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than \$350,000 a year, he said.

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# Supervisors authorize library construction

The construction of a \$700,000 library in Boulder Creek has been authorized by county supervisors.

Depending on weather conditions, the work should begin immediately and should be completed by late spring or early summer, according to Fifth District Supervisor Joe Cucchiara.

"The project is fully funded, the award has been authorized by the county and the project is full-steam ahead," said Cucchiara. "All of the obstacles have been removed from the project and it has a full go-ahead at this

County supervisors awarded the construction contract to Alex Grosword Construction Company of Boulder Creek Tuesday, Nov. 22.

Grosword submitted an original bid of \$536,490 for the construction phase of the project; that bid was adjusted by the Public Works staff to \$562,170, however.

Nonetheless, the bid still was the lowest of five bids received by the county.

All of the bids exceeded the \$350,000 originally budgeted for the project forcing county staff to search for additional funding.

recently allocated an additional \$135,000 for the project, which the county received from unanticipated funds; the city of Santa Cruz last week contributed the remaining money needed to award the contract.

The city of Santa Cruz contributes one-third of the costs for city-county libraries.

Including design, construction and other contingencies, the library should cost in excess of \$700,000, said Cucchiara.

"I think it's a historic moment in the future of

the San Lorenzo Valley to have, at this point and time, successfully been able to proceed with such a major capital improvement," said Cucchiara.

Not only will the library serve the local community, it also will be designed and constructed primarily by local people.

A community design committee worked with a local designer to prepare the facility's preliminary design. "I think it's a success story on many dimensions," said Cucchiara.

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