

Water Supply

Water District Act May Go To Solons Thursday

4/12/55

Present arrangements, to be confirmed tomorrow, call for first legislative committee hearing on the proposed act for creation of a Santa Cruz county-wide water district at 10 a.m. Thursday, Attorney Ernest Wilson disclosed today.

Wilson, who drew the proposal, said he will be in Sacramento tomorrow, when he will make a final check with Sen. Donald Grunsky on whether it was possible to get the bill on the senate water resources committee's hearing calendar for this week.

The San Mateo attorney was instructed by the board of supervisors last week to go ahead and push for prompt action on the revised act, changed to meet city-voiced objections in last Thursday's board hearing here.

Supervisor C. B. Harts today said he will be in Sacramento Thursday morning to speak for the board if it appears necessary. Board members confirmed that, unless an unexpected snag develops, they expect Wilson to carry the ball in getting the proposal through the legislature.

Although the city's official stand on the new draft will not be decided until the city council meets tomorrow night, Santa Cruz spokesmen last week indicated, after the review and revision of the proposal, that they probably will favor a "hands off" attitude.

The proposed act has met no opposition in other areas of the county.

While he is in Sacramento, Harts will call attention to another bill which the supervisors agreed they disapprove.

County School Superintendent Norman S. Lien this morning told the board about the proposed permissive legislation, whereby teachers could be paid bi-monthly. He pointed out that paying teachers twice a month, instead of monthly, would increase costs for the districts, the county schools office and the county auditor's office. Lien said his office unquestionably would have to hire more help to process all the warrants involved.

Even though the legislation is permissive, he said, pressure for bi-monthly paychecks would be strong all over the state if the bill should go through. The bill, AB 3051, already has been passed by the assembly education committee, Lien reported.

Supervisors Frank Clement and Francis Silliman voiced strong objection, pointing out that there is no precedent set by other public bodies for cutting the time between pay checks.

Harts said he will take up the supervisors' objections with Grunsky and Assemblyman Glenn Coolidge while he is in Sacramento.