New Jersey State Archives Collection Guide

Record Group: Board of Public Utility Commissioners
Series: Annual Reports of Municipal Water Departments, 1913-1958
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Contents

Content Note

The Board of Public Utility Commissioners was created to replace the State Board of Railroad Commissioners by an act of the New Jersey legislature passed 31 December 1910 (*Laws of 1910*, chap. 41). This legislation gave the new board expanded jurisdiction to include all public utilities (e.g. gas, water, electric power, telephone, and telegraph companies), as well as transportation companies. Subsequent legislation passed in 1911, further expanding the board's authority, gave it the power to require from every public utility annual reports of finances and operations (*Laws of 1911*, chap. 195).

This series consists of a *sampling* of municipal water department annual reports to the Board of Public Utility Commissioners from the period 1913-1958. Four municipalities in Bergen and Hudson counties are represented. While the printed report form saw minor variations over the years, it generally included space for recording at least the following information: directors' names/terms and officers' names; asset and liability balances; funded/long-term debt; reserve accounts; income, earned surplus, and profit/loss; operating revenues and expenses; length of mains; employees and wages; consumers' services; data on fire hydrants; territory served; data on consumers' meters; rents; and sources of water supply. Each report also contains a sworn verification of the report information, signed by the president and treasurer of the company.

Contents

Box 1

Jersey City, Hudson Co., 1955-1958 [4 items].

Lyndhurst Twp., Bergen Co., 1917-1932 [16 items].

Box 2

Lyndhurst Twp., Bergen Co., 1933-1936, 1938, 1939, 1941-1954 [20 items].

Box 3

Lyndhurst Twp., Bergen Co., 1955-1958 [4 items].

North Arlington Bor., Bergen Co., 1913-1916, 1918-1930, 1933-1936 [22 items].

Box 4

North Arlington Bor., Bergen Co., 1937-1954 [18 items].

Union Twp., Bergen Co., 1914-1916 [3 items].

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