

BOARD OF HARBOR COMMISSIONERS FOR HUMBOLDT BAY

ITEM 259 of the Budget Bill

Budget page 850
Budget line No. 7

For Support of Board of Harbor Commissioners for Humboldt Bay From the General Fund

Amount requested	\$2,874
Estimated to be expended in 1952-53 Fiscal Year	2,854
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Increase	\$20

RECOMMENDATIONS

Amount budgeted	\$2,874
Legislative Auditor's recommendation	2,874
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Reduction	None

ANALYSIS

The functions of the board, although limited in scope, consist of the recording of all steam and sailing vessels entering or departing from Humboldt Bay, and the keeping of records of the ships' cargoes and the ports of origin and destination, and regulating generally the condition of the harbor facilities.

Although this is the only harbor, outside of the San Francisco Harbor, which is state supported, and while the State does not hold any proprietary interest in the facilities of the harbor, the amount requested for support will be needed if the board is to continue these services. In any event, it appears that the board should be self-supporting, or at least receive some compensation for its services.

RECLAMATION BOARD

ITEM 260 of the Budget Bill

Budget page 851
Budget line No. 7

For Support of the Reclamation Board From the General Fund

Amount requested	\$211,377
Estimated to be expended in 1952-53 Fiscal Year	195,162
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Increase (8.3 percent)	\$16,215

Summary of Increase

	Total increase	INCREASE DUE TO		Budget page	Line No.
		Work load or salary adjustments	New services		
Salaries and wages	\$12,914	\$12,914	---	851	65
Operating expense	786	786	---	852	10
Equipment	2,515	115	\$2,400	852	20
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Total increase	\$16,215	\$13,815	\$2,400		

RECOMMENDATIONS

Amount budgeted	\$211,377
Legislative Auditor's recommendation	211,377
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Reduction	None

ANALYSIS

The Reclamation Board cooperates with the U. S. Engineers in the construction of flood control projects through the acquisition of rights of way for such projects; acts as the governing body for the Sacramento and San Joaquin Drainage District; approves construction on levee systems and flood channels; and fulfills such construction obligations as have been assumed by the State in its agreement with the Federal Government.

The major item of increase is three proposed new positions:

2 Associate civil engineers----- \$11,544

In its budget request the Reclamation Board states that the duties that will be assigned to the two associate civil engineers are the same as those now required of the various classes of civil engineers employed by the board. "But since," in the words of the agency, "assurances have been given the State that federal appropriations to the Project (Sacramento River Flood Control Project) for federal fiscal year 1953 will be increased to \$3,500,000, instead of the \$1,000,000 appropriated during the past several years, it is obvious that engineering activities of the board will be greatly stepped up." The "assurances" which the board mentions refer to the fact that the Federal Bureau of the Budget has indicated that it will recommend to the new Congress an appropriation between \$3,500,000 and \$5,000,000 for the project. Justification of the two proposed new positions of associate civil engineer appears to rest chiefly upon the assumption that the increased federal appropriation will be forthcoming. For this reason we recommend their approval, with the reservation that these positions will not be established by the Department of Finance unless the federal appropriation to the project is increased to \$3,500,000.

1 Intermediate stenographer-clerk----- \$2,772

The necessity for this position appears to depend upon the expanded engineering program which is anticipated as a result of increased federal appropriations. It is recommended that this position be established only in the event the federal appropriation of \$3,500,000 materializes. Additional work load data will be required if the agency intends to justify the position on any basis other than this.

Since the Department of Finance automotive pool is now in operation in Sacramento, there is no obvious reason why the board should not relinquish the automobiles assigned to it and rely upon the pool to meet its automotive requirements. It is recommended that the agency accomplish this change during the 1953-54 Fiscal Year and that the Department of Finance make the necessary adjustments in the budget.

We recommend approval of the amount requested.