

EOC Elects Philip Rowe As President At Annual Meet; Programs Reported

By Don Righetti
Sentinel Staff Writer

Officers for the coming year were elected last night when the Santa Cruz County Economic Opportunity Commission gathered for its annual meeting in the student center at Cabrillo College.

The 1967-68 leaders are President Philip Rowe, Vice President Lorette Wood, Recording Secretary Rachel Hernandez, Corresponding Secretary Lois Bauer, Treasurer Fernando Valdez and Executive Committeemen James Eachus and Harry Cassar.

The officers were elected as a slate without individual balloting. They will be installed at the commission's November meeting.

Committee reports and progress reports on various EOC programs highlighted the meeting. Chairman Sarah Eichorn noted her evaluation committee had had difficulty in maintaining a slate of meetings and inspections because the group had been beset by a number of resignations.

The chairman further noted it had been decided to amalgamate her committee with the program review committee to eliminate duplication of activities.

She noted that her unit had found the Watsonville Area Service Center had provided valuable assistance to the poor on a person-to-person level, particularly among Mexican-Americans.

The program review committee presented a more detailed report on projects conducted under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

The report notes, "The committee feels that the projects developed by the various school districts under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act

were well planned and are designed to meet the needs of underprivileged children." But it further pointed out several areas of concern.

Chairman Sam Marshall noted in the report, "There should be greater participation and coordination between commission members and the staff of the Economic Opportunity Commission."

"Projects are developed by EOC staff and related delegated agencies at such a late date that the committee members do not have adequate time to study projects and make valid recommendations to the Economic Opportunity Commission."

Marshall's report further noted that the EOC should place greater emphasis on statements of policy and that "members are very much concerned with the lack of participation by all commission members of this committee."

Other areas of concern were

Water Study Report To Get Going-Over

The first-phase report of a countywide water study will get a thorough going-over tomorrow night by the county water resources agency coordinating committee.

Several changes will be made in the \$21,000 report, engineer Pat Creegan has said.

Committeemen meet at 8 p.m. in the board of supervisors' room on the second floor of the courthouse annex on Front street.

the fact that almost half the funds connected with the ESEA project are taken up in transportation costs and that the person selected as a part-time attendance worker should be bilingual and familiar with the Mexican-American culture.

Little mention was made during the meeting of criticism directed recently against the EOC by local persons and even state and national legislators.

Commissioner Robert Swenson did declare, "It grieves me to see people who don't know about the work of EOC attack it openly."

Swenson then presented certificates to a number of persons who have assisted the EOC effort.

The meeting ended with descriptions of five new EOC programs by their leaders. These were:

PROJECT FIND—A program to locate and assist destitute and friendless aged persons.

LEGAL AID—A program to provide free legal assistance to poor persons. The local program has now been funded with \$41,000. It will provide an attorney and a secretary in both Santa Cruz and Watsonville and two community aides to inform the poor that the service is available.

HEAD START—A program to provide medical care and social services for pre-school children.

FLASH PEAK HOUSING PROJECT—A program to provide housing for farm workers during the peak harvest seasons. It was noted the local EOC's Buena Vista farm worker community will open near Watsonville on October 27.

TUTORIAL PROGRAM—A project in which teenagers provide instruction to children of