



# DIGEST

## Around and About

THE BOARD of Supervisors has given the final go-ahead (May 1) to two long-awaited juvenile building projects. The Board awarded a \$6.8 million contract to replace MacLaren hall in El Monte with a 150-bed facility for non-delinquent children and a 50-bed unit for emotionally disturbed youngsters. A \$5.5 million contract has been signed to expand Los Padrinos juvenile hall in Downey with four new buildings and a parking structure. Both jobs are due for completion in late 1975.

THE SHERIFF's department, long a user of helicopters, will start a 20-month experiment June 2 with fixed-wing aircraft. Deputy sheriff pilots will patrol in a Helio Courier plane and a Maule Rocket plane, both capable of taking off and landing in 100 feet and able to hover at low speeds or accelerate to 160 mph in an emergency. The planes reportedly

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## '73-'74 Pay Proposals Released

DIRECTOR OF personnel Gordon Nesvig sent to the Board of Supervisors today (May 7) his recommendations for 1973-74 County salaries, including increases for nearly 22,000 employees in seven bargaining units that have signed agreements with County management. Nesvig also proposed rises for 6,550 employees who do not belong to units.

The director of personnel said he expects to recommend many more increases to the Board within the next three weeks, in time for the Supervisors to include them in the salary ordinance which is scheduled to be adopted late this month and go into effect July 1. These later recommendations, he said, involve the nearly 19,000 employees whose negotiating units have signed tentative agreements with County management. The agreements now are in the process of being ratified by unit members.

**FULL AGREEMENTS.** Nesvig recommended that the Board approve July 1 pay increases for seven units that have reached full agreement. This group includes the two big units of office and clerical employees, plus five smaller units. The seven are:

Clerical and Office Services Employees (18,367); Supervisory Clerical and Office Services Employees (1,891); Health and Investigative Support Services (431); Corrections Officers (237); Dental Professionals (70); Agricultural Inspectors (58); and Criminalists (24).

**TENTATIVE AGREEMENTS.** The dozen units with yet-unratified

agreements include hospital workers, eligibility and some social workers, blue collar and administrative-tech employees. The units are:

Administrative and Technical Staff Personnel (1,664); Supervisory Administrative and Technical Staff Personnel (354); Operating Engineers (224); Artisan and Blue Collar Employees (3,153); Supervisory Artisan and Blue Collar Employees (875); Security Guards (421); Psychiatric Social Workers (182); Supervisory Professional Social Workers (158); Social Services Investigators (4,037); Supervisory Social Services Employees (1,143); Institutional Support Service Employees (1,806); and Paramedical Technical Employees (5,221).

**UNSETTLED.** The 20 units that are still negotiating or have bogged down at impasse are:

Superior Court Clerks (227); Pharmacists (106); Registered Nurses (2,518); Supervisory Registered Nurses (1,284); Interns and Resident Physicians (1,200); Supervisory Nonprofessional Paramedical Health Employees (151); Professional Paramedical-Health Employees (1,351); Supervisory Professional Paramedical-Health Employees (131); Fire Fighters (1,386); Supervisory Fire Fighters (433); Peace Officers (4,072); Supervisory Peace Officers (951); Deputy Probation Officers (2,135); Supervisory Deputy Probation Officers (337); Social Workers (1,855); Professional Social Workers (493); Child Welfare Workers (894); At-

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## Around and About

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can remain aloft longer than helicopters and can carry more crime detection equipment.

A RUNOFF election is under way between LACEA and CAPE to determine who will represent a negotiating unit of 138 professional accountants. CAPE fell three votes short of victory in the first election, getting 52 votes to 49 for LACEA. Seven voted for "no representative." A minimum of 55 votes was needed to win. Runoff ballots have been mailed to members of the unit—they will be counted May 17.

LATEST IN the civil service sweepstakes to choose new department heads:

—Nine candidates, including Robert Barsky, Ralph George, Walter Hamming, Eric Lemke, Robert Lunche, and John Mills of APCD, are scheduled for interview examinations today (May 7) for the position of air pollution control officer.

—Examination for County Counsel is set for next Monday (May 14).

—The animal control director exam will be May 25.

—The interviews for parks and recreation director will be held next month, date uncertain.

—The civil service commission has reopened applications for public administrator-guardian to attract more candidates from outside County service.

—The Board of Supervisors appointed Thomas Kidwell, 41, director of data processing, a post he had held on an acting basis since last November.

EVELYN SHERROW of general hospital is retiring after 31 years with the County.

## DIRECT-DIALING TO START JUNE 4

WHEN COUNTY employees in Civic Center and the Eastern Avenue complex come to work Monday morning, June 4, their telephones will look the same, but there will be a new number on the dial. And when the employee picks up the phone, he may notice that the dial tone is higher pitched.

These will be the outward changes as the County switches over its 7,500 Civic Center telephones and 1,000 phones at Eastern Avenue to direct-dial centrex systems—the first major change in the County telephone system since the present five-digit system with several major switchboards was introduced back in 1959. (Before that, the County had one large Civic Center switchboard, which evolved from MUTual 9211 to MADison 9211 to MADison 89211.)

A small army of Pacific Telephone and County employees will move through Civic Center buildings, starting Friday night (June 1), changing the numbers on every telephone to a "974" plus four more digits, a job they expect to complete before 8 a.m. the following Monday.

Because each phone will receive direct-dial calls from the outside, the Civic Center staff of switchboard operators will shrink from 52 to 15. (The remaining 37 operators will fill vacancies that have been held for them among the 400 switchboard positions in outlying County facilities.)

Present switchboards will be closed in the Hall of Administration, Courthouse, Hall of Records, Hall of Justice, Health Services building on Figueroa street, County Engineer building, and the APCD building.

Three other governmental arms in the Los Angeles area—UCLA,

City of Los Angeles, and the Board of Education—already have centrex telephone systems, but none is nearly so large as the County network that will begin June 4.

Callers in Civic Center will find the switchover to centrex will mean no change for certain dialing procedures. For instance, the phoner will still dial "0" for operator; he will direct-dial other telephones within the centrex system by dialing the last five digits of the number (new County telephone directories will be distributed later this month); and he will place outside calls in the central Los Angeles area by dialing "9" and then the telephone number (although after dialing "9" the dial tone will remain the same pitch instead of dropping lower as it does now).

To call outlying areas, however, such as San Fernando valley, Beverly Hills, Inglewood, El Monte, et al, the phoner will not dial "9" will dial three digits to get one of the seven tie lines that go to outlying areas. A guide to these tie lines appears on the small blue dialing information cards that are being distributed to all centrex phone stations.

Civic Center phoners calling County-USC Medical Center will dial "181" and the last four digits of the desired number; to reach the flood control district, "184" and the last three digits; for the road department, "185" and the last three digits; for the Eastern Avenue complex, "186" and the final four digits; and for purchasing and stores, "187" and the last three digits.

To reach Civic Center phones, callers at the Medical Center, road, purchasing, and flood control will dial "6" and the last five digits. From Eastern Avenue complex, caller will dial "726" and the last five digits.

Nesvig said he does not anticipate any agreements will be reached with this group in time to obtain Board approval for a July 1 change in salaries.

**SEPTEMBER GROUP.** Nesvig said he will give salary recommendations to the Board in July for eight units, totaling nearly 6,300 workers, whose salaries, by agreement, move on Sept. 1 each year, rather than in July. These units include:

Building Trades and Skilled Craftsmen (1,520); Engineering Technicians (1,747); Professional Engineers (901); Supervisory Engineering Technicians (506); Supervisory Engineers (395); Automotive and Equipment Maintenance and Repairmen (505); Appraisers (478); and Supervisory Appraisers (209).

Nesvig said the average salary increase for workers in bargaining units that have signed either final or tentative agreements is 4.47 percent.

Nesvig told the Board that negotiations on employee benefits have been concluded with a joint council of all certified employee organizations. The provisional agreement calls for increasing the County's contribution to health insurance premiums, and continuing other benefits, such as vacation and sick leave, at their present levels. Nesvig said when this agreement is ratified by the organizations' membership, he will submit it to the Board for approval.

**EXECUTIVE PAY.** Nesvig proposed that 226 chief deputies, assistant chief deputies, and division chiefs be moved onto the "E" salary schedule, with no increase now but possible rises later when Nesvig sends the Board a plan for rating their job performance.

For other middle-management positions Nesvig recommended, in most cases, increases of 5.5 percent.

THE EXAMPLES below include salary increases for some of the larger classes of County employees as recommended to the Board of Supervisors today (May 7) by director of personnel Gordon Nesvig. No salaries are shown for classes where an agreement has not been reached with certified bargaining units. Figures in parentheses ( ) indicate number of employees.

	<i>Present Monthly Pay</i>	<i>Proposed 1973-74 Pay</i>
Clerk (1,027)	\$ 440-526	\$ 440-545
Intermediate Clerk (2,363)	\$ 526-656	\$ 550-685
Typist-Clerk (786)	\$ 450-555	\$ 464-575
Intermediate Typist-Clerk (6,311)	\$ 526-656	\$ 550-685
Store Helper (178)	\$ 608-755	\$ 641-797
Key Punch Operator (282)	\$ 530-659	\$ 560-696
Telephone Operator (415)	\$ 512-634	\$ 522-644
Public Health Investigator I (78)	\$952-1,119	\$995-1,173
Sanitarian (195)	\$952-1,119	\$995-1,173
Agricultural Inspector II (27)	\$940-1,170	\$992-1,236
Corrections Officer (237)	\$ 755-940	\$ 797-992
Intermediate Stenographer (1,286)	\$ 601-706	\$ 629-740
Computer Equipment Operator (103)	\$ 669-829	\$ 687-852
Medical Records Technician II (83)	\$ 629-781	\$ 641-797
Procurement Aid (47)	\$ 677-842	\$ 715-889
Assistant Payroll Clerk (130)	\$ 560-696	\$ 591-735
Dental Hygienist (9)	\$1,048-1,306	\$1,107-1,380
X-Ray Technician I (205)	\$ 776-914	\$ 797-940
Laboratory Assistant I (178)	\$ 563-709	\$ 591-735
Intermediate Food Service Worker (375)	\$ 475-593	\$ 499-623
Laundry Worker (167)	\$ 440-535	\$ 450-560

# Stand-Pat Budget Goes to Board

THE BOARD of Supervisors is studying the "stand pat" budget for 1973-74 proposed by CAO Arthur Will (April 24) in preparation for public hearings on the budget which will open June 4. The Board will adopt a final budget later in June to go into effect July 1.

Will described his budget as containing "no surprises" and said it would continue County services and capital construction at largely their present levels.

The budget recommends total spending for the general fund and special funds and districts of \$2.5 billion, a drop of \$143 million, or 5.4 per cent, from the 1972-73 budget. Budgeted positions would total 78,085, a decrease of 219 from this year.

Will estimated next year's general fund property tax rate at \$4.10 per \$100 of assessed value—7 cents above this year's rate but 33 cents below the record-high tax rate of \$4.43 in 1971-72. Will's estimate assumes that assessor Philip Watson will announce later this summer that total assessed value of taxable property in the County has risen only 2 percent, well below the 3 to 5 percent increases of recent years.

**POSITIONS.** Except for DPSS, Will recommended that most County departments have slight increases in staff in 1973-74. Social Services, however, is due to lose more than 2,600 positions by next Jan. 1 when the federal government takes over the adult aid programs for the elderly, disabled, and blind. DPSS still will remain a major department with almost 14,000 budgeted positions.

Will recommended for other departments:

—23,931 budgeted positions for health services, an increase of 392

—17,128 positions for the justice-group departments (sheriff, D.A., marshal, courts, probation, public defender, County clerk, coroner), an increase of 354; most of these would staff the new sheriff

stations at Carson and Pico Rivera and new facilities at Wayside Honor Rancho and the Central jail

—5,850 workers for general service departments (building services, communications, mechanical, purchasing, data processing, real estate management), a rise of 141

—17,047 positions for all other departments, an increase of 50.

**INFLATION.** Will said his budget contains a \$41 million contingency fund to meet inflation-caused rises such as salary increases and higher costs for utilities, drugs, medical supplies, and gasoline.

**CAPITAL PROJECTS.** The CAO recommended that County building continue at about the same pace as it has this past year. His budget contains almost \$27 million for projects already authorized by the Board, nearly \$6 million for new projects, and \$14 million for a capital outlay reserve from which to buy back lease-purchase mortgages and thus reduce interest payments. In addition, Will said he expects the state and federal governments to contribute almost \$19 million toward County buildings such as hospitals.

**UNCERTAINTY.** "This proposed budget comes in a time of greater uncertainty concerning the County's fiscal position than at any time in the past," Will said. "Principal unknown factors at this time are the impact of federal cutbacks and the final agreements on the shift of all adult welfare programs to the federal government by Jan 1, 1974. This uncertainty may continue for months unless Congress and the President can reach an accommodation on the future federal role in domestic programs."

Among the programs involved is the federally financed Public Employment Program (PEP) which presently supports 1,162 employees on the County payroll.

**REVENUE SHARING.** Will said the County expects to receive a total

of \$475 million from the federal revenue sharing program, which began last year and ends in 1976. Of this, the County will get almost half, or \$225 million, by the end of the coming 1973-74 fiscal year. The Board of Supervisors already has earmarked nearly \$54 million of this \$225 million for replacing MacLaren hall, expanding Los Padrinos juvenile hall, and other construction and equipment.

That leaves more than \$171 million, Will said, which the Board may choose to put into new programs or to reduce the 1973-74 tax rate.

The CAO warned that, with revenue sharing scheduled to end in 1976, the County should not count on it for any long-term programs.

SB 90. Will pointed out that State Senate Bill 90, enacted last year, has straitjacketed the County library district within its present 23.4 cents per \$100 tax rate—a situation that could force cutbacks in library service unless other funds can be found. Will said the library may not legally receive revenue sharing funds for its operations.

**REORGANIZATION.** Will said that in addition to the 1972 merger that formed the health services department and the recently approved merger of DPSS, probation and six other departments into a human services department, he is studying creation of a "general services agency" and a "public works and transportation agency." He did not detail which departments would be affected.

County of Los Angeles

DIGEST

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