

*Library Board* *May 4, 1981* *Sentinel*

# Library Board Hears Proposal To Include County In Staffing

A new effort to inject the county into the staffing of the Santa Cruz Public Library System was revealed this morning in a proposed agreement for city-county funding of a new Boulder Creek branch library.

Despite previous Santa Cruz City Council insistence that the city, not the county, is administrator of the library system, the agreement proposal is as follows:

"City and county staff will develop a staffing plan for the operation of the new branch which does not reduce services at the central branch."

Librarian Charles Atkins told the Library Board he had just seen the agreement and did not care to comment on it at the meeting. He indicated concern about a possible staffing issue. He said also, however, that it may have been simply the intent to make sure that staffing for the new, enlarged Boulder Creek branch would not be at the expense of the Santa Cruz Main Library.

City and county political and administrative leaders have been battling since the mid-1970s over the issue of library system management.

The county contends it is really a partner, whereas the city contends that the county is simply the customer of a library service.

The county has long contended it pays the major share of library expenses and should have a bigger say in the operation of the system.

The city has long contended that the only reason the county pays the major share of expenses is that county residents use the major share of books and services.

Under the contract that brought the county into the library system, each government jurisdiction pays a share of library costs based on its share of the book circulation within its jurisdiction.

This year, the county is paying 67 percent and the city 33 percent of costs because county residents are taking out 67 percent of the books and other materials.

But the city has the contract that states it administers the library system and has in the past blocked all county efforts to gain a share of the administrative responsibility.

Under the Boulder Creek funding agreement, some \$450,000 would be spent over a two-year period on the library. The county would pay \$300,00, the city \$150,000.

The county would be the lead agency in the development, design and construction of the library, just as the city is the lead agency when a library is built within the city.

But the proposal on staffing is new. It was developed by Spiro Mellis, a City Council member, and Joe Cucchiara, 5th District Supervisor.

If the City Council accepts the staffing proposal the acceptance will mark a change in the city's position that it alone administers the library system.

## County Considers Aerial Spray Ban

In response to the possibility that the state would spray the urban areas of Santa Clara County in its eradication of the Med-fly, Santa Cruz County is considering an ordinance to ban such spraying.

County supervisors Tuesday will consider an ordinance for the unincorporated area that would ban aerial spraying of non-agricultural areas.

In his recommendation to the board, Supervisors' Chairman Gary Patton states, "The state needs to take every reasonable step to protect our county from an infestation of the Mediterranean Fruit Fly, (but) it is not, in my opinion, reasonable to suggest that urban areas of our county should be sprayed with pesticides from airplanes."

Patton is also recommending that county government move in support of state legislation that would mandate the state Coastal Commission refuse to allow on-shore support facilities for offshore oil rigs.

His action is in response to Interior Secretary James Watt's inclusion of Central and Northern California ocean basins in the lease sale of the basins to oil companies.