

Regular Minutes of the Board of Trustees of the Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District Meeting held November 11, 2020

Members Present: Gordon Andoe, President Dr. Albert Beck, Michael Barth, Bruce Johnson, Vice President Dr. Larry Kirk, Steve Ostling, Assistant Secretary Melissa Schuster, and Secretary Bo Sheppard.

Members Excused: Philip LaRocca

Members Absent: None.

Also Present: District Manager Matt Ball, Assistant Manager Doug Weseman, Office Manager Maritza Sandoval, Entomologist Amanda Bradford, and Andy Beck a representative from Fedak & Brown LLP.

1. The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District held on November 11, 2020, was live streamed via Zoom at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6414173404>.
2. The November 11, 2020, Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 4:00 PM by President Beck.
3. The District Manager called for a moment of silence in honor of Eric Gohre. Seeing and hearing no other persons wishing to address the Board, President Beck proceeded to request approval of the minutes.
4. After review it was then moved by Member Sheppard, seconded by Member Kirk, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting held October 14, 2020, as written.
5. No persons wishing to address the Board on closed session matters.
6. No closed session matters.
7. Reports (7.1 – 7.3)
 - 7.1 Under item 7.1 of reports, a representative from Fedak & Brown LLP presented a comprehensive summary and evaluation of the District's annual audit for the Board. Mr. Beck summarized the District's audit and answered questions of the Board. The Board and District management thanked Mr. Beck for his report and audit.
 - 7.2 Under item 7.2 of reports, District Manager's Report, the District Manager reported that on October 15, 2020, the District Manager and Office Manager attended a CalPERS Educational Forum and a webinar on Pension Liability Assessment with Weist Law / CalMuni Advisors.

On October 16, 2020, 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 October 21, 2020, the District completed the monthly staff meeting and all vehicle inspections. The District's Safety Committee also met on this date. The Office Manager worked with Fedak and Brown to finalize all field work for the 2019/2020 fiscal audit.

On October 22, 2020, the District Manager attended the MVCAC Sac Valley Regional meeting via Zoom. The region discussed the MVCAC upcoming Board action items, heard reports from MVCAC committees, CDPH, industry partners, and region districts.

On November 4, 2020, the District held its biannual management meeting. District management reviewed the past season, the upcoming offseason tasks, and evaluated what needs tweaking and/or improving. Also, on this date, the District Manager hosted his 13th Annual Employee Appreciation Lunch. This lunch is purchased, prepared, and cooked by the District Manager and his wife.

On November 5, 2020, the District Manager attended the MVCAC Fall Quarterly meeting remotely as well as the Butte LAFCo meeting. The District Manager provided a verbal report on both meetings. Also, on this date, the District management and Entomologist conducted an interview with a potential candidate for the District's Vector Ecologist / Fish Biologist position.

The District will be closed on Thursday, November 12, 2020, in observation of Veteran's Day.

Currently, the District is still following all the procedures, protocols, and worker protection policies reported to the Board in April. The District offices are still closed to the public, but have 11 locations to pick up mosquitofish, answering any and all service requests, and providing all services as normal. District continues to be on good supply of personal protective equipment and sanitization products.

The District Manager continues to follow the Butte County Public Health Department's Public Health Officer's guidance and recommendations and is monitoring the Governor's daily press conferences. The District received detailed guidance for employers regarding COVID-19 infections and exposures. The District's current procedures and policies are in place to minimize the loss of the District's workforce.

The District has experienced employees missing work due to isolation/quarantine orders as well as COVID positive case(s). Due to the District's proper practices such as masks, sanitization efforts, and social distancing, no other employees have missed work due to workplace exposures as of October 14, 2020.

The Board discussed COVID-19 moving forward, considerations such as the December Board meeting, District office closure, and employee worker protection policies. The consensus of the Board was to keep the District offices closed to the public, to continue to operate under the procedures and policies that have been followed the past eight months, and to continue to host the Board meetings remotely. The District will reassess these procedures next month.

7.3 Under item 7.3 of reports, the District Manager reported that the District's New Jersey light traps and gravid traps have continued catching mosquitoes. Currently, *Culex pipiens* and *Culex tarsalis* populations are slightly higher than this time last year. Sentinel chickens 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 November 3, 2020, 486 pools have been submitted for testing. This is record high for the District. The sentinel chickens are having sera samples taken biweekly. Yellow jacket surveillance continues.

The District discovered *Aedes aegypti* for the first time in Oroville on October 28, 2020. The discovery was an adult female collected in a gravid trap in the area of Oro Dam Blvd and Feather River Blvd. Another adult female was collected in the area of Robinson Street and Bird Street in a gravid trap. During the meeting the District Manager and Entomologist provided an update of surveillance, control, and public education and outreach conducted.

West Nile virus (WNV) activity has not increased within Butte County over the past month. The District has maintained at 28 positive mosquito pools, 4 dead birds, 23 sentinel chickens, confirmation of 4 human infection, and 1 horse. WNV activity has been detected in the state and has increased over the past month.

The District's four indoor fish tanks are operational. Currently, three tanks are working as rearing tanks with another tank holding the fry from the fry producing tanks. Tank stocks will continue to increase now that fish are available. The District's Entomologist and future Vector Ecologist / Fish Biologist will continue to test the tanks for optimal production. The public fish tanks were pulled on October 20, 2020. The ponds have a significant amount of fish and the pond that was reconstructed during the offseason continues to produce fish.

Mosquito and Vector Control Specialists (Specialists) have continued with mosquito surveillance and control operations in man-made containers, storm drains, retention ponds and other urban sources. Camp Fire surveillance and control continues. Countless burnt properties have yielded many mosquito-breeding sources with an abundance of larvae. Surveillance and control of mosquitoes within rice, other agricultural sources, and managed wetlands has continued and a large number of acres have been treated. Managed wetland Fall flood-up continues with many acres being flooded. Reflooded rice field inspections and treatments have continued. Service requests for inspections, fish, and treatments have decreased over the past month.

Aerial operations have been extremely busy to date. As of November 4, 2020, 714Y has treated 9,980.29 acres of managed wetlands. This is a new annual record. The acreage at this time last year was 9,094.0 acres. 6633K has treated 42,847.07 acres of rice. The acreage at this time last year was 32,601 acres. 606Y has treated 92,176.15 acres. Last year at this time, 606Y had treated 99,946 acres.

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. All public events scheduled for the months of March through September were cancelled due to COVID-19. All the District public service announcements began on May 1,

2020, and ran on radio and television through September. The District's billboards ran through the end of September.

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 7.1 of policy matters, the Board was asked to consider renewing membership with the California Special Districts Association (CSDA). CSDA's dues structure is based on an agencies/district's operating revenue. The dues for operating revenue between \$2.0 million and \$5.0 million is \$7,253.00 annually. The District rejoined the CSDA in April of 2017. It was then moved by Member Kirk, seconded by Member Ostling, and passed unanimously with a vote of 9 ayes (Andoe, Barth, Beck, Johnson, Kirk, Ostling, Schuster, Sheppard, and Starkey) and 0 nays to renew with CSDA.
- 8.2 Under item 8.2 of policy matters, the Board was asked to consider approving and adopting Resolution No. 20-12, a Resolution of Appreciation for Meritorious Service to the Citizens of Butte County and Hamilton City for Eric Gohre. It was then moved by Member Schuster, seconded by Member Sheppard, and passed unanimously with a vote of 9 ayes (Andoe, Beck, Barth, Johnson, Kirk, Ostling, Schuster, Sheppard, and Starkey) and 0 nays to approve and adopt Resolution No. 20-12.
9. Under topic of the month, Entomologist, Amanda Bradford provided a report on Pyriproxyfen and In2Care mosquito traps.
10. After reviewing the demands made upon the District for the past month it was then moved by Member Barth, seconded by Member Ostling, and passed unanimously to authorize checks numbered 48502 through 48582 be signed and distributed. Expenditures for the month totaled \$189,731.87.
11. Under personnel, the District Manager reported that the remaining seasonal employees were laid off on October 15, 2020. On October 16, 2020, the District's Entomologist, Eric Gohre passed away. On October 22, 2020, Amanda Bradford was promoted from Vector Ecologist / Fish Biologist to Entomologist II. The District opened and posted an open position for Vector Ecologist / Fish Biologist on October 22, 2020. On November 5, 2020, management staff and the Entomologist interviewed a candidate for the Vector Ecologist / Fish Biologist and the position was offered. Applicant Ryan Rothenwander accepted the position of Vector Ecologist / Fish Biologist, passed all District pre-employment requirements, and his first day will be December 7, 2020.
12. Under correspondence, the Board received the District's holiday schedule for 2021.
13. No other business to report.
14. No persons wishing to address the Board pertaining to closed session matters.
15. No closed session items.
16. President Beck announced adjournment at 4:45 PM and concluded by stating that the next regular meeting of the BCMVCD Board of Trustees would meet at 4:00 PM on December 9, 2020, via Zoom.

Approved as written by the Board of Trustees meeting held December 9, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

James "Bo" Sheppard,
Secretary