

***Regular Minutes of the Board of Trustees of the Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District Meeting held October 13, 2021***

**Members Present:** President Dr. Albert Beck, Michael Barth, Bruce Johnson, Vice President Dr. Larry Kirk, Philip LaRocca, Steve Ostling, Assistant Secretary Melissa Schuster, Secretary Bo Sheppard, and Carl Starkey.

**Members Excused:** None.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Also Present:** District Manager Matt Ball, Office Manager Maritza Sandoval, and Entomologist Amanda Bradford.

1. The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District held on October 13, 2021, at 444 Otterson Drive, Chico, CA 95928.
2. The October 13, 2021, Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 4:03 PM by Vice President Kirk.
3. Seeing and hearing no persons wishing to address the Board on items not on the agenda, Vice President Kirk proceeded to request approval of the minutes.
4. After review, it was then moved by Member LaRocca, seconded by Member Ostling, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting held September 8, 2021, as written.
5. No persons wishing to address the Board on closed session matters.
6. No closed session matters.
7. Reports (7.1 – 7.5)
- 7.1 Under item 7.1 of reports, District Manager's Report, the District Manager reported that on September 9, 2021, the District completed the monthly staff meeting and all vehicle inspections. The District's Safety Committee also met on this date. The District Manager attended a Target Specialty Products virtual meeting learning of a new product soon to be offered. Also, on this date, the District Manager attended a Hegan Lane Congestion Relief Project meeting. Studies are being conducted to explore the concept of connecting Otterson Drive to Ivy Street.

On September 14, 2021, the District Manager attended the AB 896 working group to discuss best management practices on state managed wetlands, costs, and possible funding mechanisms.

On September 18, 2021, the District Manager attended the biweekly MVCAC Legislative and Regulatory conference call. The meeting discussed pending and drafted legislative bills, the state budget, COVID-19 issues, and reviewed a few regulatory issues.

On September 21, 2021, the District Manager attended via Zoom the MVCAC Executive Board meeting. This monthly meeting is where all member district managers attend to discuss legislation, action items of the MVCAC, plan, and discuss challenges for the upcoming season. The District Manager and Office Manager had a meeting with Keenan and Associates to discuss medical, dental, and vision coverages, reviewed costs, and programs.

On September 22, 2021, the District Manager and Office Manager attended an informational webinar to learn about health reimbursement accounts (HRAs) and discussed eligibility requirements, IRS laws related to HRAs, and details of HRA programs.

On September 29, the District Manager attended the AB 896 working group to discuss best management practices on state managed wetlands, costs, and possible funding mechanisms.

On September 30, 2021, the District hosted its 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Seasonal Appreciation Lunch. This lunch is free to all staff, and it is not funded with District tax dollars.

On October 4 and 5, 2021, the District's Office Manager worked with and assisted a representative from Fedak and Brown to conduct the District's 2020/2021 fiscal audit. The final report will be given to the Board from Fedak and Brown at the December 8, 2021, Board meeting.

On October 8, the District Manager attended the AB 896 working group to discuss best management practices on state managed wetlands, costs, and possible funding mechanisms.

7.2 Under item 7.2 of reports, the department reports, the District Manager reported that the District's New Jersey light traps and gravid traps have continued catching mosquitoes. Both *Culex pipiens* and *Culex tarsalis* populations are somewhat higher than the previous year. Sentinel chicken samples are continuing to be taken biweekly. CO2 trapping has continued and traps are being deployed routinely. Mosquito pools are being submitted for mosquito-borne disease. As of October 13, 2021, 436 pools (record submission) have been submitted for testing. The sentinel chickens are having sera samples taken biweekly.

The District's Entomologist reported that *Aedes aegypti* detections have continued and increased over the past month. Detections for 2021 include, Chico, Oroville, Thermalito, and Gridley. The District initiated the District's Response Plan for Detection of Invasive Aedes Mosquitoes for each detection.

The District's Entomologist reported that West Nile virus (WNV) activity continues to increase throughout the State as well as within the District's service area. The District has WNV positive detections in 13 humans (1 fatality), 80 mosquito pools, 2 dead birds, and 26 sentinel chickens.

The District's four indoor fish tanks continue to operate normally. Currently, three tanks are working as rearing tanks with another tank holding the fry from the rearing tanks. Fry numbers continue to increase. Over 8,700 fry were produced in September, a greater than 5,000 fry increase from August. The Vector Ecologist / Fish Biologist maintained the stock in each rearing tank and will continue to test the tanks for optimal production. The public mosquitofish tanks have been placed and a total of 13 locations are stocked with fish for the public.

Mosquito and Vector Control Specialists (Specialists) have continued with summer surveillance and control operations. Swimming pool inspections have been completed and a second round of storm drain treatment has been completed. Agricultural, managed wetlands, ditches, drains, and pasture inspections and treatments continue. Service requests for inspections, fish, and treatments have continued to be taken and serviced. Many door-to-door inspections and treatments have been made to manage the invasive Aedes.

As of October 4, 2021, 714Y has treated 7,551 acres of managed wetlands. The acreage at this time last year was 6,765 acres. 6633K has treated 40,906 acres of rice. The acreage at this time last year was 42,767 acres. 606Y has made 19 ULV adulticide treatments this year. Last year at this time, 606Y had made 8 ULV treatments.

The Public Relations (PR) Department is currently preparing for the upcoming public relations season. The PR Department is reviewing and updating (if needed) the District's website, brochures, photo and video files, and other informational documents. The District mobile friendly website continues to be updated as needed. The District public service announcements began on May 1, 2021, running on radio and television and concluded on September 30, 2021.. The District's billboards went up on May 1 as well rotated throughout the county until the end of September. The District continues to send press releases and the media has covered them by printing and televising the District's messaging. The District continued with distributing mailers and leaving door hangers in the area where the invasive mosquitoes were collected. The District's Entomologist conducted a mosquito presentation with Member Sheppard for the City of Biggs Council and Biggs Elementary, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders. The District explored contributing and/or assisting with the Sierra Oro Farm Trail event, tickets are electronic this year and nothing will be handed out due to COVID-19. The District will look for this event next year.

7.3 Under item 7.3 of reports, 2021/2022 1st Quarter Fiscal Reports, the Office Manager reported that salaries and benefits category is 35.2% expended, services and supplies category is 61.0% expended, capital outlay category is 0.0%. It was then stated that overall expenditures are currently at 42.6% expended and current revenues are at 2.6% received.

7.4 Under item 7.4 of reports, 3rd Quarter Newsletter, the Office Manager reviewed and presented the 3rd Quarter Newsletter with the Board.

7.5 Under item 7.5 of reports, the District Manager reported that President Beck, Member Ostling, and Member Kirk have terms expiring December 31, 2021, and were asked if reappointment was desired. All three Members signified a desire to be reappointed. District staff will send reminder letters to those Members respective appointing bodies.

After this final item of reports, President Beck asked the District Manager to proceed to policy matters.

8. Policy matters (8.1 – 8.2)

8.1 Under item 8.1 of policy matters, the Board was asked to consider authorizing its District Manager, Matthew C. Ball, to act for the District in a representative capacity, including accepting any offer,

signing releases, and receiving payment of claimant Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District (Claimant 102854). The Board may select the District's Assistant Manager or Office Manager if the District Manager is not selected. After some discussion it was then moved by Member Schuster, seconded by Member Ostling, and passed unanimously with a vote of 9 ayes 0 nays to authorize the District's Office Manager, Maritza Sandoval, as the representative for the Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District, Claimant 102854 which would include accepting any offer, signing releases, and receiving payments on behalf of the District (Claimant 102854).

- 8.2 Under item 8.2 of policy matters, the Board was asked to consider a Capital Expenditure for two Ford F150 pickup trucks from Gridley Country Ford in the amount of \$65,192.04 or \$32,596.02 per truck and two Ford Ranger pickup trucks from Benny Brown's Oroville Ford \$58,808.34 or \$29,404.17 per truck. These expenditures have been budgeted. It was then moved by Member Barth, seconded by Member Ostling and passed unanimously with a vote of 9 ayes 0 nays to approve the Capital Expenditures for two Ford F150 pickup trucks from Gridley Country Ford in the amount of \$65,192.04 or \$32,596.02 per truck and two Ford Ranger pickup trucks from Benny Brown's Oroville Ford \$58,808.34 or \$29,404.17 per truck.
9. Under topic of the month, the District's Entomologist presented a report and provided a presentation on wide area larvicide (WALs) treatments.
10. After reviewing the demands made upon the District for the past month, it was then moved by Member Sheppard, seconded by Member Schuster, and passed unanimously to authorize checks numbered 49900 through 50042 be signed and distributed. Expenditures for the month totaled \$662,018.00.
11. Under personnel, the District Manager reported that all seasonal employees were laid off on September 30, 2021, except for the Lab Technician. The Lab Technician was laid off on October 7, 2021.
12. No items of correspondence to report.
13. Under other business, the District Manager reported that OMAD dissolution is nearly complete.
14. No persons wishing to address the Board pertaining to closed session matters.
15. Closed session matters (15.1)
  - 15.1 Under closed session matters, President Beck announced that the District was going into closed session for Labor Negotiations – CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR(s). Gov't. Code 54957.6. District Designated Representative(s): District Manager Ball. Labor negotiations involving unrepresented employees of the Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District; Office Manager; Regional Supervisors; Pilot II; Entomologist II; Vector Ecologist / Fish Biologist; and Mosquito and Vector Control Specialists. The Board went off the record and in to close session at 4:57 PM, and returned from closed session and on the record at 5:41 PM. No action taken, nor needed, but direction and parameters were provided to the District Manager
16. President Beck announced adjournment at 5:41 PM and concluded by stating that the next regular meeting of the BCMVCD Board of Trustees would meet at 4:00 PM on November 10, 2021, at the Chico Substation's Board Room at 444 Otterson Drive, Chico, CA 95928.

Respectfully submitted,

James "Bo" Sheppard,  
Secretary