

Forbus Denies Comments

Supervisor Dan Forbus denied Tuesday that he had directed the County Planning Department to take specific actions concerning the meetings and procedures of the Live Oak General Plan Advisory Committee (LOGPAC).

His denial was elicited by Chairman Gary Patton during the regular Tuesday meeting of the county board when Patton asked:

"I believe it was in our inestimable daily newspaper where you're (announced as) directing the planning department not to do specific things. Is that true?"

Forbus answered, "No, it is not."

The Sentinel carried the story Sunday that Forbus had told a luncheon gathering of LOGPAC members that the village plan concept the group had been studying "is now dead" as far as the planning department is concerned.

Forbus was quoted, "If someone wants to reintroduce the concept, they can, but the county has pulled out . . . I'm not going to put that map back down there because it is causing too much trouble," Forbus said," as reported in the Aug. 1 Sentinel.

Forbus also denied that he had cancelled a LOGPAC meet-

ing scheduled during the last week in July.

The Sentinel reported on July 27:

"Tempers have run so high over the disorganized method of choosing voting members (of LOGPAC) that Soquel-Live Oak Supervisor Dan Forbus cancelled this week's meeting of LOGPAC, even though he admits he had no authority to do so.

"Forbus said, 'I don't have any (authority) yet, but tonight I hope the board (of supervisors) gives me some authority to set down rules of criteria by which the general plan is brought to the board.

"Forbus added, 'I don't par-

ticularly feel I needed any authority (to cancel the meeting. I don't think there was too much to gain at this meeting. I wasn't trying to tell everybody when and where they can meet. The rules are going to change as far as the general plan goes," Forbus was quoted as saying.

Forbus was challenged by his opponent in the Nov. 2 election, Phil Baldwin, who asked if the incumbent had the authority to cancel the meeting.

Forbus answered, "I didn't really call it off; citizens can meet anytime they want."

At this point, Planning Director Kay Bowden stepped in and announced, "The cancellation

came from my department."

She qualified this, stating the planning department had only announced that it would not participate in the meeting scheduled the last week in July as "there was concern about who would have the right to vote."

Forbus explained that LOGPAC had been formed as a citizens-directed effort and not under the rules of a county-appointed committee.

However, the rules began to change Tuesday as the Soquel-Live Oak supervisor announced that he would bring the names of LOGPAC's new chairman and co-chairman to the county board for approval.