams, Mr. Dawson, Mr. Finch, Mr. Garrison, Mr. Reagan, and Mr. Tandy.

The reading of the minutes was dispensed with and they were approved as to content.

Mr. Peterson asked Mr. Redmond, Attorney for the Board, to read the purpose of the special meeting which was to endeavor establishment of some firm policies, chiefly to determine the responsibility of the Board with regard to individual distribution systems of the various subdivisions.

Mr. Peterson welcomed the following guests: Mayor Earl W. Eller and J. Weldon Weir, City Manager, of Asheville, Mr. Coke Candler, Chairman of Buncombe County Commissioners, Mayor W. W. Shope of Weaverville, Mr. Harry Martin, Biltmore Forest Commissioner, Mr. J. Gerald Cowan, Asheville Industrial Council, Mr. E. C. Hubbard and Mr. A. F. McRorie of the State Stream Sanitation Committee, and Mr. Harry Hendon, Consulting Engineer.

Mr. Hendon, Consulting Engineer, gave an encouraging progress report stating that his study and recommendation are based upon three assumptions. 1. That the District be financed by sewer charges based upon water consumption; 2. That plant site selection be determined at an early date; 3. That the Metropolitan Sewerage District Board assume minimum responsibility of interceptor lines and disposal plants. He stressed the point that bad conditions existing within local units should not be the responsibility of this Board.

Mr. Hubbard of the State Stream Sanitation Committee spoke next stressing the point that the over-all objective of the Metropolitan Sewerage District is to eliminate raw sewage from entering the French Broad River and its tributaries. It is his opinion that, construed broadly, the Board could assume responsibility for the entire area, but this is neither necessary nor mandatory. Agreement should be reached between the Metropolitan Sewerage District and the various entities as to limitations and responsibilities. He reminded the Board that in his opinion some of these repairs could come under federal grants which could amount to \$1,400,000. These

grants provide for "interceptors, collectors, treatment plants, pumping stations, and outfall sewers." Mr. Hubbard reminded the Board that all federal funds granted could not be forthcoming except over a period of several years. He highly recommended a Master Plan toward which the District can work; that a clear understanding must be reached with the various political subdivisions, and that the project when completed should eliminate discharge from lines which are inadequate or in poor repair. He made clear that any facilities must comply with State requirements.

Mr. Walker, Resident Engineer, read a statement setting forth his opinion concerning the condition of and the repair he feels is necessary in outlying areas of the District. He feels that these repairs should be guaranteed by such political subdivisions before completion of pending plans.

Mr. Weir, City Manager of Asheville, stated that he felt very strongly that the District should be concerned solely with interceptor lines and treatment plants. That standard of sewage acceptable to the Metropolitan Sewerage District should be established, and conformity to such standards would be the problem of each political subdivision. In his opinion, the people of Asheville will not approve revenue bonds with a full faith and credit pledge to reconstruct miles of County sewers.

Mr. Candler, Chairman of County Commissioners, raised the question of how such repairs could be financed when no funds are available. He stated that there is no friction between systems, only a question of finance.

Mr. Hendon stated that he felt a plant could be designed which would be acceptable to the State Stream Sanitation Committee without any change of ownership. He asked authorization to continue his report which he believes will solve many of the problems.

After considerable discussion, Mr. Spicer moved that Mr. Hendon be instructed to complete his report based on the three stated assumptions. This motion carried unanimously. Mr. Spicer then introduced another motion to the effect that a committee be appointed to confer with Mr. Hendon, Mr. Hubbard, the Resident Engineer, and Attorney to work with representatives of the several districts in order to arrive at a solution agreeable to all and one which will spell out in definitive terms the exact responsibility of the Metropolitan Sewerage District and all other political subdivisions. This motion was passed unanimously.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p. m.

November 20, 1962

Lenoir Swinegood
Recording Secretary