Amiable county budget hearings end Deputies added;

public defense contract signed

By JAMIE MARKS 7-1-84 Sentinel Staff Writer

SANTA CRUZ - County supervisors gave their final stamp of approval Friday afternoon to a record \$129 million budget. following eight days of amicable hearings.

In fact, the hearings went so smoothly that Supervisor Gary Patton remarked to his political rival on the board. Dan Forbus. "It's been the nicest budget session I've ever had with you."

The two veterans have more than 20

years on the board between them. The final day saw supervisors unanimously approve two additional deputies for the Sheriff's Office, for a net gain of four positions this fiscal year. The two

latest positions will be funded by cutting down on overtime.

Also, supervisors approved a three-year contract with the Public Defender's Office of Biggam, Christensen and Minsloff, calling for \$853,00 this year, \$979,337 next year and \$1.12 million in 1986-87. A new attorney and a part-time investigator are included in the budget.

Contracts for two alternate Public Defender Offices - in cases involving a possible conflict of interest - will be considered July 17.

The library did not receive additional funding, but supervisors vowed to consider

those requests in September. An administrative aide for the senior's. women's, children's and physically handicapped commissions will be funded, with each commission getting \$5,500.

The county also agreed to a joint powers agreement for animal control services with the county and cities of Santa Cruz. Capitola and Scotts Valley.