

Water Supply 10-11

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Soquel Creek Water Vote Scheduled August

A date of August 7 has been set for Soquel Creek County Water District's \$5 - million revenue bond election.

The action came at Monday night's water board meeting as directors discussed needed improvements to the water system. The money would go for additional storage and transmission facilities and new water treatment equipment.

Some \$700,000 to \$800,000 would be used to buy the site of the proposed Glenwood dam. The proposed dam is a hedge against water supply shortages in the face of continued rapid growth within the district.

Directors noted it will be several years before the dam is constructed — if it ever is needed at all. In the meantime, emphasized Chairman Ken Izant, the site will be maintained in open space.

Since the issue will be of revenue bonds — to be repaid from district income rather than property taxes — only a simple majority vote is needed to pass it.

A representative of the district's bond consultants told directors the district could sell \$2 - million of the authorized sum at present, based on the district's current revenue structure.

Izant said if the bond is not passed, the district will have to raise its water rates. "The work has to be done," he explained.

In other action, directors took their first look at the district's tentative 1973-74 budget and saw a total estimated expenditure figure of \$1,327,289. The figure is up from last year's budget, with general inflationary trends and growth within the district explaining the hike, Izant said.

Board members will take a closer look at the spending schedule at their next meeting and probably will adopt it at the session after that.