

Highways + 1990

5-19-64

Highway 17 Issue Leads To Angry Flareup At Board Meeting

Highway 17 touched off another collision yesterday — among county supervisors and Scotts Valley resident Hap Hasty.

An attempt by Hasty to keep the issue of construction and safety priorities alive over what he has called "Death Trap 17" received a quick rebuff by four out of five supervisors.

The fifth, Branciforte Supervisor Robert Burton, tried to convince the board it should listen to Hasty's suggestions.

Chairman Russ McCallie noted that the highway issue was not on the agenda, and suggested it be brought up next week or in the future. "We have rules to work by," McCallie said, and all su-

pervisors but Burton seemed to agree.

McCallie's statement irritated Burton, who answered angrily, "I don't know why a supervisor can't bring something up without asking (County Counsel William) Card. It's very unfair."

What Burton hoped to bring up and what supervisors refused to hear was a request by Hasty that construction and safety priorities on the highway be jumped from the bottom to the top of the county list.

Hasty said later he wants the board to back needed changes in the roadway now, and to pass on a sense of urgency to J. P. Sin-

clair, district IV engineer for the division of highways.

McCallie said the board had heard the same arguments at last week's meeting with the division of highways, and did not need to hear them again. The highway priority list was then adopted, with improvements to Highway 17 left near the bottom of the lineup.

Sinclair told Hasty at that time that everything possible, outside of new highway construction, will be done to correct hazard spots.

It was the correction of these danger spots, the changing of speed limits, and increased enforcement efforts by the Highway Patrol that Hasty said he wanted the board to back yesterday. The

Scotts Valley insurance agent promised he would "get on the agenda yet."

Instead, the effort to bring the matter before the board only created the flareup between Burton and fellow supervisors.

"I want to know why people can't come before their board of supervisors and speak their minds," Burton said after the meeting. Private communications were once allowed, but have since been forbidden, he said.

Chairman McCallie told Burton that only the board clerk, Mrs. Jane Cheschi, and McCallie himself made up the agenda. "Mr. Card has nothing to do with it," he declared.

"That's not true," Burton shot

back, "and you know it."

McCallie said meetings would "get out of hand" if all requests to be heard were allowed, and suggested Burton's outburst might have been intended as a "little re-election campaigning."

SURGICAL PATHOLOGICAL PIONEER SUCCUMBS

Rochester, Minn. (AP)—Dr. William C. McCarthy, 83, pioneer in surgical pathology at the Mayo Clinic, died Sunday. A native of Louisville, MacCarty was associated with the clinic from 1907 until retirement in 1948. He was a founder and past president of the American Society of Clinical Pathology.