

SUAB aims for active student input

Bylaw changes encourage representation

More active representation for student interests is the goal of the proposed changes in the Student University Affairs Board bylaws, SUAB chairer Jess Barton says.

Barton has rewritten sections of the board's bylaws to include a clause that gives the chairer the power of dismissal over board members not fulfilling their minimum duties. At present Barton says the bylaws are written so "there is no way to get rid of members who are not

fulfilling their minimum duties."

SUAB, the 18 member legislative branch of the ASUO, represents student interests with voting power at the University Assembly and at the University Senate meetings. Each board member represents a constituency of students from a group of related majors. Each member is elected at student elections for a two-year term.

Minimum board duties include attendance at the University Assembly, the University

Senate, and the SUAB's meetings. The board members must also keep regular office hours to keep in touch with their constituents.

In the past, the board was plagued by a lack of participation, and Barton says, "The problem in the past is that the board hasn't had much direction."

A second SUAB bylaw revision calls for the immediate resignation of the SUAB chairer, if he is recalled. This revision is

meant to correct an oversight in the present bylaws, Barton says.

The chairer can be recalled at the written request of one-third of the SUAB members. The recall vote requires attendance by at least two-thirds of the board members.

When a board member is elected chairer, they must give up representation for their constituency. If the chairer is recalled by the board, he is left without a constituency or duties, Barton says.

A third bylaw revision would incorporate the duties of the SUAB Business Officer, a position eliminated by budget cuts, with the chairer's and vice-chairer's duties, Barton says.

Barton says he will present the proposed revisions to the other board members at their first fall meeting. At the following meeting the board will vote on the proposed changes and a majority vote will put the changes into effect.

Rural residents complain about land-use

By KEN HASWELL
Of the Emerald

A lack of citizens' control over their own government and its officials seemed to be the main theme of almost all 41 persons testifying before the Lane County Commissioners Wednesday night on a proposed Alternative Rural Land Development Program.

The residents who testified, more than half of the 75 persons who attended the hearing, asked for a voice in the plan designs for areas they live in.

Some of those testifying fired caustic remarks at the Board and at individual commissioner's personalities, while others stayed with the issues. A common theme expressed concerned the development of a program reflecting the opinions of residents directly affected — not the opinions of special interest groups or large land developers.

The "country bumpkin" versus the "city slickers" is what the plan comes down to. The people living in the rural areas of the county don't want the people who live in the city to impose regulations on them.

"One of the previous speakers asked where we were when these subarea plans were going before the people," Charles Hogan told the commissioners.

"We were there," he said, "and if they were there, they would know that the greater majority of the people spoke against most of the subarea plans."

Rural residents became "very frus-



Emerald graphic

trated and very disgusted and quit going because it didn't seem as if they were listening at all to what we were saying," Hogan added.

He complained about the 20-acre minimum lot size required to build a house under the plan. The minimum

acreage doesn't conserve land, but wastes it, he said.

"Why didn't you make five-acre lots in the city?" Hogan asked. "Because you wanted to utilize the land, but the same thing doesn't apply to the people in the country. You don't want to utilize it, you want to keep them from utilizing

it," he said, answering his own question.

He predicted that the commissioners would amend the law to accommodate expanding city limits.

"You're going to reach out and take some of the farm land on the outskirts of the city — that's okay when you want it, but when we want to build houses on it, that's not okay," he said.

Clif Everett, a former gubernatorial and senatorial candidate, said the laws were enacted by special interest groups who wished to profit economically by placing restrictions on others.

Good land-use planning involves inventory and assessment of what land is available and changing the plan's elements as the need arises, Everett said.

"Planning should be a look at what is the air quality, the water quality and what the land will carry. This is what other people have done, but our planners don't do it."

"This document is in very skeleton form," Commissioner Otto t'Hooft said. "It gives me an idea of what might be happening but it really does not go into specifics...as it now stands, I could not accept it either."

Until the plan is filled out and until the questions raised by the people at Wednesday night's hearing are answered, "I don't think that we are going to have a plan that's going to be ready for adoption by the County Board of Commissioners," t'Hooft said.

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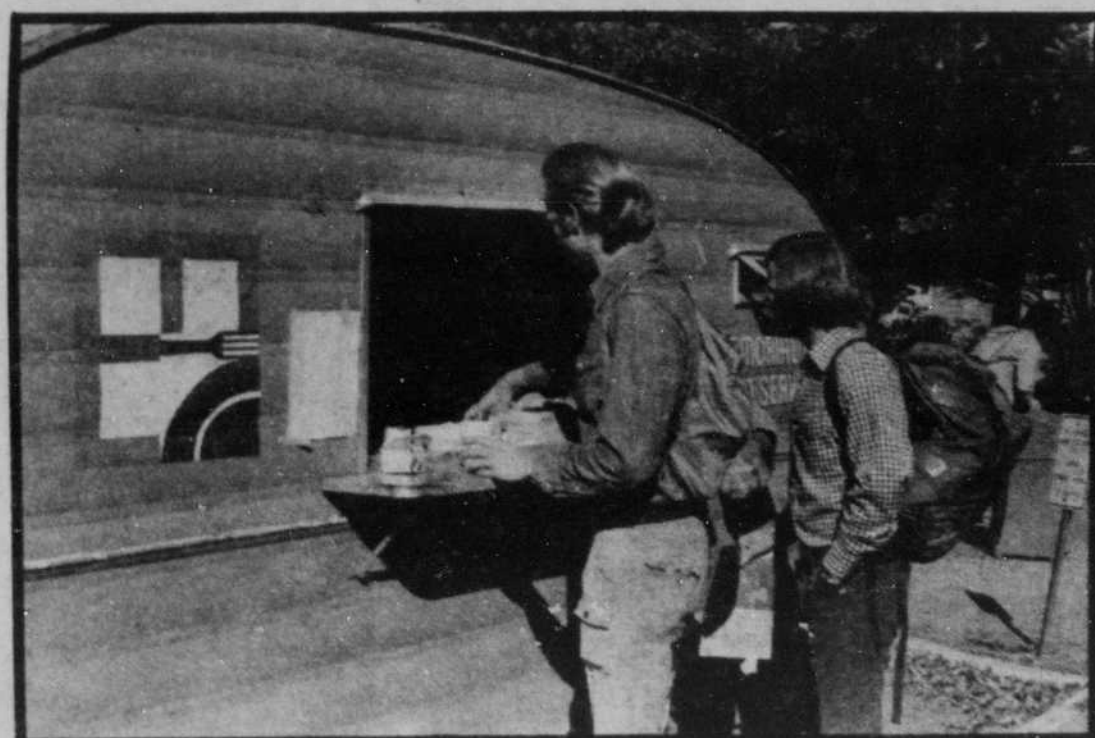
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