

Jail Funding Is A 'Classic Catch-22 Position'

By PAUL BEATTY
Sentinel Staff Writer

"It was the best of terrible alternatives," County Administrator Bob Nyman told a task force of the Santa Cruz Chamber of Commerce Monday as he spoke of the means of funding the county's proposed new jail.

Funding for the estimated \$6.7 million pre-trial detention facility will come primarily from locally-controlled sources with about \$1.5 million still to be levied in local property taxes.

"It is a classic Catch-22 position," Nyman said, explaining that state representatives testified against the county when a federal court ordered a new jail be built, "and their testimony influenced the judge to find against the county."

"Ironically, however, the state attorney general, because the state never mandated the conditions it testified had to be corrected, doesn't have to pay for the improvements to meet standards."

The administrator commented, "It's a dumb situation."

Nyman's main subject was the Jarvis-Gann amendment (Prop. 13 on the June 6 ballot which would cut local property tax revenues by about 60 percent) and it was a subject that members of the public affairs task force wanted to talk about.

Chamber member Larry Edler, a Santa Cruz City councilman and county Office of Education official, stunned other local officials as he told Nyman, "It's clear the schools have first call on the budget" that Jarvis would leave to local jurisdictions and that would be distributed by boards of supervisors.

Santa Cruz Councilwoman Charlotte Melville said that possibly one mitigating method for fire districts, should Jarvis be successful, would be for them to contract through adjacent cities for fire protection.

One of her colleagues commented, "And where would they get the money for the contract?"

While Nyman warned that "thousands of public employees will be laid-off," he would not estimate how many local employees would be fired if the Jarvis amendment passed.

Edler agreed. "It's not a good thing to throw numbers around," he said, but estimated that as many as 400 could lose their jobs in one local school district.

Nyman added, "It could be an astronomical unemployment problem."

Melville assured them, "Obviously, the schools will not go out of business" and asked the group, "Where is the money going to come from?"

Nyman answered, "There is no answer."

He said his office is analyzing both the Jarvis Amendment and Behr's SB-1 that was recently signed into law.

The Jarvis analysis was scheduled for discussion by

Sentinel

Tuesday, March 7, 1978
Santa Cruz Sentinel—13

county supervisors during today's afternoon budget workshop.

Nyman said he did not believe he would ask his board to take a position on the amendment, and when asked to comment on "what is the creative force and motivation for the amendment's apparent large support," he said, "I would rather not comment on that."

Nyman began his new job with the county in December, coming to Santa Cruz County from the Santa Clara County administration, and said the Santa Cruz area is "an unbelievable mixture of cultures."

"But what surprises me the most is the amount of congestion that is here," he said, noting that since 1970 Santa Cruz County has been the fastest growing county of those with populations of over 100,000.

He concluded by stating he believed the Jarvis-Gann amendment, if passed in the primary, "will be in the courts for years."



EQUIPMENT RENTALS CAN BE PAID BY MEDICARE

24 HOUR SERVICE

476-7926

FREE DELIVERY SET-UP & SERVICE

- OXYGEN
- WHEEL CHAIRS
- HOSPITAL BEDS
- IPPB MACHINES
- WALKERS

Santa Cruz Medical Rentals
883—41st Avenue, Santa Cruz

Classified—Just Dial 426-8000

So, you've passed "GO" and collected \$200⁰⁰



Now What...

Why not open a savings account at Monterey Savings!

Life is a lot more than a monopoly game, we know that. But the real world is still filled with happy financial occasions that bring unexpected dollars . . . both large and small. So the next time you sell a house, or get a return on your taxes, or receive a sales bonus or financial gift . . . bring it to Monterey Savings and let us open an account for you. The interest you will receive on your safe, insured, high yield Monterey Savings Account will put a lot more fun into the real life.

5 1/4%

The PASSBOOK ACCOUNT is our "BEST SELLER" offering HIGH INTEREST with COMPLETE DEPOSIT and WITHDRAWAL FLEXIBILITY.

5.39%
ANNUAL YIELD

5 3/4%

Minimum deposit for this CERTIFICATE ACCOUNT is \$1,000.00. Term is 3 MONTHS or MORE.

5.92%
ANNUAL YIELD