

# Council shakes up some city commissions

12-15-82  
SANTA CRUZ — A zoning board member and two water commissioners were removed, and county Supervisor Gary Patton's aide Andy Schiffrin was appointed to the city planning commission Tuesday.

The changes came during an open review of all city appointees whose terms were expiring at the end of this year.

"We've never done this before. Never removed people who wanted a second term," Councilman Joseph Ghio said during a break in proceedings.

Councilman John Laird initiated the review of all appointees after the water commission took an opposite position to the council's view on Proposition 13, the water initiative on the November ballot that was soundly defeated.

The commission opposed Proposition 13. Laird and other councilmembers said it

violated city policy for an appointed board to oppose the council's position.

Laird's review was supported by his liberal colleagues: Councilmembers Michael Rotkin and Mardi Wormhoudt and Mayor Bruce Van Allen.

The four make up the liberal bloc that took over this year and the water commission's violation was a handy reason to make some liberal appointments to lower boards.

Schiffrin had served on the housing advisory committee, but his terms were up. He's expected to add a liberal voice to the planning commission.

Losing jobs were Water Commissioners Donald Haile and R. Frank Thomas. They'll be replaced by Jan Karwin and Ronald E. Pomerantz.

Zoner Ernest L. Courtwright is out and

planning architect Jeff Oberdorfer is in.

The key voting was 4-3 with Ghio and Councilmen Spiro Mellis and John Mahaney opposing changes. Ghio and Mahaney have argued it has been considered good policy to give citizen volunteers a second term if they wanted it.

However, they relaxed enough to oppose the reappointment of Sara Bunnett to the library board. Bunnett won on a 4-3 vote. She has taken a position the library board should have more effect on running the system, than just to be advisory to the city administration.

The council also decided to hold off appointments on the Pacific Garden Mall Commission and parking commission until it is decided if they will merge into a single downtown commission.