



ASBESTOS INFORMATION ASSOCIATION

1650 L Street, N.W. / Washington, D.C. 20036 / (202) 223-4885

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGJune 20, 1974

Army & Navy Club

Washington, D. C.

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held pursuant to notice, June 20, 1974 at the Army & Navy Club, Washington, D. C..

The following Directors were present:

James W. Armstrong	Bendix Corporation
George Barge	Atlas Asbestos Company
W. H. Beasley	Cement Asbestos Products Company
E. C. Bratt	Southern Asbestos Company
C. Nelson Coddling	Jim Walter Research Corporation
Thomas A. Dougherty	Certain-teed Products Corporation
Bill Fassuliotis	GAF Corporation
A. H. Fay	National Gypsum Company
A. R. Hooker	The Flintkote Company
John H. Marsh	Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc.
C. G. Morgan	North American Asbestos Corporation
Kurt Schwarz	Supradur Manufacturing Corporation
Martin J. Sendeki	Congoleum Industries, Inc.
F. J. Solon, Jr.	Johns-Manville Corporation
William C. Thurber	Union Carbide Corporation
J. K. Whittaker	Nicolet Industries, Inc.

Also present: R. H. Mereness, Executive Director, AIA/NA; Carol W. Grant, Administrative Assistant, AIA/NA; Jill Cummings, Caldwell, Wickersham & Taft, Legal Counsel; Terry Seeley and Sue Simons, Government Research Corporation; Richard T. Davis, C.P.A., Frank C. Frantz & Co., Accountants.

Guests: Fred Workman, Nicolet Industries, Inc.; Russell Todd, Atlas Asbestos Company; William A. MacLaurin, Bendix Corporation; Frank Zimmerman, National Gypsum Company.

Minutes

Mr. Marsh, president, called the meeting to order at 9:15 A.M.. On motion, the Minutes of the preceding meeting, March 20, were

approved as submitted.

Financial Report

The financial report for the period noted that the Association is within its budget. Current dues structure provides an annual income of approximately \$188,000. Monthly expenses, January through May, have averaged slightly more than \$14,000. At the end of May, cash on hand was \$6,000 with accounts payable approximately \$1,000. The budget at the end of June will be revised to reflect employment of an assistant to the executive director and a slight increase in present rental for larger office space within the same building. The revised budget will also show an adjustment for the termination of the present contract with the public relations firm of Hill and Knowlton, Inc..

Effort is being made to establish a reserve fund to meet contingencies and extraordinary expense. The reserve account amounting to \$5,000 + in a New York City savings and loan company will be transferred to a Washington firm.

Federal Government Affairs

Mses. Seeley and Simons of Government Research Corporation reported on current Federal governmental actions affecting the asbestos industry.

A. IUD Suit

The Court decision was made April 15, 1974 after more than a year of deliberation. The Court ordered OSHA to re-examine the 1976 date for implementation of the 2-fiber standard and the 3-year requirement of monitoring records. All other IUD challenges were denied. IUD has requested a re-hearing, but such action is considered unlikely. The unanimous decision was by a 3-judge panel. OSHA lawyers are examining the Court decision for compliance to include rationale for establishing the 2-fiber standard for all segments of the industry in 1976.

B. Tyler, Texas Suit

Lawyers for the plaintiffs' \$100 million suit against Pittsburgh-Corning et al. continue "discovery" against defendants, have asked for a jury trial but trial is not expected for at least two years. Administrative proceedings are in process against Labor Department and GSA. Neither has responded. Suit cannot be filed earlier than six months following submission of complaint.

C. Asbestos Standard in Coal Mine Operations

On June 5, Mining Enforcement and Safety Administration (MESA) held hearings on the coal mine asbestos standard. UMW called for a zero-fiber exposure level. NIOSH was thus supported in its demand for an immediate two-fiber standard. A two-fiber standard may be promulgated within next 60 days. AIA/HA submitted background paper and opinion. Mr. Marsh thanked Mr. Thaurber of Union Carbide for representing the Association at the meeting.

D. Oversight Hearings on OSHA

House Oversight Hearings on OSHA, which started in March, continue with strong organized labor testimony and interests of small business being set forth. The Senate may commence hearings in the Fall. Proposed legislation, in general, is viewed by labor as weakening the Act and substantive changes are not expected.

E. Workmen's Compensation

After a number of regional hearings, the Senate began hearings in Washington in mid-May. Sub-Committee may go into executive session late summer to draft new bill, e.g., re-opening of claims may be dropped but philosophy re Federal standards will remain. It is not known if Senator Williams will bring bill to floor of Senate this calendar year.

D. Reserve Mining Trial

In preliminary ruling by three-judge panel on June 4, Circuit Court said fibers from mining operations present "unquantifiable risk", not a substantial danger to health, and the significance of the risk was based on unknowns. Court indicated Judge Lord had gone too far and had made legislative rather than judicial decision. Court weighed question of whether circumstances of exposure to fiber was comparable to occupational settings and decided not. Court also weighed evidence of tissue studies noting that fibers were not found and quoted Dr. Selikoff, "If fibers aren't found, there would be no danger". Court concluded that in full appeals action, Reserve would win on health issue, but Reserve would not prevail on environmental question, stating that pollution of Lake Superior must be abated. Court stated Reserve situation was "a monumental environmental mistake".

The Reserve plan for disposal is due June 29; plaintiff response on July 19. Judge Lord will reconsider the stay on his injunction by August 3. The Circuit Court will rule again on August 13, end of 70 days. EPA states Duluth drinking water presents a significant public health risk; that the Government needs to continue research on an asbestos drinking water standard. Feeding studies, under FOA, are expected to commence within a year.

At this time, vinyl chloride is chief concern of Government and private environmental and occupational safety and health agencies.

Asbestos-health issues are overshadowed at the moment, but will undoubtedly return to public attention.

Mr. Marsh's Visit to U.K. and France

Mr. Marsh reported on his visit in March-April to The United Kingdom and France. In the U.K., he visited with representatives of AIC and ARC, toured the Scandura completely dry textile plant, and observed research activities at the University of Edinburgh and Penarth. He noted that asbestos industry-government relationships are very close, that British expertise is needed in defense of the 2-fiber standard, and that feeding studies with rats are being conducted at Edinburgh.

In France, Mr. Marsh visited with representatives of the Chambre Syndicale de l'Amiante. He said both French and British asbestos associations are interested in an international meeting of asbestos association representatives as early as possible -- possibly in the Fall of this year.

American Industrial Hygienists Conference

Mr. Marsh reported on the American Industrial Hygienists Conference held in Miami in May. He said representation by the asbestos industry was not adequate in terms of the importance of the meeting. Eleven papers related to asbestos were given on one day (distributed to members separately). The 5-fiber standard of AIHC, adopted by Canada, has not been changed. The Timbrell-Penarth paper, relating to critical fiber diameter and length, was cited for its importance. Mr. Marsh urged greater attendance by AIA/NA membership at the 1975 meeting of AIHC.

Film "Asbestos At Work"

The film "Asbestos At Work", produced by ARC and distributed by AIC in The U.K., was shown. The 15-minute film discusses asbestos plant procedures and techniques for control of dust. The film may be borrowed from AIA/NA office.

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Mereness reviewed the activities of the Association and spoke of the current and projected programs, including monitoring of State legislation pertaining to asbestos, soon-to-be-published fact sheets on asbestos-medical literature, brake linings, etc.. He spoke of his visit with Dr. Ian Webster, director National Research Institute for Occupational Diseases, South African Medical Research Council and with Mr. Docherty of Cape Asbestos Co.. He invited attention to Dr. Webster's paper "Asbestos and Malignancy"

and spoke of the research being conducted in South Africa, using primates under controlled conditions, work on an immunization vaccination and the outstanding pathological studies being conducted by Dr. Webster and his associates.

The Executive Director also reported on the work of the Association's Standards and Technical Committee. He requested comment on the Association's recommendations for revision of the OSHA asbestos standard and the medical surveillance program be forwarded as soon as possible, but not later than July 1 to complete the submission to OSHA by July 15.

Mr. Marsh stated that following completion of the work on the OSHA asbestos standard, the Standards and Technical Committee will develop work practices for the benefit and guidance of customers. He said that Assistant Secretary of Labor Stender (OSHA) is on record that the education and training of personnel within an industry is the responsibility of the industry, that OSHA could not provide in-depth consulting services to small business on occupational safety and health matters. The job, as concerns asbestos, is up to the Association, said Mr. Marsh.

Report on Medical Advisor for Association

Mr. Marsh reported that he and Messrs. Solon and Whittaker met with Raymond H. L. Murphy, Jr., M.D., Faulkner Hospital and Harvard School of Public Health, on June 19 in Boston with regard to a position of medical advisor to the Association. Dr. Murphy, an eminent radiologist and research physician, expressed his interest and said he would advise as to his availability by mid-August. The importance of having access to professional consultation on asbestos-related disease and a medical spokesman was stressed.

Priorities

Mr. Marsh outlined current AIA/NA priorities as developed and approved by the Executive Committee in meeting of May 23. These are:

1. Coordination with OSHA on revision of asbestos standard to be followed by development of information and education program on work practices for customers.
2. Competency of AIA/NA to answer medical and technical questions through in-house capability. Appropriate utilization of Standards and Technical Committee and Medical Advisor, importance of fact sheets, background papers, researched "q's" and "a's", and reference library was noted.
3. Cooperation with foreign asbestos associations and U.S. asbestos trade organizations. Need to further the

3. (Continued)
exchange of information and ideas was stressed. AIA/NA concerns itself with environmental and occupational safety and health aspects of U. S. asbestos industry and can serve as an over-all source of information for the industry. It is not product-line oriented and does not compete with nor duplicate activities of asbestos "trade" associations. A meeting in this latter connection is scheduled June 27th with Asbestos Cement Pipe Producers Association. Messrs. Marsh and Marenness will meet with Mr. Michael Howe of AIC in Washington on June 28.
4. Preparation for anticipated Federal Government Hearings.
AIA/NA must be prepared to testify on asbestos-health matters and defend the two-fiber standard.
5. Monitoring, responding to, and initiating actions in connection with State legislation. An effective means must be developed to take timely and effective action with regard to legislation affecting the production, processing, and use of asbestos on State levels as the various States develop occupational safety and health and environmental regulations. A questionnaire to members to ascertain State interests has been distributed.
6. Asbestos Information Booklet. This project can be helpful to the image of the industry as a public information tool and should be pursued.
7. Funding of scientific research on asbestos-health issue.
In discussion, it was noted that the Association's current budget does not permit funds for research as desirable as this may be. Mr. Whittaker advised his company (Nicolet) urged AIA/NA funding of research, if only in a limited way. Mr. Solon recommended that this matter be further reviewed by the Executive Committee.

Mr. Marsh announced that by letter dated June 12, the public relations firm of Hill and Knowlton was advised of termination of present contract, effective August 19, 1974. Hill and Knowlton has offered to renew the contract at approximately one-half the present cost. The matter will be discussed at the next Executive Committee meeting.

Luncheon Speaker

Mr. Robert J. Carton, Office of Toxic Substances, Environmental Protection Agency, was guest speaker following luncheon.

Mr. Carton spoke of current and projected EPA studies relating to asbestos including: mechanisms of asbestos lesions, epidemiology on naturally occurring asbestos in water, ingestion and cancer, effects of asbestos on marine life, A-C pipe loop study. He also spoke of regulations for airborne asbestos emissions, and changes to demolition standard including definition of "friable" and costs

of compliance with solid waste disposal problems. He emphasized the importance of industry input in the development of regulations.

New Business

The next meeting of the Board of Directors and the Annual Meeting will take place in Washington, D. C., September 11 at a place and time to be designated. Mr. Fay was appointed Chairman of the nominating committee.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:35 P.M..



R. H. Mereness
Executive Director
6/27/74

X.N.
CES
LCP

GLOBE MAIL, TORONTO 2-13-75

Farrell

Copied 3-21-75 from JPSieverson
for:
FLBicker
GFox
LRoberts

Thought you would be interested in the numbers quoted
in the article.

RECEIVED
FEB 28 1975
K.W. NELSON

Dr. Morton Shulman and Gerard Sonier collect water samples from creek near asbestos plant.

Shulman takes own samples

By ARNOLD BRUNER

Dr. Morton Shulman braved icy lakefront breezes at dawn yesterday to take samples of water flowing into Lake Ontario from the Canadian Johns-Manville Co. Ltd. asbestos plant in Scarborough.

Dressed in a business suit and carrying two jars, the New Democratic Party member of the Legislature for High Park was led to the spot at the mouth of Highland Creek by Gerard Sonier, a former worker at the municipal sewage treatment plant across the creek.

Mr. Sonier, a carpenter, said that as recently as last October he saw effluent from the rear of the plant "turn the water blue." Dr. Shulman has expressed fears that asbestos drinking water can cause cancer in the digestive system—fears based on what he has described as authoritative articles and on asbestos fibre counts in the Great Lakes system.

The area viewed by Dr. Shulman and a reporter is a dump at the rear of the asbestos plant, surrounded by a fence in which holes in the water from the asbestos-fibering operation are allowed to settle before the water runs into Highland Creek and Lake Ontario. The site is in Scarborough's southeast corner.

Mr. Sonier said that he had seen large volumes of water

come from pipes in the plant property early in the morning, but he saw none yesterday. Dr. Shulman and Mr. Sonier filled bottles from water entering the creek over a bed of what appeared to be broken and encrusted pieces of pipe.

A Johns-Manville spokesman said later that water flowing at that point was from an underground trench and "as far as we know, is clean."

The Globe and Mail learned that the Ministry of Environment took water samples from the same spot in 1973 or "early in 1974" and found it to contain 5.65 million asbestos fibres per litre.

A ministry spokesman described the count as "very innocuous" in spite of the "high-sounding number." He said there were actually one to two million fibres per litre in drinking water, and therefore the Johns-Manville count was "not out of line."

It was understood, although not confirmed, that no testing has been done by the provincial Government at the site since.

Dr. Shulman turned the samples over to the ministry yesterday morning, and they were sent to the Ontario Research Foundation at Sheridan Park for analysis, which will include a fibre count employing an electron microscope.

The results are expected by Friday.

The ministry spokesman said

that "there are differences of opinion" among scientists on whether ingested asbestos fibres are hazardous to health, and therefore there is no sure measurement of what is considered safe or dangerous.

"There is some confusion in the area—from the statement point of view," he said.

Inhaled asbestos fibres in the air have definitely been linked to cancer and other respiratory diseases. Seven Canadian Johns-Manville employees have died and about 50 are under treatment.

The report of asbestos in the company's effluents was made from what another Government environmentalist called "grab samples." Such samples were also taken in many of Ontario's lakes and streams, he said.

Two types of count are taken for each sample—the number of fibres and their "mass". The mass—the total bulk—depends on the size and thickness of the microscopic fibres.

The Johns-Manville reading of 5.6 million per litre had a mass of six one-thousandths of a microgram per litre, he said. A microgram is one-millionth of a gram. This reading was compared with Thunder Bay's Loch Lomond—196,000 fibres per litre (and mass of three one-thousandths of a microgram), the Chumbe River, Peterborough's water supply—1.6 to 2.6 million, and other within that range.

MAR 5 1975