

New Emerald PUD flicks 'on' switch

By CATHERINE SIEGNER
Of the Emerald

Board decides on 4 resolutions

Wemple's eligibility.

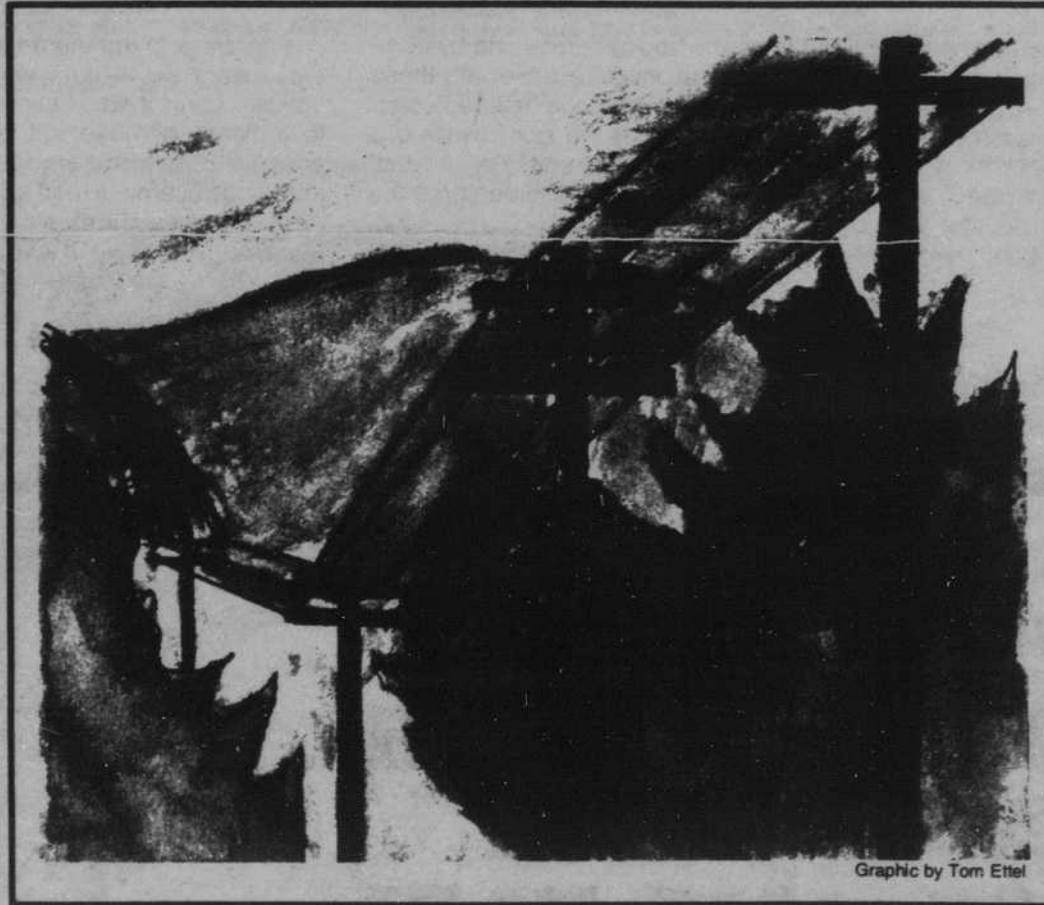
The Emerald People's Utility District (EPUD) board of directors adopted four resolutions and elected officers at its inaugural meeting Wednesday night in Harris Hall.

The Emerald PUD was born when voters in Eugene's outlying areas approved a controversial formation proposal Nov. 7. The EPUD boundaries include the cities of Lowell and Veneta and unincorporated areas north and south of Eugene. Opponents spent more than \$200,000 to defeat the measure.

As a publicly-owned electric utility, the EPUD will serve approximately 11,000 customers currently served by Pacific Power & Light Co. if voters within its boundaries approve a future bond measure sufficient to purchase PP&L's distribution system.

One resolution the board adopted concerns the eligibility of one of its members to serve. Oregon law is unclear about whether a board member must reside for two years continuously within a proposed district, or within a district as finally approved by voters.

Edd Wemple of Cottage Grove has lived for more than two years in that city, but voters there did not approve the EPUD and



Graphic by Tom Eitel

therefore are not within its boundaries.

The new board resolved to seek the At-

torney General's interpretation of the Oregon statute in order to determine

Board member Richard Eymann of Mohawk Valley was elected chairer by unanimous vote, and Cliff Everett from Trent was elected vice-chairer. Maynard Wilson of Cottage Grove and Douglas Still of Pleasant Hill were elected treasurer and secretary.

In accepting the chair, Eymann said he respected both the "honor and the responsibility you've bestowed upon me," and recognized the "challenging job we have before us to get the EPUD energized."

A public advisory committee of 15 members will be formed to furnish greater public input into EPUD board activities, and the board will "move with dispatch in exploring all possible sources of electricity for its customers" as a result of other resolutions adopted.

The board will also establish a budget committee composed of its five members and five members of the public. State Sen. Ted Kulongoski, D-Junction City, acting as legal counsel, suggested nominations be sent to board secretary Still or to any board member.

Budget committee members will serve for an unspecified period without pay. The budget committee will meet after the EPUD board's next meeting December 14 in Harris Hall.

Paved roads proposed as solution

Air quality prolongs studies on dust in air

By CRAIG FRASIER
Of the Emerald

Whether local public roads should be paved to cut down on dust in the air remained a question Wednesday night at the Eugene/Springfield Air Quality Advisory Committee meeting.

Committee member Ollie Snowden stressed it was "good urban policy to pave unpaved streets in the metropolitan area." He represents the Lane Council of Governments and testified for the Public Works subcommittee on transportation.

However, Snowden said he believes it is unrealistic to meet the Environmental Protection Agency's goals to reduce particulate emissions by 1983 because of the lack of available federal funds. Also, by just oiling the unpaved roads, he said, the improvement is only temporary. He said such temporary improvements only last for five years and the roads must then be reoiled.

Solar coalition to shed light on energy goals

The Lane County SUN Day coalition will meet Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in the EMU to discuss what should be included in an Oregon solar energy platform. The platform will be presented to Gov. Vic. Atiyeh and state legislators to be used in preparing solar legislation for the upcoming legislature.

The platform will be determined by local groups meeting around the state to identify the direction they feel solar energy should take in Oregon. Ideas for the platform will be brought to a state meeting (Sunday) at Willamette University in Salem where the platform will be written.

Chairer Jack Delay explained that permanent improvements involve much more than temporary improvements, because they result in "sidewalks, curbing, shoulders, gutters and six to eight inches of pavement."

Snowden recommended that the Advisory Committee should:

- Try to achieve EPA's goals after 1983.
- Classify the unpaved roads into which streets should be paved first.
- Disregard temporary improvements.
- Look at alternative funding --

local funding through a bond measure.

A member of the committee asked what effects paving the roads would have on the amount of dust or emissions. Delay responded that research will show the effects of paving the unpaved roads, but said it was first the committee's responsibility to plan for and provide the funding for the project of paving the roads.

Ralph Johnston, another member of the subcommittee, pointed out there are some 43 miles of unpaved roads within the metropolitan area under consid-

eration; approximately 15 miles in Eugene, 15 in Springfield and the rest belonging to Lane County.

One committee member suggested an alternative manner of cutting down on the dust: washing down the streets. Bill Greene of the Department of Environmental Quality said that mud from the wet unpaved roads would track onto

the paved roads. He also pointed out that tests of flushing, cleaning, sweeping or washing unpaved streets for reducing emissions haven't proved anything.

The subcommittee will further research the problem of paving the unpaved roads and reconsider the issue at their next meeting Dec. 13.

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