

MINUTES OF THE METROPOLITAN SEWERAGE DISTRICT BOARD

The regular monthly meeting of the Metropolitan Sewerage District Board was held in the old Office of the Junior Chamber of Commerce on the First Floor, City Hall, Asheville, North Carolina at 2:00 p. m. on Tuesday, January 21, 1975.

Chairman Robinson called the meeting to order and Mr. Mull, Engineer-Manager, called the roll with the following members present: Mr. Dawson, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Williams, Mr. McDevitt, Mr. Warlick, Mr. Dent and Mr. Hyatt.

In addition to the Board members, the following staff members and consultants were present:

Mr. Anthony Redmond  
Mr. L. E. Hoffmann  
Mr. W. H. Mull  
Mrs. Patsy Hoglen  
Mrs. Linda Duncan

Oath of Office: Mr. Ben Clark, Weaverville, was sick and did not attend the meeting.

PRELIMINARY PUBLIC HEARING ON 201 FACILITIES PLAN: At 2:05 p. m. Chairman Robinson opened the public hearing and called on Mr. Mull for a brief summary of federal pollution abatement activities. A statement by Mr. Lew Hoffmann, Consulting Engineer, was presented. "Court Stenographer's" report attached.

Chairman Robinson reconvened the regular meeting at 2:20 p. m.

The members having received copies of the previous Minutes of the December 17, 1974 meeting, Mr. Dawson moved the motion and Mr. Warlick seconded the motion that they be recorded as approved. This motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Mull, Engineer-Manager, gave a report on the following items:

- (a) Report on Brookwood Sewer Service District. Mr. Hoffmann gave a report and recommended that the Board favor the inclusion of Brookwood Sewer District into the MSD system. Mr. McDevitt moved the motion that the Board favor the inclusion of Brookwood into the system, and Mr. Williams seconded the motion. Roll call vote was unanimous.
- (b) Purchase of 3/4 Ton Pickup Truck. The following bids were received:  
Quality Used Cars, Inc., 1975 Chev. 6 P. Crew Cab; \$4,539.69.  
Quality Used Cars, Inc., 1975 Ford F250 Super Cab 6 P.; \$4,354.00.  
Fletcher Motor Co., 1975 Chev. Crew Cab; \$4,411.88. The bid from Fletcher Motor Co. was accepted.

Chairman Robinson announced that there would be a Workshop Session on the User Charge Ordinance to be held on January 28, 1975, in the City Council Chambers. This workshop would include the industries and public who had comments on the Ordinance. Some of the Board members had a discussion on the User Charge Ordinance.

Specifications for providing a grating and hand rail around the parshall flume, at the main wastewater treatment plant, were presented to the Board by Mr. Hoffmann. The additions are required to provide adequate safety measures, and could be installed for less than \$10,000 (probably less than \$5,000). Mr. Dent moved that the Engineer-Manager be authorized to secure estimates and negotiate a contract to have the work performed. Mr. Hyatt seconded the motion. Roll call vote was unanimous.


MINUTES CONTINUED

January 21, 1975

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There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:30 p. m.

January 21, 1975

  
Secretary

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DISTRICT BOARD  
METROPOLITAN SEWERAGE DISTRICT  
OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY

PROCEEDINGS

OF

PRELIMINARY PUBLIC HEARING ON 201 FACILITIES PLAN

January 21, 1975

Asheville, North Carolina

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MR. LEROY ROBINSON, CHAIRMAN, PRESIDING

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Reported by:

Jeanne C. Simpson

1 The District Board of the Metropolitan Sewerage  
2 District of Buncombe County convened at approximately 2:00  
3 o'clock p.m. on Tuesday, January 21, 1975, in the City  
4 Building, Asheville, North Carolina, with the Chairman, Mr.  
5 Leroy Robinson, presiding.

6 Thereupon, the following proceedings were had and  
7 taken:

8 THE CHAIRMAN: At this time we'll declare the meet-  
9 ing open for preliminary public hearing on 201 facilities  
10 plan.

11 As most of you know, we have been granted a 201  
12 facilities grant to make a study, and it is part of the legal  
13 activity for us to have a preliminary public hearing.

14 So at this time, I'll call on Mr. Mull to give us a  
15 brief summary on Federal pollution abatement activities.

16 MR. MULL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

17 Members of the Board, gentlemen, ladies and  
18 gentlemen: This public hearing, as Chairman Robinson indi-  
19 cated, is being held as a preliminary hearing to advise the  
20 public that the Board is in the process of undertaking  
21 Section 201 facilities plan, in accordance with public law.

22 As a part of Section 201, we're required to hold  
23 this preliminary hearing, and to give a brief -- and I will  
24 make my presentation very brief -- background of the State  
25 and Federal laws relating to water pollution control to this

1 date.

2 The first state law was passed in 1951, was called  
3 the State Stream Sanitation Act, and that Act provided for  
4 the establishment of stream standards in North Carolina in  
5 seventeen major river basins. The French Broad River basin  
6 was classified in 1958, and the water quality standards in  
7 the stream became effective on that date.

8 Since that time, of course, industries and  
9 municipalities have all worked to build pollution abatement  
10 facilities. In 1956 the first Federal water pollution control  
11 act was passed, which gave thirty percent grant funds for  
12 municipalities to construct waste-water treatment facilities.  
13 This was strictly a grant program to aid municipalities, and  
14 was limited to a maximum of \$250,000 for any one project.  
15 And this was the only aim of that law at that time, in 1956,  
16 was to provide grant assistance.

17 The law was amended several times; in 1965 the first  
18 amendment increased the maximum above the \$250,000 limitation  
19 and established national water quality standards. This  
20 involved the Federal Government as well as the State in the  
21 establishment of your water quality standards. This meant  
22 that stream standards had to be equitable between various  
23 states that adjoin waters. The Federal Government had to  
24 approve water quality standards already established by states  
25 that had standards, and other states were required to establish

1 water quality standards to conform to national guidelines.

2 In 1966 the Federal law was amended again to pro-  
3 vide matching grants. The cost of waste-water facilities had  
4 increased dramatically, and the Federal Government at that  
5 time advised that if the states would appropriate funds and  
6 match projects with a twenty-five percent state grant, then  
7 the Federal share would increase to fifty percent, for a  
8 total of seventy-five percent grant to construct facilities.  
9 The existing facilities in Buncombe County and Henderson  
10 County, however, were constructed prior to that time and were  
11 constructed with thirty percent or less Federal grants.

12 The Environmental Protection Agency was established  
13 in 1971 to take over the responsibilities of the Federal  
14 water pollution control administration. And the new law,  
15 which we refer to as the Water Pollution Amendment of 1972,  
16 Public Law 92-500, was passed in October of '72, and this  
17 law tremendously broadened the Federal Government's partici-  
18 pation in pollution abatement programs. It established an  
19 NPDES permit system, which is a National Pollutant Discharge  
20 Elimination System permit program, whereby the Federal  
21 Government was to issue permits to all dischargers in the  
22 nation, both industrial and municipal.

23 Now, EPA was also to establish effluent limitations  
24 for all industries and for municipalities to discharge in the  
25 water courses. They are in the process now of establishing

1 pre-treatment standards for industries that discharge into  
2 municipally-owned systems.

3 The new Act also stressed public participation in  
4 water pollution control activities, basin-wide and area-wide  
5 waste treatment management planning, and required the  
6 municipalities to adopt user charges and industrial cost  
7 recovery systems to repay portions of the Federal grants  
8 offered after the fiscal 1972 year.

9 That's a very brief and rapid review of the State  
10 and Federal law, and with that I'll turn it over to Mr.  
11 Hoffmann for his comments as to the procedure we will follow  
12 in preparing a 201 facilities plan.

13 MR. HOFFMANN: The Federal Water Pollution Control  
14 Act Amendments of 1972 established a program of seventy-five  
15 percent Federal grants for the construction of sewerage  
16 facilities. This program is administered by the Environmen-  
17 tal Protection Agency through the various State Pollution  
18 Control Departments.

19 The program is divided into three separate and  
20 distinct steps. Therefore, separate Federal grants are  
21 awarded for each step. These steps are:

- 22 Step 1: Facilities Planning.
- 23 Step 2: Preparation of engineering drawings  
24 and specifications.
- 25 Step 3: Construction of proposed facilities.

1 Under this program an application was submitted for  
2 a Step 1 facilities plan for Metropolitan Buncombe County, to  
3 include a portion of Henderson County. The agencies included  
4 are the Town of Montreat, Avery Creek Sanitary District, the  
5 Town of Weaverville, Woodfin Sanitary Water and Sewerage  
6 District, the Town of Woodfin, Buncombe County, Henderson  
7 County, City of Asheville, Town of Black Mountain, Town of  
8 Biltmore Forest, and the Metropolitan Sewerage District of  
9 Buncombe County, the Metropolitan Sewerage District agreeing  
10 to act as lead agency.

11 The Metropolitan Sewerage District has received a  
12 \$131,250 grant to be matched with \$43,750 state and local  
13 funds, for a total project cost of \$175,000. This present  
14 project is the Step 1 facilities plan.

15 In January 1974, the EPA published a pamphlet  
16 entitled "Facilities Planning Summary." The introduction  
17 contained the following statement:

18 "The public facilities planning process is  
19 basically one of stating and clarifying the prob-  
20 lems, inventorying the existing system, projecting  
21 future conditions, setting goals and objectives,  
22 developing alternatives to meet those goals and  
23 objectives, assessing the impacts of the alterna-  
24 tives, selecting plan elements, and developing  
25 implementation mechanisms."



1           The purpose of this hearing is to comply with the  
2 National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and to inform the  
3 public that the Metropolitan Sewerage District and their  
4 engineers are starting preparation of the facilities plan.  
5 Public participation in this planning process is invited.

6           The State Office of Water and Air Resources has  
7 responsibility for establishing the planning area. They have  
8 established a planning area including most of Buncombe County  
9 and those portions of Henderson County contained in the Cane  
10 Creek and Hooper's Creek drainage areas as shown on this  
11 map, which I don't know how many of you can see, or can see  
12 plainly.

13           The dashed black line is the area established by  
14 the State Office of Water and Air Resources as the planning  
15 area, and the area that will be included in this plan. It  
16 includes most of Buncombe County except for this northwestern  
17 corner that drains out of the county, and for the extreme  
18 northeastern corner, which I believe also drains out of the  
19 county.

20           It includes a small amount of Henderson County.  
21 This yellow line, for those of you who can see it, is the  
22 county line. And those portions of Hooper's Creek and Cane  
23 Creek which come out of Buncombe County and drain through  
24 Henderson County, are included in this study area. This  
25 orange line is the present legal boundaries of the

1 Metropolitan Sewerage District. So you can see the study  
2 area encompasses quite a bit larger geographical area than  
3 does the Metropolitan Sewerage District.

4 The facilities plan components as outlined in the  
5 "Facilities Planning Summary" are as follows:

6 (a) A statement of the problem.

7 (b) A description of the proposed treatment works,  
8 including cost estimates and schedules.

9 (c) A description of the complete waste-water  
10 management system of which the treatment works are a part.

11 (d) Sewer system infiltration/inflow documentation.

12 (e) A cost-effectiveness analysis of the selected  
13 system and alternatives to the system.

14 (f) An environmental evaluation of the alterna-  
15 tives considered.

16 (g) An identification of effluent discharge  
17 limitations.

18 (h) Comments and approvals of State and local  
19 agencies.

20 (i) Summary of any public hearings held to con-  
21 sider the plan.

22 (j) A statement demonstrating that the authorities  
23 implementing the plan have the necessary legal, financial,  
24 institutional, and managerial resources.

25 Further public hearings are planned to be held

1 during the development of the planning study.

2           Upon completion of assembling data for the environ-  
3 mental inventory, it is proposed to hold a meeting for  
4 additional input. It is also proposed to hold a public meet-  
5 ing for input regarding unsewered areas. These meetings will  
6 probably be held in April or May and may be combined and held  
7 on the same date.

8           Upon the development of alternative systems which  
9 are consistent with schemes shown to be practical and suit-  
10 able for expansion to fill the ultimate needs of the area,  
11 a public hearing will be held on the environmental effects  
12 of the alternative systems. This will probably be during  
13 the month of October.

14           Finally, upon the full development of the plan and  
15 the selection of the most feasible method, a public hearing  
16 will be held to present all practical alternatives and the  
17 plan recommended for adoption.

18           Public participation is critical to the development  
19 of a successful facilities plan which adequately reflects the  
20 needs of the area. As I have mentioned, public meetings and  
21 hearings will be held throughout the planning process to  
22 receive the input of all interested parties. In addition,  
23 please feel free to call upon the District or its consultants  
24 at any time you may have comments or questions relative to  
25 the plan.

1 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Mull, Mr. Hoffmann.

2 At this time we'll ask anyone in the audience if  
3 they'd like to speak to this issue. Would anyone present  
4 like to make a comment? (There is no response from the  
5 audience.)

6 Any of the Board members wish to make a comment at  
7 this time?

8 MR. DENT: I read an article and I have copies of  
9 an article that's been written lately on the use of solid  
10 waste for generating power and operating waste-treatment  
11 plants. And because of the situation that we have now, and  
12 our power increasing as it is, I think maybe it might be  
13 wise to look into this possibility along with our other  
14 projects to see if it's feasible to develop something like  
15 that.

16 MR. WARLICK: Would this be subject to Federal  
17 funding?

18 MR. DENT: Yeah. Right now EPA, I believe, is  
19 funding pilot projects to study this situation and to see  
20 whether it is feasible to do this or not. And it's possible  
21 that there might be funds available to help us out on this.

22 Our waste is continuing to be -- it's going to be  
23 a worse problem as time goes on, and if we have a way of  
24 disposing of it to utilize the energy from it, I think it  
25 would be wise to do it, if it's feasible.

1 MR. McDEVITT: Mr. Hoffmann, is that type of thing  
2 covered by the scope of the 201 study?

3 MR. HOFFMANN: No, it's not. I don't think these  
4 funds could be used; at least, we couldn't get reimbursed by  
5 the Government for that type of thing.

6 That is, certainly, an oncoming thing, a big thing  
7 right now, and it should be followed up. Also, I'm a little  
8 dubious whether the charter establishing the Metropolitan  
9 Sewerage District would cover solid wastes. It may be out-  
10 side of our scope. It probably more properly belongs to the  
11 county as a whole.

12 But it's a great idea. I don't believe it could be  
13 fitted into this particular appropriation.

14 THE CHAIRMAN: You're speaking of garbage?

15 MR. HOFFMANN: Yeah. Trash.

16 THE CHAIRMAN: Trash, and this sort of thing?

17 MR. HOFFMANN: Isn't that what we're talking about?

18 MR. DENT: That, and I think there's been consider-  
19 able study by the Space Administration on utilizing waste to  
20 regenerate water and so forth on the space missions. They've  
21 perfected this type of thing, and there's a possibility that  
22 this can be utilized to a larger extent.

23 MR. HOFFMANN: There's a great deal of work going  
24 on. A lot of the municipalities and counties are working  
25 along those lines right now. But I do not believe we could

1 include it in the scope of this particular program, under the  
2 laws and the way it's set up.

3 MR. DENT: You may not be able to include it in the  
4 scope of this, but at least we can look at it from the stand-  
5 point of maybe having a parallel project to go along with it,  
6 to dovetail in with it.

7 THE CHAIRMAN: Is there any other comment anyone  
8 might wish to make? (No response.)

9 If not, we will hereby close the preliminary public  
10 hearing.

11 It is now closed.

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13 The public hearing portion of the meeting was  
14 closed at approximately 2:15 p.m.

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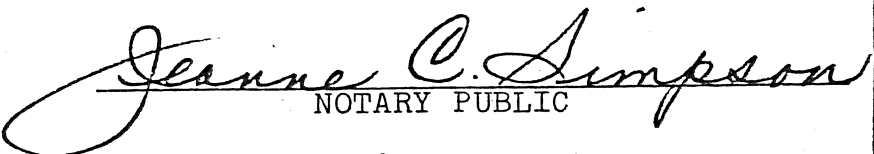
1 STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA )  
2 COUNTY OF BUNCOMBE )

3 I, JEANNE C. SIMPSON, Court Reporter and Notary  
4 Public within and for the County of Buncombe, State of North  
5 Carolina, do hereby certify:

6 That the District Board of the Metropolitan Sewer-  
7 age District of Buncombe County held a preliminary public  
8 hearing on 201 facilities plan on the 21st day of January  
9 1975, in the City Building in Asheville, North Carolina,  
10 commencing at approximately 2:00 o'clock p.m.;

11 That I was authorized to and did report the proceed-  
12 ings in stenotype and thereafter reduced the same to type-  
13 writing, and that the foregoing 11 pages constitute a full,  
14 true, and correct transcription of the proceedings had and  
15 taken at said hearing.

16 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand  
17 and affixed my official seal this 12th day of February 1975.

18  
19   
20 NOTARY PUBLIC

21 My Commission expires October 9, 1978.  
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