

FIFTY-SIXTH NEVADA ASSEMBLY SESSION

PRESENT: Homer, Bryan, Dini, Ronzone, Swackhamer, Lowman and Getto

ABSENT: Olsen

OTHERS: Senator Wilson; Ernest Gregory of the Health Department

Chairman Homer called the meeting to order at 12:00 noon for the purpose of discussing A.B. 811 which "Enacts Nevada Water Pollution Control Law of 1971".

Mr. Wilson was present from the Senate to discuss this bill. He first wondered what the Assembly committee's thinking was on the control officer. He was informed that it was the water engineer that is specified as the control officer for the board.

Mr. Ernest Gregory was present from the Health Department. He felt the Health Department could best handle this thing because they have the data, the technical ability and experience so this is where the control should rest. He was asked how he would be able to cooperate with the State Water Engineer. Gregory said the Water Commission is more concerned with quantity rather than quality. He went on to say that the Health Department does much in the field. They run tests and take samples. Most of our help comes from the Fish and Game Department, not from the State Water Commission. This being the case, Mr. Swackhamer could see no reason for not putting the Health Department in charge. Mr. Bryan moved that the Health Board be in charge of this and that the control officer be the same for both the air and water board. Mr. Lowman seconded. Motion carried.

Senator Wilson said he preferred to see a consistent board with consistent control. Mr. Dini suggested that the Governor should be the one to appoint who he thinks is the qualified man to chair this board. It was moved and seconded that the chairman be appointed by the Governor. Motion carried. Mr. Lowman said he would fight this bill on the floor because he felt the State water laws should be maintained and so people should be in charge here who know about it. He went on to say that more and more this State will be re-cycling water and you have to have people with expertise who know about this.

When questioned if he could work with a program like this, Mr. Gregory said mixing quality with quantity with respect to water will cause difficulties but he could work with it.

Meeting adjourned at 12.30 A.M.

jb