

Budget - co -

Board Gets \$40.8 Million County Budget

A county budget of nearly \$40.8 million for 1973 - 74 — labelled the "most restrictive" budget in recent years — was set before the board of supervisors Tuesday.

It is recommended the board adopt the 1971 - 72 tax rate of \$3.017 to finance it.

Under new state law, the county has the prerogative to use either the 1971 - 72 rate or the lower 1972 - 73 rate of \$2.966, but it cannot raise the property tax higher than either of the past two years.

The proposed budget is 9.1 per

cent greater than last year's nearly \$37.4 million budget.

It will now undergo the lengthy sessions, before the board, beginning June 20, to determine what items will remain, be cut, or be added.

According to County Administrative Officer Carlyle Millar, the budget is "a balanced budget," but at the cost of denying a multitude of departmental requests.

Millar says, "The real story of the 1973 - 74 proposed budget is not what is in the budget, but it is what has been cut from the

budget, or the budget requests."

Cut from requests were 128.5 new employee positions, leaving a total recommended increase of 5.1 positions.

These include "positions for workload increases in the probation department, health department and the COPS (Community Oriented Police System) program for the sheriff's department.

According to Millar, "A total of more than \$3.2 million has been cut from requested amounts. We have also had to

reduce or eliminate funds budgeted for the fair, for Airports, for Advertising, and for the Arts Commission."

Also recommended for cut are the county share of Aid to the Totally Disabled (for the last six months of next fiscal year) (\$350,000), the roadside betterment program (\$210,000), the family residency program at the General Hospital (\$150,000), communications center equipment (\$81,000), the third year funding of the county portion of the CCCJ drug abuse program (\$40,000) and the coun-

ty's stroke program and Manresa family counseling program at a total of \$57,000.

The net increase of 5.1 positions will bring the county payroll to 1,504.7 employees, if it is adopted by the board.

In rounded figures, the 1973 - 74 budget of \$40.8 million is financed with \$13.6 million from property taxes and \$27.2 million in other county revenues, federal and state money.

These county revenues are raised by taxes (other than current property), \$1.6 million; licenses, \$508,197; fines,

\$481,300; use of money and property, \$410,950, and charges for current services, \$1.6 million.

Aid from state and federal comes to about \$18.5 million.

Property taxes pay 33 per cent (up 2 per cent from the present fiscal year) and the county, state, federal money pays 67 per cent of the proposed budget.

A quick breakdown of departmental recommended allocations shows a working capital outlay of about \$7.6 million for public works,

slightly over \$2 million for the sheriff (up \$224,589), slightly over \$3 million for welfare (up \$351,780), and about \$1.1 million for the health department, up \$37,088.

Millar cites the following as important items influencing the proposed 1973 - 74 budget:

— The general fund proposed budget requirements are \$822,700 less than the 1972 - 73 final budget requirements.

— The departmental requests totaled \$36,570,576, of which

(Continued on Page 2)

President Reorganizes His Staff

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Nixon announced three moves today in a major re-building of his Watergate-

Melvin R. Laird was appointed counselor to the President for domestic affairs and, in that Cabinet rank post, will in effect

Santa Cruz Sentinel

118th Year NO. 130 WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 6, 1973 15c 46 Pages

Weather

Monterey Bay Area Forecast: Low clouds and fog near the coast extending inland night and mornings. Otherwise fair through Thursday. Little temperature change. High Thursday in the low 60s near the coast to the 70s inland. Low tonight in the 50s. Westerly winds 10 to 20 mph afternoons.

Temperatures for 24 hours ending at 8 a.m. today: High 76, low 51.

Board Gets \$40 Million 'Restrictive' Budget

(Continued from Page 1)

\$3,585,174 had to be cut to balance the budget.

— The 5.1 cent tax increase will bring in \$200,000.

— With the advent of federal revenue sharing, the county expects to receive \$3,840,722.

Millar recommends that from the federal revenue, the money loss incurred by the county hospital, amounting to \$482,730, be paid.

The CAO also points out that it may be necessary for the county to increase taxation by 3

or 4 cents for fire protection in the unincorporated areas.

He outlines the county's position, "The county planning department estimates the annual rate of growth to be in the neighborhood of 4.8 per cent; data from the US Department of Labor indicates the consumer price index for all items

between March, 1972 to March, 1973 rose 4.7 per cent; and the negotiated annual salary increase for this year is 5 per cent."

Millar warns, "Economic conditions, legislative actions, court rulings, and additional problems in law enforcement, social services, and medical care will, also, add to the county's financial load."

It appears from the CAO's recommended budget, that the only money left — short of cutting departmental recommendations further — is the federal revenue sharing money left after the General Hospital deficit is paid.

This amounts to slightly over \$3.35 million.

The county board of supervisors Tuesday accepted for consideration a priority list of requests for this money which was recommended by the Revenue Sharing Committee, Robley Levy, chairwoman.

This list pares down by priority requests that totalled over \$12 million.

Two Incumbents Lose In Salinas

SALINAS (AP)—Two city council candidates campaigning for reduced spending and tax cuts ousted incumbents Jack Barnes and Ernie Paauwe as only 22 per cent of the registered voters went to the polls.

Robert Wherritt, a food processing engineer, and John Vondracek, an accountant, ran first and second in Tuesday's six-man contest for two council seats. The vote count was Wherritt 2,865, Vondracek 2,577, Barnes 2,379, and Paauwe 1,947.

organizes House Staff

and Republican caucuses. He spoke of "my concern for open and complete communication."

The new domestic policy chief said line officers within the executive departments "will become very important to me."

Laird said that he would remain at the White House for at least a year and would relinquish his congressional