

increase and the tax cut, and measures

12/10/81

# Water Dispute Continues

The Scotts Valley and San Lorenzo Valley Water districts still are haggling over the ownership of a well site and a reservoir site.

While the San Lorenzo Valley Water District has operated the Estrella well and Pasatiempo Pines reservoir as its own for many years, it recently was revealed that the Scotts Valley Water District bought the well site, the reservoir site and the access road to the reservoir in a delinquent tax sale a few years ago.

Scotts Valley Water District directors this week were unable to come to an agreement over the San Lorenzo Valley Water District's offer to buy back the properties for \$300.

SV directors Monday were deadlocked in their vote to accept the San Lorenzo Valley Water District's offer, so the matter was tabled.

SV Board Chairman Gene Scothorn and Director Ted Snyder voted against the offer, while Directors Don Dunkle and Bill Tetter voted to accept it. Director Ed Lopez was absent.

Snyder told The Sentinel that he and Scothorn were displeased with the SLV District directors "tactics" that they wouldn't cooperate with SV on a recharge project using water from Bean and Carbonera creeks until Scotts Valley directors conveyed the title to the Estrella well and implemented a groundwater management program for the water basin used by both districts.

SLV directors voted unanimously last week to offer the Scotts Valley Water District \$300 for the well site, reservoir site and road.

In explaining his opposition, Snyder said, "They (SLV directors) are imposing conditions and threats. This should be a matter of negotiation as equals, rather than under duress."

In the meantime, the San Lorenzo Valley Water District isn't using the well site. It was closed down several months ago after nitrates — indicating pollution from human wastes — reached a high level in the well.

San Lorenzo Valley directors believe the high nitrate level may have been caused by the Scotts Valley District's pumping of the nearby businessmen's well.

Scotts Valley directors Monday night placed Snyder and Tetter on a water resources management committee to meet with a similar committee from the SLV District to work out a resolution over the ownership of the well, reservoir and road.