

Meeting Summary

Alaska Water Resources Board
Juneau, Alaska
March 3-5, 1981

The Alaska Water Resources Board meeting was held in Juneau, March 3-5, 1981, in Courtroom A, State Court Building. The members of the Board in attendance were:

Richard Sims (Chairman), Kodiak
Peg Tileston, Anchorage
Wayne Westberg, Anchorage
David Vanderbrink, Homer
Frederick Boness, Anchorage
Rocky Gutierrez, Sitka

Commissioner LeResche was represented by Jeff Haynes, Ted Smith and Greg Doggett. Commissioner Mueller was in attendance during part of the meeting. When absent, he was represented by Gary Hayden.

Wednesday, March 3, 1981

Chairman Sims called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m. He first asked if there were any corrections to the December meeting summary. Steve Mack gave corrections requested by John Clark of the Department of Fish and Game. At the bottom of page 14 it should have been stated that the habitat protection regulations apply to all fish streams state-wide, all land that has been established by the legislature as critical habitat sanctuary and state owned land that has been established as game refuge. With those corrections the meeting summary was approved.

Chairman Sims announced the retirement from the Board of Charles Johnson and welcomed his replacement, Rocky Gutierrez from Sitka. He also discussed the offer from the Board of Forestry to have assistance from the Water Board in the selection of a new director of Division of Forest, Land and Water Management.

A letter from Bruce Phelps, Municipality of Anchorage was distributed. Mr. Phelps expressed regret that he hadn't been able to attend the December meeting. Enclosed with the letter was material describing Anchorage's 208 programs.

Regret was expressed that the Yukon Water Board couldn't attend this meeting. Too many of their members did not have enough free time. Chairman Sims stated that an invitation would be extended for the autumn-winter meeting. Chairman Sims also announced the Legislature's committee meeting schedule.

At 9:15 Steve Mack of the Water Management Section gave a presentation on new legislation affecting water resources.

Major Points:

- * Legislation proposed by the Division of Forest, Land and Water Management could be separated into three parts -- basin-wide adjudications, enforcement authority and access to seafood processing. This had not been introduced to the legislature at the time of the meeting.
- * The basin-wide adjudication amendments to the Water Use Act were felt necessary to establish, in statute form, a procedure to adjudicate federal reserved water rights.
- Q. What is the progress on the Ship Creek Adjudication?
- A. Steve Mack and Greg Doggett: Ship Creek will be adjudicated under the procedure proposed for statutes. This procedure will be followed regardless of success in the legislature. Staff from DNR and the Department of Law have met to discuss strategy and now that the federal reserved water right position has been filled, DNR will be able to give adequate attention to the adjudication of Ship Creek. DNR has had preliminary discussions with military on quantification of water use. This was in connection with the military's applications for land use permits.
- Enforcement authority amendments allow the Department to remove or abate unpermitted works, inspect records and enter onto premises after notice and hearing. These amendments were proposed much in response to problems encountered with lowering Sherwood Estates Lake.
- * Access to seafood processing records was proposed to help the Water Management Section to develop water use statistics for the industry.
- C. There was considerable discussion of the amendment providing the Water Management Section access to seafood processing records. The Board members felt water use data could be obtained in other ways, that the information would not be that useful because of the variability of operations, the proposal would be resisted by the processors, and the objectives would be achieved more successfully with voluntary cooperation.
- * Other legislation that might be of interest to the Water Board was selected from the legislative index. These included:
 - SCR 2, adopting a state policy for economic development.
 - SB 8, a \$48 million appropriation for the Susitna hydropower project.
 - SB 42 which amends the Village Safe Water Act.
 - SB 189 (same as HB 205) which would establish a historical, recreational and wilderness trails, waterways and campsite system.

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SB 216 which repeals the Coastal Management Act.

NB 98, an \$8.5 million appropriation to the Kodiak Island Borough for wastewater collection and public water supply.

HB 100, a \$123 million appropriation for Terror Lake Hydroelectric Project.

HB 196 which would establish an Alaska state climate center.

Next on the agenda was water resources problems and priorities of state agencies. Giving presentations were Greg Doggett of the Water Management Section, Bill Long of the Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys, Gary Hayden of the Department of Environmental Conservation, Richard Cannon of the Department of Fish and Game, Ed Busch of the Department of Community and Regional Affairs, and Jim Wiedeman of the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities.

Major Points:

- * Greg Doggett itemized the activities of the Water Management Section as the Division of Forest, Land and Water Management's priorities. Included were the water use data system, regional water planning guides, instream flow (draft regulations would be discussed later) and federal reserved water rights. Under water rights adjudication, advertising the need for water rights had been instituted.
- * Bill Long separated DGGS's problems and priorities into operations, funding and planning. The problems associated with operations included ordering and timely reception of equipment and personnel. Under personnel, the Water Resources Section of DGGS is hampered by the absence of a hydrologist series. Under planning there may be a potential for overlap of programs. Two areas where this might exist are with DEC's ambient level water quality program and the climate centers. With these programs the initial coordination steps have been taken. The overlap should be avoided but the potential exists.

With funding the resource inventory CIP has been approved by the Governor's Office but still must go through the Legislature.

- Q. Fred Boness: Are geothermal projects of DGGS included in CIP summary?
- A. Bill Long: They are in the CIP and organizationally with DGGS, geothermal has been moved into the Water Resources Section. The geothermal program is primarily investigations with some drilling. Unalaska is presently being focused on.
- C. Bill Long and the Board members discussed the activities at Unalaska and the geothermal program in general. The Board members expressed interest in knowing more of what the Division of Energy Development and Power is doing with respect to geothermal.

- Q. Wayne Westberg: How is the well log program progressing?
- A. Bill Long: That program is working well. DGGS and the Water Management Section are cooperating well and the water rights advertising program appears to have the side benefit of producing more well logs for inclusion into the system.
- * For DEC a major concern is the future of the 208 program. It appears there will be no 6th year grant, current funding will last through 1982 and the department will be looking for replacement funding. Another problem continues to be contract delays. A third problem is funding for the data management system. In the development of the budget that funding was dropped out.
- * For the Department of Fish and Game a major concern is that in the past, funding for planning and coordination activities in Alaska has been provided by federal grants. These grants are disappearing but the need for the activities funded is not; in fact, it is becoming greater. The habitat data system is a planning information priority of the department. This system was started two years ago and one of its first uses will be the update of the anadromous fish stream catalog.
- As the department becomes more involved with water problems it becomes apparent that there's a need for training. Most fish and game employees are not trained in hydrology, yet need to be able to understand the discipline.
- Q. Dick Sims: Could data required by Fish and Game be collected by another agency?
- A. Richard Cannon: Not really, Fish and Game data needs require that hydrology be related to fish populations and only Fish and Game has the biologists to do that.
- Q. Wayne Westberg: Is Fish and Game involved in placer mining demonstration project?
- A. Richard Cannon: No, but the northern regional office is following the project. Fish and Game is interested in the results but not really involved.
- * Ed Busch of the Department of Community and Regional Affairs divided that agency's responsibilities into programmatic and planning areas. The programmatic area included the Coastal Management Program and the State Assistance Program for floodplain management. The State Assistance Program has finally funded the state for administering the flood insurance program plus allowing the state to broaden the floodplain management program to be more than just insurance.
- C. There was general discussion of the activities of DCRA. Ed Busch noted that their involvement with water resources was generally

in the nature of assistance to communities and that assistance would only be provided at the request of the community.

- Q. Wayne Westberg: What percentage of your requests for assistance from communities involves water resources?
- A. Ed Busch: Hard to say but roughly $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$. Often assistance requests will not directly involve water resources but upon closer examination some water-related problem is included. Much of the Division of Community Planning's assistance is directing the communities to the correct agency.
- C. There was a general discussion of the Coastal Energy Impact Program. This program involves water resources in that it funds studies and contracts for water systems that are impacted by energy development.
- * In the area of water resources the Department of Community and Regional Affairs is mostly concerned with floodplain management but is also interested in seeing a comprehensive water resources management program. A need under the program is collection and management of data. A specific data need for the State Assistance Program is floodplain mapping, but other agencies need this also. A comprehensive data program could help coordinate this.
- C. Ed Busch discussed the floodplain mapping needs and the insurance program with comments and questions from the Board members.
- * The Department of Transportation and Public Facilities does not have water resources programs per se, but is rather a water resources data user and as such is dependent upon and tries to work closely with data collectors. Much of DOT/PF's work involves water or requires water resources data -- bridges, culverts, roads, public facilities. If data isn't available when the project is started, DOT/PF must either wait or pay to have data collected. As a result, the Department is in support of water resources data collection programs. DOT/PF also is in need of floodplain information and concerned with the emerging issue of wetland regulation.
- Q. Wayne Westberg: Is there an annual process for getting DOT/PF's data needs to DGGS?
- A. Jim Wiedeman: It is done on a project by project basis. No annual process has been developed yet, but close cooperation exists.
- C. A general discussion followed on coordination of construction data requirements with the data collection efforts by the state.

At 1:30 Bruce Cummings, Director of the Division of Personnel, spoke on the establishment of a hydrologist job series.

Major Points:

- * The request for a hydrologist series has been around for awhile but was not perceived as a priority until the letter from Governor Hammond was received. The study creating the job series will concentrate on DNR's needs first but hopefully will also be acceptable to other agencies.
 - * The first step of creating the job series will be a study defining job tasks. After that is done pay scales will be determined. The study will be done by DNR's personnel section.
 - * The personnel system was described in general, broken down into development of job classifications, recruitment and hiring. Alaska residents have preference and a position must be filled from the top five available and interested candidates unless unique circumstances can be justified.
- C. Fred Boness: The top five are not always the best people for a particular job. It is unfair to expect state employees to risk their jobs justifying hiring someone else. It's a justifiable risk at the director or commissioner level but not lower.
- A. Bruce Cummings: There's more flexibility and less risk than people realize. One way to resolve this is to explain the personnel system better to those using it.
- Q. Wayne Westberg: If identifying the top five on a 200 person register is so difficult, could the top 20, for example, be identified instead?
- A. Bruce Cummings: The personnel system is moving to block scoring which is similar to that. Statistically some differences in scoring are not meaningful so all people achieving scores within a few points of each other would be ranked together. For example, rank 1 might have 15 people in it under this method of scoring.
- Q. Peg Tileston: A common complaint is that agencies have to continue to reinterview people who were found unacceptable in the first interview. Does any way exist to shortcircuit that?
- A. Bruce Cummings: That can be handled under present rules but a problem is that interviewers are coding the interview list incorrectly so that Personnel is not aware that the person in question was unacceptable. Again, this relates to the fact that people do not understand the system well enough. The Division of Personnel used to have workshops to explain the system but funding was cut.
- Q. Peg Tileston: How is staffing at Division of Personnel?
- A. Bruce Cummings: The classification section needs 15 more analysts. The average application gets 13 minutes. The Division has the

same number of people now that it had in 1968 yet the size of state employment work force has doubled.

- Q. Fred Boness: Is it reasonable that developing hydrologist job series has taken so long?
- A. Bruce Cummings: This may have been going on for some time but Division of Personnel became aware that it was a priority when the letter from Governor Hammond arrived in January. The Division of Personnel is a reactive organization and works on those issues that generate the most attention.
- Q. Peg Tileston and Dick Sims: Is there anything the Board can do to assist? Does the Division of Personnel have a wish list?
- A. Bruce Cummings: Top on the list would be more staff. Helpful from the Board would be recognition that the problem includes the lack of resources.

Next was Bruce Baker, Division of Policy Development and Planning, Office of the Governor, speaking on that agency's water resources problems and priorities.

Major points:

- * DPDP has four water-resources related roles -- 1) as an attendant or participant in Water Board meetings, 2) involvement in inter-agency forums on floodplains and wetlands, 3) the Office of Coastal Management and 4) the overall coordination mechanism of the State Clearinghouse.
- * The State Clearinghouse is also known as A95 Clearinghouse in reference to Federal Circular A95 that requires clearinghouse review for certain activities involving federal funding. Clearinghouse review is also required for administrative orders and is available for other types of review if requested. Clearinghouse is responsible to see that all potentially interested agencies are part of the review process and to assist in conflict resolution.

Next was the DNR agency report. First for DNR was Mary Lu Harle giving a presentation on the draft instream flow regulations.

Major Points:

- * Last year the Instream Flow Bill was passed amending the Water Use Act so that a diversion is no longer a requirement for issuance of a water right. Water rights can now be issued for instream flows. To implement this provision regulations must be adopted.
- * The new legislation specifies that any person may apply for a reservation and that flows or levels may be reserved for four purposes: fish and wildlife habitat, water quality, navigation and recreation. At least once each 10 years the reservation must be reviewed.

- * Any person may apply for a reservation but an Attorney General's opinion on the Instream Flow Bill stated that even if applied for by a person the reservation should be issued to a government agency as a trustee based on the public trust doctrine. In the draft regulations the Department of Natural Resources would be the trustee in all cases.
- * The regulations are administrative rather than technical. The goals were to integrate these procedures as much as possible with current practices and to place burden on supplying data on the applicant.
- C. There was considerable discussion on the problems that might arise from the issuance of permits for future activities. Dick Sims was concerned that this might be used to tie up water from appropriation to other appropriators. It was explained that the application would be issued for a 5 year period and that at the end of the five year period the instream flow would have to have been documented or reapplication would be necessary.
- C. There was considerable discussion on the merits of the Instream Flow Bill. Consensus was that the bill was proving to be a very cumbersome method of reserving instream flow and that a simple way of reserving flows must exist. However, barring amendments to the Water Use Act the law must be observed and these regulations seemed reasonable. Mary Lu Harle was thanked for her presentation and the work she had put into the regulations.

Next was Bill Long of the Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys with a presentation on the resource inventory program.

Major Points:

- * An outline of the water resources element of the resource inventory capital improvement project was distributed. For the entire project nine areas of the state will be looked at and only hydrology is in all nine areas. The hydrology portion of the project is budgeted for approximately \$10 million over 5 years; the geothermal portion is at \$5 million.
- * Details of the hydrology portion were developed through contact with a number of other agencies with USGS being the first contacted due to their experience in water resources investigations. More communication is needed with DEC and DOT/PF. There seems to be agreement that the nine regions chosen are areas that need investigation.
- C. Dick Sims: The water quality aspect of this program needs to be well coordinated with DEC. Resource investigations of this magnitude need to be meaningful and useful to an agency like DEC.
- * Other projects that the water resources section of DGGS is involved in include installation of a gage at Nikolski on Sheep Creek, baseline data on agriculture land, the well log program which is

going well, and state-wide surface-water monitoring with the USGS.

After Bill Long, Greg Doggett gave a summary of the Water Management Section's recent activities.

- * The administrative order on submission of well logs by state agencies that was drafted at the last meeting has been resubmitted to the Governor's Office by the Department.
- * Preliminary figures indicate the water rights advertising program resulted in a marked increase in water rights applications. The advertising cost \$1,900.
- * A summary report on the well log program was handed out and the water use handbook and placer mining projects were summarized.
- * Steve Mack summarized the FY 80 and 81 Title III grant programs. In FY 80 the grant award was \$252,000 and activities included water resources training, regional water planning guides, instream flow studies, community profiles and a study of water resources of the Nenana agriculture project area. In FY 81 \$200,000 is expected, the bulk of this money will go to fund positions in DNR, DEC and DF&G for coordination activities. Other activities will include small stream surveys and placer mining water use quantification. Funding for Title III has survived the budget cuts so far (but it was cut in half later-ed).

Thursday March 4, 1981

Gary Hayden started off the morning with the DEC agency report. It was primarily a discussion of the waste water disposal regulations.

Major Points:

- * Revisions to the waste water disposal regulations have been worked on for the last 1-1½ years. Workshops and public hearings have been held. The new regulations should be ready to go to the Attorney General's office by the end of the month.
 - * Major proposed changes are: (1) exempt discharges of less than 500 gallons per day from the permit requirement; (2) added flexibility to the separation distances between water sources and discharges; (3) added a provision to allow less than secondary treatment of waste discharges to marine waters (this will not apply to discharges to freshwater); (4) added provisions to allow communities to pick up the plan review and approval process for waste treatment facilities in subdivisions.
- Q. Peg Tileston: Is there any provision for cumulative tracking on the less-than-500-per-day. There could be a problem from accumulated amounts?

- A. Gary Hayden: No.
- Q. Peg Tileston: Is there a provision to accommodate for gyres, like in Anchorage, that pull the discharge around back on to the beach?
- A. Gary Hayden: Yes. We'll write guidelines for field people when they're reviewing a secondary waiver; one of the things they'll consider is the tidal flushing movements.
- Q. Peg Tileston: What's the process with EPA on a waiver?
- A. Gary Hayden: EPA has said they will allow waivers, though they've never processed one. We're not going to wait on them; they've said they won't hassle us.
- Q. Peg Tileston: How will the municipality apply for and meet the requirements of taking over the operation?
- A. Gary Hayden: They have to have a program in place, or have the ordinances that allow them to set up an adequate program.
- Q. Wayne Westberg: Do you include injection wells in these regulations?
- A. Gary Hayden: They fall under the waste disposal regulations, but EPA has the formal program. DEC decided that, since Alaska doesn't have many, the program would be too much, administratively, for the benefit to the state.

Major points of Gary's presentation on the drinking water program:

- * In 1978, EPA gave DEC the authority to run the drinking water program in Alaska, so EPA has no direct involvement with the water systems here.
 - * DEC promulgated regulations and began an inventory. So far we've counted 1,200 public water systems. We define a public water system as anything that serves more than a single family residence, but the inventory only includes those systems that serve more than 25 people.
- Q. Wayne Westberg: Do you have to approve the plan for duplexes?
- A. Gary Hayden: There are plan review requirements for a duplex, but there are no monitoring requirements and no requirements for operator certification for a duplex.
- * Most potential public health problems are with the operation and maintenance problems of the smaller systems.
 - * The public information program includes a curriculum for schools and a 25-minute TV program on drinking water.

- * Proposed changes to the drinking water regulations include moving the iron, manganese, sodium and color contaminants from the mandatory levels into a secondary category, which is primarily related to aesthetic considerations. They are not directly related to the public health, but they're the ones people have the greatest difficulty meeting. A limit has been added for trihalomethanes.
- * The monitoring requirement is flexible. Class A systems, which serve less than 1,000 people, don't have to monitor for bacteriological quality every month if their history is good and the water quality doesn't change. Or if a system runs into problems, more stringent requirements can be set up.
- * The new regulations will go to the Attorney General's office within a month, and should be in effect in three or four months. None of the changes is considered controversial.

Rich McConaghy explained the Clean Lakes Program.

Major Points:

- * It's a program authorized by Section 342 of the Clean Water Act to assist states or municipalities in restoring and protecting lake water quality. The main emphasis is on lakes with high recreation potential that are becoming eutrophic and nutrient-enriched.
- * There are two phases to the program: (1) a diagnostic feasibility study to determine what the problem is and what needs to be done to fix it; federal funding up to \$100,000 is available on a 70% federal, 30% local match; (2) implementation of the solutions; federal funding with no limit is available on a 50% federal, 50% local match.
- * Alaska entered the program this year and was awarded three Phase I projects: Mirror Lake (near Eklutna), Robe Lake (Valdez), and Skaters Lake. Total federal funds awarded for these projects is \$214,000. Because of federal budget cuts there probably won't be any money available for Phase II for these projects or for any more Phase I projects.
- * The local community that sponsored the lake is in charge of the project; DEC acts as a pass-through for the money.
- * Activities to restore a lake could include: watershed management; sewage management or treatment; aeration in agricultural lakes; snow and ice disposal.

Rich also talked about the problem assessment, funded under the third 208 grant.

Major Points:

- * The purpose is to develop procedures for providing information on

water quality problems to decision-makers in a timely and effective manner.

- * DEC is developing a data base for water quality, which is essentially an identification of potential pollution sources. The data will then be coordinated and assimilated into the process. Identification of water quality problems, either from observation or from data, comes from DEC, other agencies, and the public. The problems are listed, analyzed, prioritized; needs to solve the problems are identified.
- * DEC recently demonstrated the problem assessment process in the Fairbanks, Ketchikan, and Kenai areas.

Doug Toland, an ecologist in the DEC lab, explained a new ambient fixed station water quality monitoring program.

Major Points:

- * The intent of the program is to expand the quantities of and standarize the data being gathered, by coordinating with other agencies, particularly DNR and USGS.
- Q. Wayne Westberg: When you test the water of a private home, do you do it at DEC's lab?
- A. Gary Hayden: For a complaint or a potential problem, DEC will handle the samples. For a bank loan or a private howeowner, we refer them to one of the certified labs around the state. The cost for a pathological analysis runs about \$15-\$20. DEC will help the citizen interpret the results, but does not want to compete with the private labs for the business.
- C. Dave Vanderbrink: I believe that people ought to be able to get their water tested without wondering how to get the sample or who to sent it to. It ought to be advertised just like an appropriation to get water; the information ought to be readily available and disseminated to everyone.
- Q. Dick Sims: Would you collect the data yourself?
- A. Doug Toland: Either we or our regional office staff would do that, or we would have cooperative agreements with other agencies. The date would be collected according to the accepted procedures of USGS and EPA. The data would then be incorporated into a retrievable system.
- Q. Dick Sims: Are you going to be site-specific, or are you going to do the same thing as DGGS with no site-specific purpose?
- A. Doug Toland: There would be reasons for doing both. We'd monitor some planned development projects to prevent problems from happening. We also need information on water systems that are essentially unaffected to use as a basis for comparison.

Next, Deena Henkins, director of DEC's field operations division, talked about the Department's placer mining activities.

Major Points:

- * Last winter an informal placer mining task force, consisting of interested state agencies and representatives of the mining industry, met to open channels of communication and coordinate state activities regarding placer mining. From the task force came the master permit application, one piece of paper that allows miners to apply for permits from Fish and Game, DEC, DNR, Dept. of Revenue and, with the addition of another short form, EPA.
 - * The settling pond for the demonstration project has been designed and will be built as soon as break-up permits.
 - * DNR, F&G and DEC have requested additional positions from the legislature to deal with placer mining. The entire budget request with support money comes to about \$800,000.
 - * These three agencies participated in a seminar, sponsored by the Lt. Governor, with miners. Most of the questions and criticisms were directed at DNR's backlogs of processing water use permits, claim notices, and annual assessments. Several of the positions we are requesting are to help DNR process these.
 - * Field personnel from DEC, DNR and F&G plan to get together to outline a common approach to typical field situations. Because we need to cover a wider area, we probably won't be going out together, and we should have a uniform approach.
 - * The three agencies will participate in a panel discussion on regulations affecting the mining industry on April 1 at the Placer Mining Convention in Fairbanks.
- Q. Peg Tileston: What is the department considering, particularly in the demonstration project, on water recycling?
- A. Deena Henkins: That project is not funded to include recycling. Naturally, we are looking for other sources of money to go on with that. We observed some recycling operations in the field last summer; we gather information where we find them.
- Q. Fred Boness: Do you feel that there are smooth working relations between DNR, DEC and F&G on placer mining?
- A. Deena Henkins: They have improved a great deal. I think problems are sometimes a lack of communications down to the people who are actually behind the desks. We've always had good agreements in Juneau at the directors' and section chiefs' levels.

Jim Sanders described the current status of the 208 grants.

- * The first 208 grant is closed out. The only problem with it was solved when DOT signed off on our transportation corridor report.
- * The second grant is completed. There is \$38,000 left from that grant that we're trying to reprogram into the placer mining demonstration project.
- * The third grant projects are all on schedule. The watershed project is on schedule and a handbook for municipalities will be ready in May. The water quality assessment that Rich McConaghy talked about seems to be going very well.

Data Management is on schedule. The on-site waste disposal and sludge disposal projects are on schedule. But Jim Clare, who was the project manager for both, has resigned so there may be a delay. The local waste oil program is on schedule. We have had very good response to the technical memo listing funding sources, and to requests for a participant in the demonstration. Erwin Koehler, the project manager, will be resigning but we don't anticipate delays in filling his position. DEC has oversight responsibility with the Anchorage program, and we continue to attend their PAC meetings. Jim met with municipality officials recently and thinks most problems in coordination were resolved.

Q. Dick Sims: Is the 208 funding for the Anchorage project passed through DEC or does it go directly to the municipality?

- A. Jim Sanders: Directly to Anchorage. Their work plans are supposed to come through us for approval, but they did not submit a grant this year, I think because they were having problems with the current one.
- * In the fourth grant, the revisions to the forest practices project have been accepted by EPA and it is on schedule. The placer mining project is on schedule; we're hoping to reprogram \$38,000 from the second grant into this project. The agricultural BMP project is on schedule; workshops were held for this project in January that weren't very well attended, but we got some positive comments from them.
- * EPA has authorized funding for all fifth grant projects. The Request for Proposals (RFP) for the wetlands project is being written now and the project will begin, we hope, in May. Rikki Fowler is the project coordinator. The RFP for the village facilities assistance project is also being written, and it is hoped that it can begin in May. The placer mining surveillance project is scheduled to begin in August, but we want to begin earlier so the project manager, (who is not hired yet), can work through the whole season.

- * Since there will be no more federal funds for 208 projects, the future of sixth grant projects is in question. One alternative, of course, is to seek state funding.
- Q. Dick Sims: How much is the fifth grant worth?
- A. Jim Sanders: Federal funds are about \$330,000, state funds are \$100,000, for a total of \$430,000 for all three projects.
- Q. Dick Sims: What is the expiration date for the fifth grant?
- A. Jim Sanders: It varies. The wetlands project ends in about a year; village facilities should take 2½ to 3 years to complete; placer mining runs for about 2 years.
- C. Jim Sanders: In your packets are concept papers. By the next Board meeting, we should know more about funding possibilities and at that time we can address what you think are good projects.

Dick Dworsky made some comments about the Level B program.

Major Points:

- * The 45-day technical review of the report is completed. Comments were received from 13 agencies. Next will be a 90-day public comment and hearing period, and then the report is finished, probably in August.
- * Several problems remain with coordination, information transfer, data collection, federal funding and major public works development.
- * It is suggested that the Water Board consider a structure for a priority-setting process. A priorities list for public works could help Alaska's congressional delegation.
- Q. Peg Tileston: Do you think the Alaska Water Study Committee has aided communication and coordination between agencies? What happens to it now?
- A. Dick Dworsky: It probably wasn't as good a vehicle as it could have been. On the other hand, people were trained in coordination. I don't know what its future will be. The Water Resources Council doesn't want to fund single state entities for water resources management. There might be a role for the committee to exist as an attachment to the land manager's task force.
- * The public has not been particularly involved: The cosmic approach of the study has precluded rational public participation.
- Q. Peg Tileston: So nobody knows right now what's going to happen to the whole coordinative process on water?
- A. Ernie Mueller: Right. We had expected, as an alternative, to use the Alaska Land Use Council as an umbrella organization

because it's a federal-state interagency coordinating mechanism and it involves others besides, principally Native organizations. I think it should be implemented on a formal basis because it's the only way I can see that Native organizations can have input into decisions made by the two major Alaska landowners, and vice versa.

- Q. Wayne Westberg: How can the Board help in the utilization of this report?
- A. Dick Dworsky: If the issues we raised remain problems, I think it appropriate for your Title III people to appraise these. You can also question whether programs are consistent with the approved regional plans. The Board can also suggest programs to the Governor, and ask for the status of others.
- C. Wayne Westberg: I think the annual priority report on water-related things is an interesting concept we could push for.

Next, Kate Graham brought the Board up to date on the public participation program.

Major Points:

- * Last May, there were seven public workshops for the on-plot and sludge studies that were very successful, with exceptional turnout in some towns.
- * The first public meeting for the settling pond project was attended by 50 people. There were some good interchanges, not just between DEC and the audience, but among the people in the audience as well. They will probably be held every two months, beginning in May, in Fairbanks.
- C. Peg Tileston: It might be a good idea to take the slides of the project to KAKM or the University media services to have it put on videotape and play it on the public TV stations.
- Q. Dick Sims: Since the pond will be used the same year it is built, we won't know what effect stirring up the ground during construction will have?
- A. Kate Graham: Yes, but I'm sure our field people will sample that pond the following year during routine inspection trips to mines in that area. We just won't have federal money to do it.
- * Other public information activities on placer mining included: Newspaper ads on general information that got good responses (although we don't know what percentage of people saw them); several brochures that we handed out during the October miners' convention and will reprint for the April placer miners conference; and some TV public service announcements. There were some problems with these and they will not be aired this season.

- * This season we will do more newspaper ads and perhaps radio announcements. We may write feature articles for the newspapers and for the miners association newsletter.
- C. Peg Tileston: You might consider putting some of the brochures out at, for instance, the general store in Hope and at certain libraries.
- Q. Dick Sims: Have you tried to coordinate this with the University?
- A. Kate Graham: No, ust with DNR and F&G.
- C. Dick Sims: When we were up there the University told us of various projects they were working on, and it's possible they're printing brochures, too.
- Q. Dick Sims: Considering where you were a year ago, is your public information program working?
- A. Kate Graham: A qualified "yes." We've gotten in touch with a lot more people. I think different interest groups realize we're trying to find the best ways of doing things and that we'll give them the information, and that helps enforcement in the field. But there's a lot more we could be doing if we had the time.
- Q. Kate Graham: We've gotten letters from people who are interested in the Board's role in the 208 program. At least one person implies that you aren't very deeply involved. I wondered if you felt involved as thoroughly as you want to be?
- A. Dick Sims: We weren't the PAC when the original grant went in so we've been dealing with after-the-fact modifications and follow-ups. I feel it's been beneficial, though there are some frustrations.
- A. Peg Tileston: Compared to the former PAC, I think this Board has gotten more in-depth and taken a more aggressive role in trying to get a handle on things. Now on some things, like the demonstration, maybe we ought to remind ourselves to go back into the communities we're in contact with and spread the word a little bit more. I feel satisfied with the progress we've made, and I think we'll be even more effective as we go along.
- Q. Kate Graham: Is there something you want more information on?
- A. Dick Sims: If we had some grant applications to work on, we could do more than just follow the projects that have already been approved. As long as everything is functioning smoothly, there's really no reason for us to get involved.
- * For the drinking water program, we made a TV program and six TV spots. We are putting together a handbook for water suppliers, primarily, and a newsletter that would go at least to water suppliers and municipalities.

Next, Steve Mack gave a presentation on the cooperative agreement on establishment of a water resources working group.

- * At the December meeting, the Board heard a presentation on an administrative order on this. At the time, the Board consensus was that an administrative order was not necessary. Since then the people working on this have met and redrafted it into a cooperative agreement form. The content has changed so that a staff level group will be established with the primary purposes of coordination and communication of activities.
- * The agreement has only been worked on at the staff level. It still needs to go through each agency. There's been no input from the Alaska Power Authority and Department Commerce and Economic Development, both of which should be involved.
- Q. Dick Sims: Some of the language in this appears strong delegating authority to a working group. Are agencies going to sign off on that?
- A. Steve Mack: The language is aimed at coordination activities and the list of possible activities was kept as broad as possible. No commissioners have reviewed this and it is possible the agreement may be reduced in scope.

Dave Sturdevant described the petrochemical public involvement project DEC is doing at the Lt. Governor's request.

Major Points:

- * The program's purpose is to provide information on public attitudes, concerns, etc., so that information will be available to decision-makers when it comes time to decide about disposal of the natural gas liquids from the Prudhoe field.
- * There are two phases to the project. The first will provide information to the public about the nature of the petrochemical industry and the configurations that are being studied in Alaska. The second phase will provide opportunities for the public to respond with their questions or concerns. DEC is contracting with the Institute of Social and Economic Research at University of Alaska to do this. In addition, DEC is working with a "technical group," composed mainly of agency people, on a separate phase of the environment and social assessment in which we review "key issues." These are economic, environmental and social issues that the state should look at in conjunction with major developments.
- * ISER will build a scenario of what's most likely to happen in Alaska, based primarily on information from Dow/Shell. This will be the basis for TV and radio spots and newspaper ads. About the first of April there will be an extensive public opinion survey. Finally, there will be public meetings in the areas of the proposed plant locations.

- * A final report will be delivered to the Lt. Governor in early September, when the Dow/Shell feasibility study is due.
- * The contract with ISER is for \$233,000. There is a total of \$300,000 available for the entire project, including the project manager's salary and travel.
- Q. Peg Tileston: I understand Exxon is also interested in establishing a petrochemical industry in Alaska. Do we have to do this again, if Dow/Shell falls out and Exxon comes in?
- A. Dave Sturdevant: We're told that each of the producers is doing its own study of the feasibility of the petrochemical industry. Exxon owns slightly more than 1/3 of the resources, so they could build a plant of their own, in addition to Dow/Shell. This program is really a preliminary program since we don't have the feasibility study before us. We're trying more than anything else to identify concerns, rather than address them. If the project goes forward, we may continue with a similar sort of program having a sounder basis.
- Q. Dick Sims: Can they use salt water for cooling?
- A. Dave Sturdevant: Yes. They would use a heat exchanger where they would use sea water as the cooling body. They can also use air cooling towers.
- * DEC is working closely with the communities in the site locations to have an exchange of information and particularly to involve them in the public meeting process.

After this discussion the Board adjourned for dinner.

At 7:30 Elizabeth Cuadra of the League of Women Voters spoke on the activities of the League.

Major Points:

- * The organizational operations of the League were explained. The League develops consensus positions at scheduled meetings. These positions will be on national, state and local issues.
- * The state League has taken positions or commented on proposed uniform procedural regs, improvement of land disposal statutes, nuclear waste disposal, a freedom of information act and the Coastal Management Act.
- * Local issues include the Juneau Coastal District Management program, the Auke Bay breakwater, and a Forest Service timber sale 10 miles beyond Echo Cove, an update of the Juneau Comprehensive plan and water resources related energy programs including the Juneau heat pump program and the energy audit program.

- Q. Peg Tileston: What are the problems with the Juneau Coastal Management Plan?
- A. Elizabeth Cudara: Speaking as an individual, the general problem was that the plan was too general with not enough specific guidance. Hazards was not addressed at all. Problem is not with the state but rather the city. The original consultant's work was poor and impossible to patch up.
- C. Pete Isleib: Juneau plan falls far short of ideal. The plan will probably be patched up and finally approved by the Coastal Policy Council.
- Q. Wayne Westberg: Are there any coastal management plans that have been successful?
- A. Pete Isleib: Anchorage's plan has been approved as have Cordova's Haines' and Skagway's.

Next Pete Isleib, on behalf of the Board of Forestry, invited Water Board members to participate in the selection of Ted Smith's replacement as State Forester/Director of Division of Forest, Land and Water Management. A committee of the Board of Forestry will review applications. The Water Board was invited to assist.

Other Major Points:

- * Board of Forestry is recommending the establishment of forest resource management areas. There are five acres specifically mentioned in the Board's proposed legislation: Fairbanks vicinity, Tok, Yakataga-Icy Bay, Haines and Mat-Su Borough. The purposes of forest resource management areas is protect the most valuable forest resources from classification inroads and to manage these lands to protect the timber resources, watershed values, fish and wildlife habitat and recreational values -- multiple use.
- C. There was considerable discussion of the particulars of the proposed legislation. It was noted that it is not an administration bill but will be submitted through a friendly legislator. There is slight chance it will be passed this session, but it may make it in the next.

Next, Steve Mack briefly summarized the Lowell Point flooding problem.

Major Points:

- * Property owners at Lowell Point were interested in having the board review their problem. Apparently, the general elevation of the land dropped as a result of the '64 earthquake and removal of gravel for construction of a sewage lagoon has destabilized the alluvial fan that the homes are built on. During high tides and storms the land is now being flooded. One of the homeowners was supposed to attend this meeting but didn't.

Major Points:

- * Under the Reagan Administration proposed cuts Coastal Management funds are zeroed out for FY 82. The rationale behind the cut is not that Coastal Management has not worked but rather that the program provided seed money for the states and now that the program has been working for a few years it is time for the states to pick it up if it is valuable to them
- * Two motivations exist behind SB 216: Some people feel the Coastal Management Act has created more trouble than it is worth; others see this as an opportunity to have a public forum to discuss the value of the program.
- * The federal Coastal Zone Management program was developed for the lower 48 where limited undeveloped coastal resources remain. Alaska is in the opposite situation with few impacted resources so an attempt was made to modify the program to be more useful to Alaska. The goal of Alaska's program is to provide a forum to allow all interests into the decision-making process.
- * One visible problem is with consistency determination. The Office of Coastal Management is the last to issue a determination but the problems usually arise because earlier other agencies could not agree. When local plans are approved consistency will be done by local government and the Governor's office should be less involved. It's premature to judge the total effectiveness of the programs until the local plans are implemented.
- C. The 404 permit process for wetlands was discussed. It has a lengthy review period but probably would be the same length with or without the Coastal Management Program.
- Q. Dick Sims: What's the main benefit of the Coastal Management program?
- A. Bill Ross: Consistency -- once a local plan has been developed agencies have to follow the rules. However, if the adopted plan is overly general, it will be of little value. Site specific designations are needed.

Next was Geron Bruce of United Fishermen of Alaska. He described UFA and then talked about water resources problems in southeast Alaska of concern to fishermen.

Major Points:

- * Fishermen are sympathetic to the problems of the development of the state problems that overregulation can cause but are also aware that the fishing industry is important to the state and the resource is very fragile.
- * Three kinds of development in SE Alaska that impact the salmon resource -- urban development, the timber industry and mining --

were discussed. Urban development is perhaps not thought of as having an impact on salmon but Juneau is a good example where it does. Coho Salmon can utilize small amounts of water and thus may be the most affected.

- * The four main problems associated with the timber industry are temperature alteration, sedimentation, stream alteration and dissolved oxygen.
- * A number of large mining operations are in the process of being developed with the largest being the Borax Mine near Ketchikan. All these operations will need large amounts of water to operate their mine. The Borax mine can use two different river systems both of which have salmon but one, the Blossom River, is a world class resource. Borax would prefer to use the Blossom.
- * The Borax mine will dispose of 60,000 tons of tailings per day for 70 years. The current proposal is to remove these tailings in a slurry pipeline into the Wilson Arm at a depth of 150 feet. This would require large amounts of water and the impacts of this on the ocean floor are unknown. The Wilson Arm area is the steadiest, most productive pink salmon area in SE Alaska, thus the impacts of the Borax mining operation need to be known.
- Q. Dick Sims: Is there a tendency for the mining company to dismiss fishermen concerns because the dollar value of their operation might be much larger?
- A. Geron Bruce: The mining company has recognized the concerns of the fishermen and have stated all along that they will do the best job they can in protecting the resource. The fishermen are willing to give up the Keta River to save the Wilson.
- Q. Peg Tileston: What kind of assistance is the state giving?
- A. Geron Bruce: Borax's planning document has just come out and the review process is just beginning due to the recent settlement of the Alaska Lands Bill. Fishermen expect the state to be helpful. Other big mining operations are starting up in SE Alaska and in the long range mineral development will have a large impact on the fishery resource.
- C. Dick Sims: This will be a good test of the water quality standards.
- C. Geron Bruce: A problem with water quality standards is enforcement. DEC does not have staff to monitor what's going on out in the field. An example was placer mining last summer in Chilkat River. The miners were operating illegally and quit because of freeze-up not because of any agency action. No action was taken against them.
- C. Dick Sims: The Board would like to hear from UFA again after the forestry BMP's have had some time to work and the U. S. Borax operation is further along.

After lunch, Eric Yould, Executive Director of the Alaska Power Authority, reviewed the activities of that agency.

Major Points:

- * The Alaska Power Authority is a corporation of the state whose board of directors is appointed by the Governor and affirmed by the legislature. The purpose of APA is to provide low cost power throughout the state and as such APA is a wholesale entity only. Information indicates that for most cases hydropower is the best long range solution. The Power Authority is doing most of its work in that field thus there's a need to interface with the Water Board.
 - * The Power Authority does projects at the direction of the legislature. In the past funding would come from seed money from the legislature with long term financing from revenue bonds. In this legislature proposals are being made that would have the state invest directly into projects.
 - * A very arduous process is completed before a project is actually built. The four major steps are an initial reconnaissance study, detailed feasibility studies, advanced engineering and design studies and finally, long term financing acquisition.
 - * The Power Authority is interested in the resource inventory program of DGGs. The letter responding to DGGs's request for input was distributed to Board members.
- Q. Peg Tileston: How do APA's and FERC's processes relate to each other?
- A. Eric Yould: After the detailed studies are completed and with concurrence from the legislature APA would submit license application to FERC. After this review, a license to construct would be issued if the project is viable. For a clean project approximately 18 months would be required. If the application is done right the first time, if all conceivable questions are explored, in the long run time and money will be saved.
- Q. Dick Sims: Is there any cooperative work between Alaska and Canada on hydropower?
- A. Eric Yould: No, there are discussions on a projects on the Stikine River and some talk of a North American grid system.
- C. There was considerable discussion of the Susitna Hydropower Project. The funding proposal put into the Senate (SB 8) was done without consultation with APA and the \$48 million requested could not be spent in FY 82. The studies that are ongoing are on schedule and APA is in the process of finishing the midpoint review for submission to the legislature.

Q. Has APA looked at tidal power?

A. Eric Yould: Studies have been done on that and indicate the technology is difficult and it isn't economically feasible. A project to reevaluate tidal power for Cook Inlet was funded last year and the results of that study should be out in June.

Next, Chip Dennerlein spoke on SB 189 which would establish a state historical, recreational and wilderness trails, waterways and campsite system.

Major points:

- * Alaska has big parks and small waysides but no management of the areas that are used most by recreationists - the accessible waterways and trails. Many examples exist of the need for this type of management -- most of them are close to Anchorage.
- * Because of changing land statuses, it is important that this type of a system be put in place now.
- * This legislation will probably not come up for a vote this session but it is being reviewed by committee.

C. Chip Dennerlein: One reason for the need for this bill is recreational trespass. Many of the most highly used spots near Anchorage are on private land. Unless something is done these places will be lost.

Q. Peg Tileston: How did federal budget cuts affect Parks?

A. Chip Dennerlein: Parks lost 22% of operating budget and 6% of capital budget. Several core programs were lost. As a result, as recreational use increases the money to manage this use has decreased. With that scenario trash collection has to be inadequate. A park system could be run that cost less out of the general fund by charging user fees. Whatever way parks are run, decisions must be made by the legislature so that the present quality of recreation can be maintained and, in abused areas, improved.

After Chip Dennerlein's presentation the Board went into its business session.

- * After considerable discussion the Board unanimously agreed to a resolution in support of SB 189, the waterways bill (see resolutions at end of summary). Consensus of the Board was that mention should be made of the need for funding for trash collection. The Board directed that the resolution should be sent to the appropriate committees as well as the Governor.
- * The Board agreed to take no action on SB 216 which would repeal the Coastal Management Act.

- * On HB 196 which would establish a state climate center the Board agreed to take no action and directed that a letter be sent to Jim Wise, AEIDC, requesting more information.
- * The Board discussed the Division of Energy and Power Development's role in geothermal development. It was agreed to request them to come to the next meeting to give a presentation on their activities.
- * The Board discussed possible actions concerning the Division of Personnel. Fred Boness felt the Board should either write a letter to Department of Administration saying the Board looks forward to a speedy completion of the hydrologist classification work or a letter to the Governor stating that the legislature would over fund the Division of Personnel to the needed level. After discussion of these two approaches the Board agreed to send a letter to Bruce Cummings thanking him for his presentation and the work put into the hydrologist classification and also dismay at the state of the Division with copies to his commissioner.
- * Next, the Board discussed the development of a state water resources program as mentioned by Ed Busch of DCRA. The Board agreed to send a letter to Ed asking for more detail of what he had in mind.
- * The Board agreed to send a letter to Bill Long asking him to be certain resource inventory program is well coordinated with other state agencies.
- * The Board discussed the draft instream flow regulations and instream flow statutes at length. The feeling was that the law could prove to be cumbersome but that the regulations were a reasonable approach. The Board agreed to send a letter to Mary Lu Harle thanking her for the presentation and saying that the Board had no further comments other than those expressed during the presentation.
- * Next was a discussion of the cooperative agreement on a water resources working group. It was related that Jeff Haynes, Deputy Commissioner of DNR, supported the concept of coordination but did not want a "group" established. It was wondered why a cooperative agreement was necessary to accomplish what the agencies should do as a matter of course but also pointed out that formalizing such an agreement would put the commissioners on record and also would provide a mechanism for regular communication. The Board agreed to send a letter a letter to Commissioner LeResche with copies to the other commissioners stating the Board's recommendation that this cooperative agreement be reviewed and implemented if acceptable.
- * It was agreed that the Anchorage members of the Board would sit as a subcommittee to help the Board of Forestry review applicants for the State Forester/Director of the Division of Forest, Land and Water Management.

- * Next the Board discussed the adoption of a resolution on creation of a Division of Water. Dick Sims stated that in order to get Division Director attention on water management a separate division for water was needed. It was agreed that water was being overwhelmed by lands issues with the present Division of Forest, Land and Water Management organization. A division could be established rather simply by the Commissioner of DNR. It was feared that a Division of Water would be too small but it was pointed out that by including district personnel the division would not be that small. After discussion of these points, a resolution recommending establishment of a division of water was unanimously adopted (see resolutions at end of summary)..
- * Dave Vanderbrink moved that the Board recommend use of user fees to collect trash at recreational sites. After discussion of the previous user fee, the Board agreed to send a letter recommending this to the Governor.
- * Dick Sims requested that the Board send a letter to the Department of Environmental Conservation thanking them for their presentation but also requesting to be told more of the problems rather than a status report. DEC seemed reticent to talk about their problems. This the Board agreed to. The Board also agreed to request DEC to advertise state-wide how -- what firms, etc. -- to test for water quality. The Board agreed to this.
- * The Board discussed the presentation on the U. S. Borax operation. It was agreed to follow the progress of this mining operation perhaps have something at the next meeting.
- * Board support of the forest resources management areas was discussed. Dick Sims said he thought the Board had expressed support the day before. The Board agreed to a resolution in support. Fred Boness abstained from voting.
- * The Board agreed to write a letter to the finance committees in support of membership in the Western States Water Council.

The Board requested at the next meeting to have a presentation on a review of the accomplishments of the Board in the past three years. Steve Mack agreed to review past resolutions and letters and write up a summary of what happened in response to them. The next meeting was set up for Sitka July 15-17. After closing comments the Board adjourned.

Attendance List

Christine Johnson, House Research Agency, Pouch Y, Juneau
 William Theuer, 201 1st, Doyon Bldg, Fairbanks
 Larry Dearborn, DGGS, 3001 Porcupine, Anchorage
 Dean Griggs, DOT/PF, Box 1467, Juneau 99802
 Mary Lu Harle, DNR, 323 E. 4th Ave., Anchorage
 Vickie Moll, DNR, 230 S. Franklin, Juneau
 Sara Thompson, DNR, 230 S. Franklin, Juneau
 Ray George, USGS, WRD, 733 W. 4th Ave., Anchorage
 Phil Emery, USGS, WRD, 733 W. 4th Ave., Anchorage
 Bill Long, DGGS, 3001 Porcupine, Anchorage
 Dick Dworsky, Alaska Water Study Committee
 John O'Neill, USDA, 2221 E. Northern Lights, Anchorage
 Dan Wilkerson, Alaska Water Study Committee, Box 3276 DT, Anchorage
 James E. Wiedeman, DOT/PF, Pouch Z, Juneau 99811
 Christy Miller, DCRA, 225 Cordova, Bldg. B, Anchorage
 Ed Busch, DCRA, 225 Cordova, Bldg. B, Anchorage
 Ronald G. Hansen, Kramer, Chin and Mayo, 125 W. 5th, Juneau
 Harold Seitz, USGS, WRD, Juneau
 Bruce Baker, DPDP, Pouch AW, Juneau
 Bruce Cummings, Division of Personnel, Pouch C, Juneau
 Jim Sanders, DEC, Juneau
 Terry Dale, Regulation Reform, Pouch A, Juneau, 99811
 Ross Schaff, DGGS, 3001 Porcupine, Anchorage
 Peter Isleib, Box 129, Cordova, 99574
 Doug Toland, 750 St. Anne's Ave., Douglas 99824
 T. C. Tribble, 750 St. Anne's Ave., Douglas 99824
 Dick Lefebvre, DNR, 323 E. 4th, Anchorage
 Gregg Malinsky, 750 St. Anne's Ave., Douglas
 Jeffrey Hock, 750 St. Anne's Ave., Douglas
 Wyatt Gilbert, DGGS, 3001 Porcupine, Anchorage
 Elizabeth Cuadra, 9151 Skywood Lane, Juneau 99801
 Bill Ross, OCM, Juneau
 Geron Bruce, UFA
 Gen Dickey, Senator Murkowski - Juneau Office, Rm 611, Federal Bldg.
 Box 1647, Juneau 99802

Resolution 81-1

WHEREAS the Department of Natural Resources is proposing to amend the Water Use Act, AS 46.15, to provide for the enforcement of orders of the Commissioner and to establish a procedure to enable judicial determination of basin-wide water rights adjudications; and

WHEREAS the existing statute does not clearly outline the inspection and enforcement authority of the Department of Natural Resources and no clear mechanism exists for remedying illegal and unsafe conditions; and

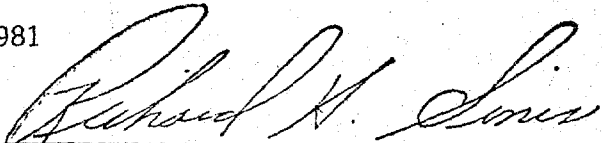
WHEREAS many federal reserved rights exist which, if unquantified, lead to uncertainty in the availability of water and have already hindered efficient development of water resources in Alaska; and

WHEREAS quantification of those rights can only be undertaken pursuant to the requirements of the McCarran amendment (43 USC 666(a)) which requires that the adjudication be basin-wide and a judicial determination, both presently absent from the Water Use Act; and

WHEREAS the proposed amendment both remedies the lack of clearly defined enforcement authority and establishes procedures to initiate an adjudication of federal reserved rights pursuant to the McCarran amendment.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Water Resources Board recommends introduction and passage of the proposed legislation entitled "An act amending the Alaska Water Use Act at AS 46.15 to provide for enforcement of orders of the commissioner issued under that Act, to establish a procedure to enable judicial determination of basin-wide water rights adjudications, and providing for an effective date."

Adopted this 5th day of March, 1981


Richard H. Sims, Chairman

Resolution 81-2

WHEREAS SB 189 and HB 205 introduced in the Twelfth Legislature, first session, proposes to establish a state historical, recreational and wilderness trail, waterway and campsite system; and

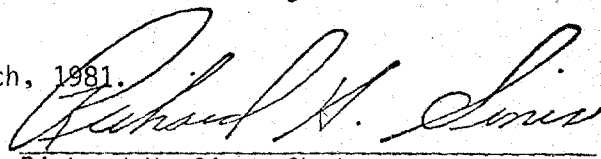
WHEREAS the existing state park system includes both large acreage parks and small waysides but does not include provisions for the waterways and trails and de facto campsites, usually near water, that experience the greatest recreational and wilderness use in Alaska; and

WHEREAS the use of these waterways, trails and campsite is so great that management and maintenance is of the utmost importance to ensure that these places are not spoiled for future use by Alaskans.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Water Resources Board recommends passage of SB 189 (HB 205); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board recommends a fiscal note be attached to SB 189 (HB 205) to enable adequate maintenance of the waterways, trails and campsite system established under this legislation.

Adopted this 5th day of March, 1981.


Richard H. Sims, Chairman

Resolution 81-3

WHEREAS the Alaska Board of Forestry has proposed creation of a State Forest Resource Management System; and

WHEREAS no state lands are currently managed for renewable resources under the multiple use/ sustained yield concept; and

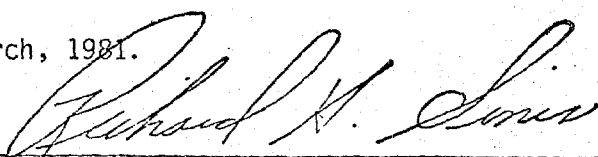
WHEREAS legislative designation of specific land to be managed to guarantee perpetual supplies of renewable resources will benefit state watershed values, including protection of public water supplies, fish and wildlife habitat, recreation and protection against flooding and erosion; and

WHEREAS the proposal by the Board of Forestry will create such a renewable resource management system and identify areas to be managed.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Water Resources Board supports the designation of multiple use resource management lands; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Water Resources Board supports the proposal of the Board of Forestry for a State Forest Resource Management System.

Adopted this 5th day of March, 1981.


Richard H. Sims, Chairman

Resolution 81-4

ADMINISTRATION OF WATER RESOURCES

WHEREAS over the past four years the Alaska Water Resources Board has worked diligently to further the efficiency of state government in the administration of the state's water resources and to see that programs are implemented in a coordinated, non-duplicative fashion; and

WHEREAS the Board has become familiar with the working organizational structure of the Departments of Natural Resources, Environmental Conservation, and Fish and Game; and

WHEREAS the Board has observed that the structure and several unrelated functions of the Division of Forest, Land, and Water Management of the Department of Natural Resources results in inadequate attention being given to the management of water resources which seriously undermines the Department's ability to serve the public with expeditious services in the areas of water rights administration, dam safety, and general water management; and

WHEREAS the water data collection programs of the Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys are often given lower attention than geologic and bedrock mapping, yet all citizens of the state have a need for water for personal use, commercial and industrial use, or energy generation; and

WHEREAS the water data collection programs of the Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys are not well coordinated with the water management programs of the Department and other state agencies and often unrelated to real water resource needs of the public; and

WHEREAS this fragmented, low priority organization of water resources programs also does not allow the Department to fulfill its responsibilities for coordination of water resources activities among state agencies and to meet state water resources coordination needs with the federal government; and

WHEREAS recent legislation, such as the Instream Flow and Geothermal Bills, has given the Department added workload and responsibilities in water resources management and at the same time Alaska is facing significant precedent setting issues in dealing with federal reserved and non-reserved water rights, instream flow reservations, geothermal energy and other complex water rights cases which require experienced, dedicated program leadership in such affairs; and

WHEREAS such water resources program leadership must be able to effectively supervise technical and professional field staff at offices throughout the state to better serve the public.

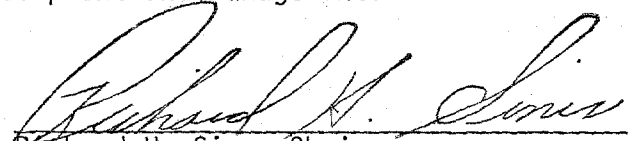
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that in order to correct these inequities the Governor be requested to direct the Commissioner of Natural Resources to remove water resources responsibilities from the Division of Forest, Land, and Water Management and water resources data collection responsibilities from the Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys and create a Division of Water Resources as he is empowered to do by statute (AS 46.15.020); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of the Division of Water Resources have direct supervisory responsibility over those field staff and data collection efforts budgeted to carry out the Department's water resources programs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT copies of this resolution be distributed to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, key commissioners, and key legislators, concerned with water resources development and management.

Adopted unanimously

March 5, 1981


Richard H. Sims, Chairman