

# BOARD OF THE METROPOLITAN SEWERAGE DISTRICT

March 16, 1994

## 1. Call to Order and Roll Call:

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of the Metropolitan Sewerage District was held in the Boardroom of MSD's Administration Building at 2:00 P.M., on Wednesday, March 16, 1994. Chairman Post presided with the following members present: Bryson, Casper, Dent, Joyner, Kelly, Penny, Post, Selby, Slosman, Sobol and Wallace.

Others Present were: W. H. Mull, Engineer-Manager, John S. Stevens, General Counsel, Councilwoman Barbara Field, City of Asheville, Bob Holbrook of Hendon Engineering Associates, Inc., Gary McGill of McGill Associates, P.A., Charles Gaither of Milkco, Inc., Scott Payne and Bill Rogers of Gerber Products Company, Susan Burnham of Anvil Knitwear, Bob Tinkler representing the League of Women Voters, Marc Fender, Sondra Honeycutt and Linda Mazingo, MSD.

## 2. Approval of the Minutes of the February 16, 1994 meeting;

Mr. Slosman moved that the minutes of the February 16, 1994 meeting be approved as presented. Mr. Dent seconded the motion. Voice vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

## 3. Engineer-Managers Report:

### Planning Committee Items

#### a. Consideration of Contract with City of Asheville Fire Department for Hazardous Response:

Mr. Mull reported that since the District does not have a Hazardous Material Response Team and because of the cost involved, (\$20,500.00 to \$25,000.00 for the first year alone) Marc Fender contacted The Asheville Fire Department requesting that they submit a proposal for these services. Mr. Mull further reported that The Asheville Fire Department is equipped and prepared to deliver services in compliance with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations at a cost of \$5,000.00 per year; giving the District time to develop its own response team. Following a brief discussion on the cost and whether the proposal covers areas other than the Treatment Plant, Mr. Dent moved that the Board approve the proposal as presented. Ms. Bryson seconded the motion. Roll call vote was as follows: 9 Ayes; 0 Nays; 2 Absent: Mr. Penny, Ms. Wallace.

#### b. Report on Sewer Master Plan Work Session - March 9, 1994:

Mr. Mull reported that following review of the District's Master Plan, presented by Mr. Bob Holbrook and Ms. Sharon Kane of Hendon Engineering Associates, Inc., the Committee recommended that a Retreat be organized to include representatives from the Land of Sky Regional Council, Henderson County and the Asheville Buncombe Water Authority to discuss options for the Plan. Mr. Post suggested that the Board first consider the merits of holding a Retreat, and if it agreed, that the Retreat be held at the District offices on a Saturday and concluding on a Sunday if necessary. A lengthy discussion followed regarding the input of other counties and whether the Master Plan needs to be developed prior to completion of rehabilitation projects. Mr. Mull further reported that the Land of Sky Regional Council has indicated a willingness to participate in the planning process, but that necessary funds are not available, therefore, the District may need to pay for any cost involved. Mr. Post stated that since Hendon Engineering Associates, Inc. contracted for the development of the Master Plan, they are at a point where input and direction is needed from

the Board. There being no further discussion, Mr. Slosman moved that a Retreat be scheduled within the next two months. Mr. Selby seconded the motion. Voice vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

c. Consideration of Authorization to Advertising for Construction Bids for the South French Broad Relief Interceptor Sewer Project:

Mr. Mull reported that the South French Broad Relief Interceptor Sewer Project has been on the CIP schedule for approximately six (6) years and funded for by the 1984 Bond Issue. Mr. Mull further reported that since a commitment has been made to sign the final easement needed to proceed with the project, the Planning Committee recommended that the Board authorize advertisement for construction bids, contingent upon obtaining the signed easement. Following a brief discussion on disclosure of the project costs prior to bid and the location of the line, Ms. Bryson moved that the Board adopt the recommendation of the Planning Committee. Mr. Dent seconded the motion. Voice vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

d. Consideration of Charge for Copies of District Standards:

Mr. Mull presented a copy of the District's Standards reproduced at a cost of approximately \$20.00 per set. In review of the Standards, the Planning Committee recommended that the Board authorize assessing a charge of \$25.00 per copy, which will include all updates up to a major revision and to keep a list of all who receive a copy. There being no discussion, Mr. Penny moved that the Board allow staff to set the price of the Standards on an administrative level. Mr. Joyner seconded the motion. Voice vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

e. Report on Meeting with Land of Sky Regional Planning Council, March 10, 1994:

Mr. Mull reported that a meeting was held with representatives of the Land of Sky Regional Planning Council to discuss sharing database information with various local government entities and utilities to be incorporated into the District's Geographical Information System. Mr. Mull further reported that he has approached the Land of Sky Regional Council about acting as a liaison between the entities to insure that the various software programs are compatible. As a result, the Land of Sky Regional Council has submitted a contract at a cost of \$5,000.00 per year, according to the hourly rate schedule, to July, 1995. Mr. Penny questioned why the District would contract with Land of Sky Regional Council when the Utilities Coordinating Committee, (comprised of Buncombe County, City of Asheville, all utility companies and the MSD) could be utilized to provide the same service at no charge. Mr. Penny further stated that this type of information is already available through CP&L and Southern Bell and that a subcommittee could be set up that included other municipalities to share this information and facilitate the planning themselves. Following a brief discussion regarding the Utilities Coordinating Committee; when this issue could be placed on its agenda and software compatibility, the Board agreed to table this issue until after the next meeting of the Utilities Coordinating Committee.

**4. Consideration of Resolution for Surplus Property:**

Mr. Mull presented a Resolution declaring the District's Perkin-Elmer Model 305A Atomic Absorption Spectro Photometer surplus property and that it be donated to Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College. In addition, Mr. Mull presented a letter from Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College stating its appreciation

for the donation of this equipment. With no discussion, Mr. Dent moved that the Board adopt the Resolution as presented. Mr. Slosman seconded the motion. Roll call vote was as follows: 11 Ayes; 0 Nays.

**5. Report of Officers**

Mr. Post reported that a meeting was held March 9, 1994 between the District, the Mayor of the City of Asheville, Interim City Manager and City Attorney to discuss fees owed for sewer use. Mr. Post further reported that since no agreement was reached, a subsequent meeting has been scheduled for March 23, 1994 in order to give the City additional time to study the fees.

**6. Report of Committees:**

Personnel Committee - February 21, 1994

Mr. Mull reported that the Personnel Committee met February 21, 1994 to interview five (5) applicants for the position of Director of Administration, and as a result, the Committee recommended two (2) of the five (5) applicants. Mr. Mull further reported that following reference checks, he hired Mr. James R. Fatland, who will report to work on April 4, 1994. Mr. Penny suggested that a press release be prepared addressing the role and responsibilities of Mr. Fatland. Ms. Wallace suggested that a reception be held welcoming him to the District.

Planning Committee - February 25 and March 9, 1994 - Mr. Slosman:

Mr. Slosman stated there was no additional report.

Right-of-Way Committee - February 25, 1994 - Mr. Selby

Mr. Selby reported that the Right-of-Way Committee met February 25, 1994 to discuss two (2) important issues but decided to postpone any recommendation until the March 25, 1994 meeting, pending review of additional information regarding construction costs in proposed and existing alignments.

**7. Unfinished Business**

None

**8. Old Business**

Mr. Joyner asked for a brief report on the status of the Incinerator. Mr. Holbrook reported that Enviroquip is on site preparing for warm up of the incinerator and pilot testing to begin next week, with the intent of burning undigested sludge. The pilot testing would allow Enviroquip to proceed to the end of its contract, however, the District would like to delay final testing until it is sure that all of Enviroquip's equipment is operational. Mr. Holbrook further reported that meetings have been held with other manufacturers to discuss alternative means and costs of incinerating digested sludge. Ms. Wallace questioned the status of the Ultra Presses. Mr. Holbrook stated that no further evaluation has been done other than to collect data on other alternative equipment. A lengthy discussion followed regarding the difference in digested and undigested sludge; the costs difference in the use of a Centrifuge system and Ultra Presses; construction permit deadline; the amount the District has spent to date on this project and if this topic should be placed on the Retreat agenda.

With regard to a question about the Alkaline Stabilization Facility, Mr. Holbrook reported that the roof is up on the low portion of the building; the equipment has been installed, but because of the cold weather, the Electrical and HVAC Contractors are now looking at a May 15, 1994 completion date. A brief discussion followed regarding the length of time the product can be stored and if the Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Forestry Service have made any commitment toward use of the product. Mr. Mull reported that Bio-Gro is preparing a proposal but at present time, the DOT and Forestry Service are only in the information gathering stage and that a commitment has not been made. Mr. Holbrook stated that the first product produced will be sent to Dr. Rubin at North Carolina State University for testing on a 3-acre tract. Mr. Mull advised that the Marketing Study and schedule for approaching the DOT and the Forestry Service are on the Planning Committee agenda.

## 9. New Business

Mr. Casper asked when the Audit Report for July 1 through December 31, 1993 will be complete. Mr. Mull stated that the report is complete and will be presented to the Finance Committee at a called meeting. Mr. Post encouraged all members of the Board to attend this meeting.

Mr. Mull reported that the Master Plan was presented to Maintenance Facility personnel and was pleased at the interest shown and amount of questions asked by the employees. Mr. Mull further reported that he approached the Employee Advisory Committee regarding the development of an Employee Newsletter and the Committee agreed it was a good idea.

Mr. Dent asked why the District is \$136,000.00 over budget on its power usage. Mr. Mull reported that dry weather and penalties paid due to down days is the reason for the increase. However, methane gas, generated from the digesters, is now in operation and that an energy audit of District's facility will be performed by CP&L when the sludge facility is on line. In addition, staff is preparing a report that will be presented along with the Audit Report at the next meeting of the Finance Committee. Following a brief discussion regarding the down days, Mr. Sobol inquired about the possibility of constructing a smaller dam further down the river in order to generate power on a continuous basis. Mr. Mull reported that this idea has not been suggested to the Fish and Wildlife, but would be very expensive. Mr. Holbrook reported that in recent conversations with the Fish and Wildlife, he sensed they are ready to resolve the fish habitat problem and that the agencies will come together in a meeting to be held next month.

Mr. Slosman moved that the Board thank Mr. Penny for his service on the District Board and wish him good luck in his new venture. Ms. Wallace seconded the motion. Voice vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

At 3:15 p.m., Mr. Slosman moved that the Board go into Executive Session to consider rights of way matters, industrial development and employment of professional consultants. Ms. Wallace seconded the motion. Voice vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

At 4:22 p.m., Mr. Slosman moved that the Board reconvene the regular meeting. Mr. Dent seconded the motion. Voice vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Mr. Slosman moved that the Board tentatively select Vaughn & Melton as the Contractor on the Sulphur Springs Creek Sewer Rehabilitation project and direct staff to negotiate the contract and that the District's in-house Engineer be used where possible. Mr. Dent seconded the motion. Roll call vote was as follows: 10 Ayes;

0 Nays; 1 Absent (Mr. Penny)

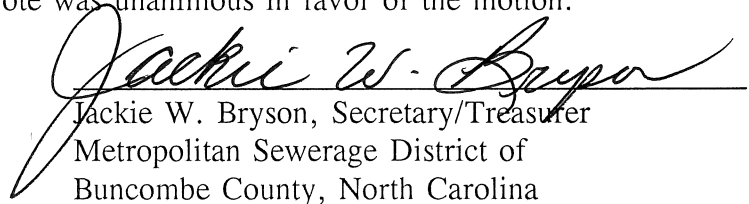
Ms. Bryson moved that the Board tentatively award the South French Board Interceptor Sewer Construction Contract to Hendon Engineering Associates, Inc. and that staff be instructed to negotiate a suitable contract for these services. Mr. Slosman seconded the motion. Roll call vote was as follows: 9 Ayes; 1 Nay (Mr. Joyner); 1 Absent (Mr. Penny).

Mr. Slosman moved that the Board approve accepting the Biltmore Forest Country Club's right-of-way easement subject to the conditions stated in their attorney's letter dated today and subject to final review by Right-of-Way Staff. Mr. Dent seconded the motion. Roll call vote was as follows: 9 Ayes; 0 Nays; 1 Abstention (Mr. Kelly) and 1 Absent (Mr. Penny).

Ms. Wallace asked when the Retreat will be scheduled. Mr. Post stated that the Retreat will be scheduled in May following availability of information regarding the incinerator. Mr. Sobol requested that staff investigate the number of jobs that will be created as a result of Milkco, Inc.'s increasing its product line to include orange juice.

**10. Adjournment:**

At 4:35 p.m., Mr. Slosman moved that the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Casper seconded the motion. Voice vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

  
Jackie W. Bryson, Secretary/Treasurer  
Metropolitan Sewerage District of  
Buncombe County, North Carolina