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Aptos Chamber Unhappy About New Regulations

By DALE POLLOCK Sentinel Staff Writer

Members of the Aptos Chamber of Commerce aren't too happy about some of the new regulations imposed by the Regional Coast Commission, and they will be looking into ways to express their sentiments, it was disclosed at this morning's meeting.

Chuck Holcomb, who heads the chamber's governmental affairs committee, reported that the commission has increased its sphere of influence now to include most of Aptos. Describing the boundaries of the commission's rule as "capricious," Holcomb informed the chamber that the boundary line "wanders in and out," going as far inland as six miles in some cases.

There was also discussion of the new septic tank system and grading ordinances about to be adopted by the county, which in Holcomb's words, "will render a good many lots unusable." He also explained the commission's moratorium on new building applications that will be in effect for three months.

In other business, the chamber learned from Roy Thompson that fire safety has improved so much in Aptos that most homeowners can now obtain a 44.1 per cent decrease in their fire insurance premiums.

Chamber president Ted Colton thanked Aptos Fire Chief Richard Chinn for his efforts in

bringing the fire safety rating from a lowpoint of 9D on the safety scale up to a rating of 6, effective Nov. 1. Plans are afoot to send out this information, along with a map of the fire district, to chamber members with next month's agenda.

It was also learned that the Aptos bike path bid is expected to be awarded to Central-Coast Pipeline, and construction should begin in two to three weeks. There will be two bus pull-outs as part of the system, roadways chairman Virgil Kester announced.

Financially, Colton reported that the chamber made a small profit on its annual dinner dance, but the low turnout made the affair questionable for a return performance next year. Additionally, a \$50 donation was made to the Aptos Jazz Ensemble in its efforts to participate in a European jazz tour, and a \$30 advertisement was planned for next year's Cabrillo Music Festival. Also, chamber office manager and secretary Teri Streller had her salary increased by \$50 per month.

There was much discussion on means of increasing both numbers of members and annual dues, but no final action was taken. The chamber's next meeting will be Dec. 2 at the Pop Inn in Aptos.