

NCS D approves annexation

By Tom Friesen
Staff Writer

NIPOMO — Directors of the Community Services District recently again assured residents of the parched Summit Station Road area that water will be provided for them.

"We want to service you as quickly as we can," said board President David Manriquez, noting that "Some people have locked up their houses and moved to Santa Maria."

District officials estimate that homeowners in the area will require 70 acre-feet of water each year.

An acre-foot, or 326,000 gallons, is enough to serve two families of three for a year.

The main ordinance that banned new district annexations because of uncertain water supplies expired last summer, but the board took action to repeal a less important annexation ordinance and to add a paragraph to its annexation policy.

On a 5-0 vote, the board decided to add a paragraph stating that the Regional Water Quality Control Board must approve septic systems in areas to be annexed so the district would not be forced later to provide sewer service in addition to water.

Director Steven Small dissented in the 4-1 decision to repeal a 1983 ordinance which said the district would not annex territory that is already developed or subdivided.

"I still have a problem with annexation ... because of a specious water supply" and the uncertainty surrounding the district's chances of getting state water, he said.

But Manriquez said the district will soon gain two new wells which could boost production to from 1,360 to 2,800 acre-feet each year.

District resident Les Fox Jr. replied that "just because you can suck it up faster" doesn't solve the problem because the water is coming from the same source.

Paul Luiz, another outspoken op-

ponent of state water and the board's tactics in trying to get it, accused the directors of hypocrisy.

"On one hand you say there's an overdraft (when talking about state water) and on the other hand ... you say we'll go ahead and service Summit Station" even though the private company California Cities Water is willing to serve the area, he said.

But district General Manager Ryder Ray replied that "the whole basin is in overdraft" and Cal Cities gets its water from the same source.

Director Kathleen Fairbanks said there has been "a major problem" with the county sending mixed signals about the state of Nipomo's groundwater basin.

She said the county tells the district one year that the basin is in overdraft and then says there is plenty of water for the next 10 years.

The expired 1989 ordinance which banned annexations says the district had operated for several years in reliance on state and county studies which said the Nipomo Mesa Hydrologic Subarea would not be in

state of overdraft until the year 2000.

But 1986 and 1987 studies "suddenly report that at least the Nipomo Mesa portion of the local coastal aquifers is in a current state of overdraft which will probably get worse each succeeding year."

The old ordinance also states that the district is processing water service requests to 1,000 proposed dwellings within its boundaries.

Ray told Summit Station residents that the annexation can be completed in 90 days once it is submitted to the Local Agency Formation Commission.

An assessment district to pay for the needed pipes could be formed at the same time.

In other action, the directors awarded a contract to Roy Bognuda of Nipomo who bid \$26,000 for the job of excavating new aeration ponds at the district's wastewater treatment plant south of Southland Street.

Two other bids of \$39,500 and \$46,000 came from firms in Solvang and Santa Maria.

Nipomo 4-H collects for needy

By Kristen O'Halloran
Nipomo 4-H News

NIPOMO — For Thanksgiving, each member was asked to bring \$1. Most did and our group collected \$87 that was used to buy 32 baskets of food for the needy.

In November, Sean McGray brought his rabbit Oreo to Pomona for a National contest. He won the following: Best in the Nation, 2nd in Class, 3rd place for his age group in the nation for loyalty. He had five entries total. He also entered some of his educational posters. He won one red ribbon and four blue ribbons. He also won a rosette ribbon for jewelry on his posters and a rosette ribbon for photography.

At the December meeting, Nipomo 4-H had its Family Christmas Potluck. Each member and their families brought a main dish and a salad or dessert. It was held at the Nipomo Youth Recreation Building. Many families attended.

On Dec. 22, some of the members of Nipomo 4-H went Christmas Caroling. They went to the Black Lake Mobile Homes. About 35 members came and along with them was Santa Claus. After they left Black Lake, the group went to Mrs. Herreck's house for some cake and hot chocolate.

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