

Goat Ranch Supervisors may delay action on Biotech goat ranch permit

By DICK LITTLE

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SANTA CRUZ — The Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors has a large agenda for Tuesday's meeting, but the actual meeting time could be very short. Almost all of the items under consideration are part of the consent agenda and are expected to be passed without comment.

The one major item on the regular agenda, a plan to halt polluted water from the Santa Cruz Biotech goat ranch on the North Coast, is expected to be continued until June 6 to give the staff an opportunity to fully evaluate plans submitted by the company.

John and Brenda Stephanson want to extend the roofs of their barns and build manure bunkers as a method of halting the runoff. The plan is similar to a proposal submitted by the firm last year that was rejected by the board on a 3-2 vote.

Since that time, rains have produced significant run off that contain high fecal coliform count, and the board has requested new plans for the clean up.

Solid waste facility

The supervisors are expected to approve the selection of a Citizens Disposal Site Selection Advisory Group that will include two members from the cities of Watsonville and Santa Cruz, along with selections from each member of the Board of Supervisors, a member from the Sierra Club, a member from the Farm Bureau, and one member each from the cities of Capitola and Scotts Valley.

Supervisor Tony Campos is asking his colleagues to approve his selection of Judy Vasquez to sit on the panel. Vasquez is one of Campos' aides. The supervisors are scheduled to approve the appoint-

ment during the meeting tomorrow.

Campos made it clear he doesn't think a new dump site should necessarily be placed in South County. "We have to look at the whole county, not just South County," he said.

The cities and the county are putting up \$150,000 to hire consultants to select a site. The current dump is expected to run out of room in the next 20 years.

Pajaro Valley water overdraft

The supervisors are expected to approve a Planning Department recommendation to continue monitoring the programs developed by the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency to help slow the overdraft of ground water. The department is recommending the supervisors wait for completion of the State of the Basin Study and discuss the issue next October.

Planners say less than 50 percent of the farmers have given the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency information on their conservation measures. The agency is considering mandating the information.

"(Farmers) are already doing it (using conservation methods)," Campos said, "so why don't they mandate it."

Bike lane uses

The supervisors are expected to approve a proposal from Administrative Officer Susan Mauriello to review a program that will allow those riding electric bikes and motor scooters to use the existing bike paths. She made the recommendation after receiving a letter from the Regional Transportation Commission suggesting the expanded use.

Mauriello said she would like the Sheriff to look over the program as well but did not mention the Cali-

fornia Highway Patrol, which has jurisdiction on county roads and state highways.

District attorney programs

District Attorney Ron Ruiz is expected to receive the go ahead to reapply for nearly \$600,000 in grants from the state. Ruiz is seeking funds for "vertical prosecution funds for child abuse cases," as well as money to extend the prosecution of those suspect of committing violence against women. The latter grant would keep the program operational until the end of this year.

Ruiz is also asking for cash for the Witness/Victim Assistance Center, and for additional vertical prosecution of those suspected of carrying out violent acts against women.

July 4th parades

The supervisors are expected to approve road closures for Fourth of July Parades in La Selva Beach and Aptos Village. The Aptos Village parade, billed as the "Shortest Parade in the World," is the oldest ongoing parade in the county.

New county counsel

The supervisors are expected to formally appoint Samuel Torres as their new County Counsel. The board selected Torres for the job last week.

All of the above issues, with the exception of the Santa Cruz Biotech issue, are part of the consent agenda and are expected to be approved by the board without comment.

The Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors will meet Tuesday morning at 9 in their chambers on the fifth floor of the Government Center, 701 Ocean St., in Santa Cruz.