

APRIL 15, 1975

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, April 15, 1975.

Chairman Robinson called the meeting to order, and Mrs. Hoglen, Assistant Secretary, called the roll with the following members present: Mr. Clark, Mr. Dawson, Mr. Williams, Mr. Dent, Mr. Smith, Mr. Hyatt, Mr. Dillingham, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Warlick and Mr. McDevitt.

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

Mr. Anthony Redmond
Mr. L. E. Hoffmann
Mr. Don Newton
Mr. W. H. Mull
Mrs. Patsy Hoglen
Mrs. Linda Duncan
Mrs. Lenior Swicegood, Secretary

The members having received copies of the previous Minutes of the March 25, 1975 meeting, Mr. Hyatt moved the motion and Mr. Dawson seconded the motion that they be recorded as approved. This motion was carried un-animously.

Mr. Warlick made the motion that action regarding the adoption of the Wastewater Service Charge Resolution be tabled for ten (10) days to two (2) weeks, at the pleasure of the Board and Chairman, to give the Board time to study new information presented by Mr. Newton. Mr. Dent seconded the motion. This motion was carried unanimously. The date was set for a Special Meeting to be held on Thursday, May 1, 1975 at 2:00 p. m. in City Hall. This date was voted unanimously.

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

- (a) Resolution amending Sewer Use Regulations. A Resolution is to be prepared to amend the regulations on Section 11.02 as follows:

"As required by the Federal regulations, the industry must disclose information on processes; however, the District agrees that such information as the industry considers to be confidential will be maintained confidential and not be permitted to become an advantage to competitors."

Mr. Hyatt moved the motion and Mr. Smith seconded the motion that the above resolution be approved. Roll call vote was unanimous.

- (b) Progress report on Industrial Wastes Monitoring.
- (c) Proposed Town of Woodfin Water Line. A right-of-way at the lower end of the Main Plant property will be needed by the Town of Woodfin to construct a water line to serve several homes Northeast of the MSD Plant. Mr. Hoffmann has advised that this would not interfere with MSD operations. Woodfin will survey the R/W and submit an agreement to the District, which will be submitted to Mr. Redmond for legal review.
- (d) Brookwood Sewer District. Discussion. Public Hearing to be held (tentatively) on June 10, 1975.
- (e) Annual Report by Mr. Lew E. Hoffmann, Consulting Engineer. (Copy Attached) This report is required by the Bond Resolution.

Mr. Dawson, Budget Chairman, presented the Preliminary 1975-76 Budget to the Board. Mr. Dawson suggested that this budget be accepted by the Board and lay on the table for (30) days for public inspection. Mr. Dawson moved the motion that the Preliminary Budget 1975-76 be accepted and the Board would hold a Public Hearing at its next regular meeting, to be held

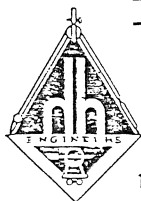
on May 20, 1975. Mr. Clark seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous. The publication of the Public Hearing would be advertised in the paper prior to the hearing.

The date of the next meeting will be held May 20, 1975.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:38 p. m.

April 15, 1975


Secretary



Harry Hendon and Associates

INCORPORATED
ENGINEERS

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HARRY H. HENDON (1904-1973)
L. E. HOFFMANN
A. B. JOWERS

April 10, 1975

P. L. BENTLEY
W. L. SAMUEL
M. G. BUCKLEY, JR.

Metropolitan Sewerage District
Buncombe County, North Carolina
P. O. Box 7413
Asheville, North Carolina 28807

Attention: Mr. W. H. Mull
Engineer-Manager

Gentlemen:

Section 505 of the Resolution authorizing the Sewage Disposal System's Bonds for the Metropolitan Sewerage District of Buncombe County Board requires the Consulting Engineer to prepare and file with the District Board, the Local Government Commission, the Engineer-Manager and the Trustee, on or before the 15th day of April in each year, a report setting forth the following:

"(a) their advices and recommendations as to the proper maintenance, repair and operation of the Sewerage System during the ensuing fiscal year, and an estimate of the amount of money necessary for such purposes";

We have found on our visits to, and on inspections of, the Sewerage System, that the properties are being properly maintained and operated.

As we have recommended in previous annual reports, and as required by Section 703 of the Bond Resolution, the District adopted on June 18, 1974 a modern Sewer Use Ordinance to establish and enforce regulations governing the discharge of wastewaters into the sanitary sewerage system. These regulations became effective July 1, 1974.

During the past eighteen months there has occurred an extremely unusual number of mechanical failures of the blowers at the Main Treatment Plant - requiring substantial expenditures for repair. A strenuous effort has been made to determine the cause of these continual breakdowns, including inspections by manufacturer's representatives and others, without any positive cause having yet been pinpointed. It does appear that these breakdowns may be partially, if not entirely, due to concurrent problems with the diffusers in the aeration tanks. Replacement of the diffuser units is discussed later in this report under Renewals and Replacements. It is recommended that the blower problem be held in abeyance until the diffuser replacements are completed. In the meantime, the safety devices on the blowers should be checked and repaired, in that they appear to be only partially operative. The motor starters should also be checked by a competent electrician to determine why they fail to cut off when drawing excess current.

The floor slab at the raw sewage pumping station has settled, permitting the roof to sag. The roof should be jacked into its original position, and the supporting columns repositioned and reset.

During the year a washout of the Swannanoa River Outfall Sewer at Sweeten Creek was repaired. To prevent a recurrence or repetition

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of this washout, riprap should be installed on each side of Sweeten Creek.

The District now has under consideration a revision of their wastewater service charges to include a surcharge for certain industrial wastes. To properly allocate costs of operation and maintenance in administering the proposed surcharges, several changes will be required in the District's operating procedures, including:

(a) In-plant electric metering should be installed, to separately meter power used for the blowers and for pumping. If the Power Company should agree to do so, the most economical and simplest method of providing such metering would be by the Power Company at the District's expense.

(b) A basic and simple cost accounting system should be instituted effective July 1, 1975. This will require the establishment of time sheets in order that labor costs can be allocated, as well as a system for charging all other expenditures.

In preparing the budget for next year, operating and maintenance expenses should be increased in an amount adequate to meet these anticipated requirements.

"(b) their advices and recommendations as to the extensions, improvements, renewals and replacements which should be made during the ensuing fiscal year, and their recommendations as to the amount that should be deposited during the ensuing fiscal year to the credit of the Repair and Extension Fund for such purposes";

A problem is being encountered in the cleaning of the diffuser units which is causing excessive maintenance costs. It is recommended

that the saran wrapping on present tubes be replaced with nylon socks. It is possible that this replacement may partially or fully alleviate the blower problems. It is estimated that the replacement of the wrappers on the diffusers will cost approximately \$20,000.

At the present time lubricating oil, kerosene, diesel fuel, and explosive cleaners are being stored in the Blower Building. To meet current OSHA requirements, it is recommended that a storage building, removed from the Blower Building, be constructed at the Main Treatment Plant. The estimated cost of a 20 foot x 20 foot concrete block building with a concrete roof for this purpose is approximately \$10,000.

In addition to the changes in operating procedures previously recommended for the purpose of properly allocating costs in order to implement and administer the industrial wastes surcharge, it will also be necessary to make a capital expenditure to permit obtaining sewage samples of the incoming raw sewage which do not contain return sludge. This is not possible under the present physical setup at the Main Treatment Plant. It is recommended that a chamber or pit be constructed upstream of the point where the return sludge is introduced, containing a sampling pump, at an estimated cost of approximately \$10,000.

The District now has in preparation a Step 1 Facilities Planning Report for Metropolitan Asheville and the Buncombe County area. This report is a prerequisite for obtaining Federal funds for the construction of additional sewerage facilities by the District. Future construction by the District, if Federally funded, will of necessity follow and be in accordance with the findings in this report. The preparation of the report will require

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most of the fiscal year, so that any consequent construction will not affect the current fiscal year's fund requirements.

Funds currently in the Repair and Extension Fund are adequate to meet the requirements for the ensuing fiscal year.

Our previous recommendation that the Repair and Extension Fund should be built up to a total of \$1,500,000 as the flow of funds permits is still valid. This will enable the District to handle interim financing during construction in future fiscal years prior to actual reimbursement of construction costs from grant funds.

"(c) their advices and recommendations as to the insurance to be carried under the provisions of Section 706 of this Resolution";

We have obtained from the District's insurance carrier copies and/or certificates for the policies and coverages currently in effect. The insurance being carried is in accordance with the recommendations contained in our report dated April 14, 1970 as required by Section 706 of the Bond Resolution.

"(d) their recommendations as to any necessary or advisable revisions of the sewage disposal charges, and";

The District now has under consideration, and proposes to adopt prior to the beginning of the next fiscal year, a Resolution establishing revised sewage disposal charges. We have recommended and approved the proposed Resolution.

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"(e) their findings whether the properties of the Sewerage System have been maintained in good repair and sound operating condition, and their estimate of the amount, if any, required to be expended to place the System in such condition and the details of such expenditures and the approximate time required therefor".

The properties of the Sewerage System have been maintained in good repair and sound operating condition and we have no specific recommendations of any consequence that may be required to place the System in such condition.

As noted in our last annual report, the Facilities Planning Report, which the District now has under preparation, will include detailed studies of infiltration from the sewage collection systems discharging into the District's intercepting sewers. Under current Federal regulations and procedures for grants for construction of wastewater treatment facilities, substantial work will have to be done to correct any excessive infiltration of the collecting sewers discharging to the District. Federal grants are available up to 75% of the cost for this work.

We would like to express our thanks and appreciation to Mr. W. H. Mull and to Mr. R. L. Cunningham, who have been most cooperative with our work as Consulting Engineers.

Very truly yours,

HARRY HENDON AND ASSOCIATES, INC.

By 
L. E. Hoffmann, President.

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cc: Local Government Commission

Trustee