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# Debate On County Job Sharing Idea

R. R. Employees - Co.

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Sentinel Staff Writer

An otherwise low-key day for county supervisors Tuesday ended in a crescendo of raised voices as the board took on Supervisor Marilyn Liddicoat's request in the late afternoon for an evaluation of job sharing.

Supervisor Gary Patton accused her of bringing the proposal to the board "to try to cover up a misguided and possibly illegal action."

He referred to Liddicoat's having directed her aide last month to look into the confidential social services file of Supervisor Phil Baldwin's aide, Ellen Gruys.

Gruys complained to the district attorney, stating Liddicoat's action was an invasion of privacy, but Acting DA Art Danner refused to file a complaint saying Liddicoat had acted under advice of county counsel.

Tuesday's loud confrontation between the left and

right of the board left Chairman Ed Borovatz complaining, "This puts me in the middle again." He told the press he was ready to hang up the gavel.

Calming down later, Borovatz said he would hold off on a decision of whether to quit as chairman and think about it during this week.

As Liddicoat argued that "those who are able-bodied should work to eat," and that welfare recipients live off "the working poor," Baldwin accused her of dividing people "by playing on the fears and prejudice of the public."

He said that her two-page written request for an evaluation of how many persons go on welfare after accepting a job sharing position included "statements and implications that just by inference defamed character (and) the assumption that is made is that humans are basically evil and will rip-off people when they can."

He added, "I find that abhorrent from my point of view."

As Patton repeated his belief that Liddicoat raised the issue to solve her "personal legal problems," Supervisor Cecil Smith countered that her concerns over how many persons on county job sharing were on other assistance "were my concerns earlier."

He said that earlier when Baldwin was successful in getting board approval to encourage job sharing opportunities at county center, "I suggested a full look at the cost of job sharing, and not just zero in on this phase of it."

A motion by Smith to approve the proposal died on a 3-2 vote, and a proposal by Baldwin for a report on the job sharing program never got off the ground as Borovatz said, "I will not support a unilateral action (but) will support the board getting a full spectrum of information on the program."

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## Weather

Fair Through Thursday  
Except For Local Fog  
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# Santa Cruz Sentinel

Wednesday  
Afternoon