

**Department of Public Works
RECLAMATION BOARD**

ITEM 267 of the Budget Bill

Budget page 813
Budget line No. 7

For Support of the Reclamation Board From the General Fund

Amount requested	\$183,694
Estimated to be expended in 1951-52 Fiscal Year	171,604
Increase (7.0 percent)	\$12,090

Summary of Increase

	Total increase	INCREASE DUE TO		Budget page	Line No.
		Work load or salary adjustments	New services		
Salaries and wages	\$7,663	\$7,663	---	813	63
Operating expense	—373	—373	---	814	10
Equipment	4,800	4,800	---	814	20
Total increase	\$12,090	\$12,090	---		

RECOMMENDATIONS

Amount budgeted	\$183,694
Legislative Auditor's recommendation	183,694
Reduction	None

ANALYSIS

The amount of \$183,694 requested for 1952-53 represents an increase of \$12,090 or 7 percent over the amount estimated to have been expended in 1951-52.

Due to the decision of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers to eliminate property ties and preparation of descriptions from their duties, the Reclamation Board is faced with a backlog of over 1,000 man-days of work, and payments for rights of way are long overdue. To meet this work load the agency is requesting for 1952-53 an additional position of senior engineering aid at a salary of \$3,372 per year.

Operating expenses have decreased by \$373, while equipment expenses have increased by \$4,800 over the amount estimated to have been expended in 1951-52. The increase in equipment expense is caused by an over-all increase in office and engineering replacements and additions and the replacement of three cars.

Approval of the amount requested is recommended.

GENERAL SUMMARY

The Reclamation Board approves construction on levee systems and flood channels, cooperates with the U. S. Army Engineers in construction of flood control projects through acquisition of rights of way for such projects, acts as governing body for the Sacramento and San Joaquin Drainage District, which comprises over 1,500,000 acres.

Elsewhere in this analysis the recommendation is made that consideration should be given by the Legislature to a reorganization which would integrate into a single state agency under central authority the various agencies presently dealing with California's water problems. The functions and operation of the Reclamation Board should be reviewed in this connection.