

4-18-95

APR 28 '95 07:46 READ-POLAND/214/760-6057

# Dallas commission proposes tougher policy on tobacco

By Tracy Everbach  
september of the Dallas Morning News

"There won't be any more puffing and chewing in Dallas County buildings if county commissioners have their way."

Commissioners on Tuesday pro-

posed tightening their policy on tobacco by banning it from county buildings except the jails and by ordering smokers to stay at least 25 feet from building entrances.

Current county policy allows smoking in individual offices and anywhere outside.

In addition to cigarettes and other smoking tobacco products, smokeless tobacco also would be prohibited.

"I received a lot of questions

about smokeless tobacco," County Commissioner Mike Caudrell said at Tuesday's Commissioners Court meeting.

"Individuals don't end up in the trash can," he said, as some spectators cringed or wrinkled their nos-

es. The new policy would take effect after a review and comment period of at least 30 days.

Some commissioners expressed concern about enforcement. "The proposed policy says that employees who violate it 'will be subject to county disciplinary action, as well as prosecution under applicable sections of the city smoking ordinance.'

The Dallas ordinance imposes a maximum \$200 fine for violations.

Smoking in county buildings would be banned

Commissioner John Wiley Price Health and Human Services building. "I'll be in the southbound service road of Stemmons Freeway." She said if she stands in back of the mobile."

Even the existing policy is often violated. A Tuesday spot check of a stairwell in the George L. Allen Sr. Courts Building showed seven cigarette stubs and an empty box of Carlton cigarettes on the fourth floor and one stub each on the third and second floors.

One person not pleased with the proposed policy is county Human Services director Betty Calbreath, a smoker.

Opinions about the proposed pol- icy were mixed among county ju- rors gathered for a smoking break outside the Allen courthouse.

"Outside is outside," said a woman who identified herself as Rita. She said if she stands 25 feet from offices at the Dallas County

of air out here, it will dissipate."

Another juror, who said his name was Brad, said he was pleased by the no-smoking policy.

"It's good," he said. "I don't like tracts that the consulting

firm in a stagnant room full of

smoke."

In other action Tuesday, counsil-

sors agreed to hire former Dallas Independent School District Super-

intendent Linn Wright, who now works for an executive search firm, to help find a new juvenile Department director. The previous director, Rose Washington, quit in

February. Randy Wade is serving as interim director.

A search committee, including members of the county board that

oversees the department, asked help integrate the new director into the job.

## Sheriff's Department plans Sand Branch storefront office

By Robert Ingrassis  
staff writer of the Dallas Morning News

Dallas County Sheriff's Depart-

ment deputies can't bring running for a deputy to work five days a week, sewer lines, street lights or week in Sand Branch for three garbage trucks to Sand Branch, a year, Deputy Chandler said. The U.S. Justice Department is expected to approve the plan. But even if it

to arm of the law to the isolated knot committed to the idea, he said.

Deputy Ivan Jackson has been assigned to Sand Branch and will have an office yet but plans to work out of a church or community center until the Sheriff's Department moves a trailer into the community.

Sheriff's officials told about 50 of Sand Branch's 400 or so residents

Tuesday that they plan to open a storefront office in mid-



The Dallas Morning News

## Tenants sue manager, owner of apartments in Oak Cliff

By Tracy Everbach  
staff writer of the Dallas Morning News

Tuesday staged a demonstration

Broken toilets, lack of air condition- ing, defective wiring and a 10 percent few. Four tenants of a west Oak Cliff apartment complex say they live with these and other con-

ditions every day.

Tuesday, the four women sued the company that owns the Highland Road Village Apartments com- plex on South Cockrell Hill Road and the corporation that manages it.

"They contend that employees of

Legal Services who filed the suit,

"We can enter their apartments for inspection if we need to,"

"I'm surprised Legal Services would do this, because we've always cooperated with them," Mr. De- Clift said.

But Robert W. Doggett, the Legal Services attorney who filed the suit, said the tenant "rehearsed pointing

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