

Endangered Species

Supervisors Fail To Give More Help To Santa Cruz Long-Toed Salamander

The Santa Cruz long-toed salamander, a nearly extinct creature whose last habitats are known to be in the La Selva Beach area, got no help from the county Tuesday.

The board of supervisors did not muster a second to a motion by Supervisor Ralph Sanson to extend to May 30 the date in which the county would agree not to hold property owners responsible for persons studying the amphibian at Ellicott Pond.

PUBLIC NOTICE

BRIEF STATEMENT OF THE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

OF THE

COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

Alan Holbert, county coordinator of the project and a Cabrillo College biologist, said getting some water to the pond now is essential since the creature is in the larvae stage. He said even if an agreement was made so the county would be liable for persons studying here, water will be needed through July.

In other business, the board transferred from the public works to the planning department the administration of the county's abandoned vehicle ordinance. The transfer caused Supervisor Dan Forbus to ask, "I don't know what is left for public works," since additional

county functions have come under the planning department lately.

Hearings on abandoned vehicles will be transferred from the board of zoning adjustment (zoning administrator) to the board of building appeals, and another section provides for a public hearing before supervisors to determine costs of removing, and assessment against property, for an abandoned vehicle.

The board approved \$1,062 and \$2,222 for past and future (up to June 30) costs for paying outside attorneys to take cases that couldn't be handled by the public defender due to possible

conflict of interest. The transfers are from contingencies, and expenditures for that purpose has been \$11,117 so far this fiscal year.

On a 4 to 1 vote, Sanson objecting, the board agreed to direct the county administrative office to prepare an estimate for next year's office furniture and approved a transfer of \$20,000 from contingencies for the county's "early purchase of furniture program." Officials said buying the furniture now saves money, but Sanson argued that it may result in the assumption the county is going to add more personnel to its 1,300 employees.