

dicted by a grand jury is these "safeguards."

It was noted in the opinion

Danner said he agreed with

At long last—jail to be built

With some misgivings, Santa Cruz County supervisors approved a construction schedule and financing plan for a new county jail Tuesday.

If the schedule is met it will mean the new jail will be in operation on Water Street — across the street from the county courts building in Santa Cruz — in the fall of 1980.

The supervisors approved the recommendations of the County Administrative Officer in their entirety, despite some reservations about some of them. The catalyst that provided the unanimous approval was the threat that federal money granted to the county for jail construction would be withdrawn if action were not taken immediately.

Under the schedule drawn up by CAO Bob Nyman and

approved Tuesday, bids for the project will be opened on Dec. 19 and the contract awarded on Jan. 9. Estimated cost of the project is \$7,332,595.

Supervisor Gary Patton was reluctant to approve the financing plan drawn up by Nyman because the amount of money committed posed possible problems for other county programs in the future. Nyman conceded that, under the proposal, things "will be very tight" as far as county finances are concerned for the next few years. But he said, barring major contingencies, the county should be able to scrape by.

Other supervisors had some questions about other aspects of the plan, but in the end the necessity for prompt action brought the unanimous vote for approval. (Supervisor Pat Liberty, who represents the

San Lorenzo Valley, got out of a sick bed to attend the meeting long enough to vote the jail proposal, which required a unanimous vote of the board.)

The action Tuesday appears to have ended a six-year battle over how the county should solve its jail problem. The argument had basically been over whether the old jail should be renovated or a new one built.

In other action, supervisors:

—Refused to approve an ordinance governing the use of disposable beverage containers as recommended by Supervisor Gary Patton. They did, however, approve a resolution urging the enactment of state legislation along such lines.

—Extended for 60 days an interim contract with Food and Nutrition Services, the

non-profit agency that operates the meals-for-the-elderly and other food service programs in the county. During the interim, supervisors will continue to negotiate with Food and Nutrition directors over what rules the agency should operate under. Some supervisors, particularly Marilyn Liddicoat and Pat Liberty, had accused the agency of engaging improperly in political activity and had demanded that its director, Sam Karp, be fired. As the negotiations continue, Karp is still on the job.

—Due to Mrs. Liberty's illness, delayed action on a number of items, including action on an ordinance governing the installation of septic tanks in the county.