

Regular Minutes of the Board of Trustees of the Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District Meeting held October 9, 2024

Members Present: Bruce Johnson, Darlene Fredericks, Andy Haymond, Dr. Larry Kirk, Philip LaRocca, Secretary Melissa Schuster, Eric Smith, Carl Starkey, and President Bo Sheppard.

Members Excused: Steve Ostling.

Members Absent: None.

Also Present: District Manager Matt Ball, Assistant Manager Aaron Lumsden, Administrative 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 was held on October 9, 2024, at 444 Otterson Drive, Chico, CA 95928.
2. The October 9, 2024, Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 4:00 PM by President Sheppard.
3. Seeing and hearing no persons wishing to address the Board on items not on the agenda, President Sheppard proceeded to request approval of the minutes.
4. After review, it was then moved by Member Smith, seconded by Member Starkey, and passed unanimously with a vote of 8 ayes and 0 nays to approve the minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting held September 11, 2024, as written, with Member Schuster abstaining due to her excused absence.
5. No persons wishing to address the Board on closed session matters.
6. No closed session matters needing legal counsel.
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 12, 2024, the District completed the monthly management meeting, staff meeting, and all vehicle inspections. The District's Safety Committee held their monthly meeting as well as management. Also on this date, District management attended an Employer/Employee law workshop provided by Interwest Insurance Company. District management also met with representatives of Leading Edge and Associates to discuss the future of MapVision 3.0 and a timeline for when the District can expect to go live.

On September 13, 2024, the District Manager attended the biweekly Legislative Regulatory Committee call. MVCAC lobbyists and committee members reviewed legislation and current regulatory issues throughout the state.

On September 17, 2024, the District Manager met with a representative of Valent Biosciences to discuss product efficacy and self-life. Valent Biosciences will return for a meeting in October. Also on this date, the District Manager met with several jurors of the 2024/2025 Butte County Grand Jury. The District Manager provided a verbal report on the history, funding, and operations of the District and provided a tour.

On September 24, 2024, the District Manager met with representatives of Clarke Mosquito Control. Nancy Vorhees is retiring, and the District Manager met the new sales representative from Clarke. The meeting also discussed product availability, pricing, and projections.

On October 3, 2024, the District Manager met with the employees of the District and presented the proposal as authorized by the Board of Trustees at the September 11, 2024, regular meeting of the Board of Trustees. It was reported that the majority of the employees had already signed and that the MOU is now ratified.

On October 7, 2024, the District Manager met with representatives and management of Valent Biosciences to discuss past and future orders, product availability and pricing, and projections for the upcoming year. Also on this date, the District Manager met with representatives of Azelis to discuss product availability, pricing, and projections.

On October 8, 2024, District management attended the Sac Valley Region meeting to discuss the upcoming MVCAC Board meeting, MVCAC action items, and to hear reports from MVCD districts, MVCAC committees, industry, AMCA, VCJPA, and CDPH.

7.2 Under item 7.2 of reports, the Assistant Manager reported that the District's New Jersey light traps have continued catching mosquitoes. *Culex pipiens*, *Culex tarsalis*, and *Aedes melanimon* populations are higher than the previous year at this time. *Anopheles freeborni* populations have nosedived and are on par with the previous year at this time. Sentinel chickens sera 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 2nd, 2024, 408 pools have been submitted; with 70 of those pools being positive. Also, *Aedes aegypti* has been detected in Chico, Oroville, Hamilton City, Thermalito, Biggs, and Gridley. The Assistant Manager provided a brief report on management's future plans of surveillance and treatments in the high-density areas with *Aedes aegypti* as well as the District Manager explained the District's challenges with this specific mosquito because of its breeding sources.

West Nile virus (WNV) activity has increased within the District's service area with a total of 11 positive humans, 4 dead birds, 70 positive pools, and 27 positive chickens. WNV has been identified in 63 humans, 474 dead birds, 1,835 mosquito pools, 139 chickens, and 6 horses in California to date, all of which are down from last year at this point.

The District's four indoor fish tanks are fully operational and continue to produce fry. The District's outdoor fish ponds have continued to produce high amounts of fish as they begin to slow down for fall and winter. The public tanks will remain in the field for now.

Mosquito and Vector Control Specialists have continued with mosquito surveillance and treatments in rock pits, dredger pits, flood water areas, agricultural, ditches, drains and urban sources. Service requests for inspections, fish, and treatments have decreased over the past month with a total of 407 taken in the month of September.

As of October 2nd, the District has treated 11,734 acres of wetlands; compared to 11,489 acres at this time last year. The District has treated 47,966 acres of rice this year, compared to 54,944 acres at this time last year. The District has made 20 ULV adulticide treatments thus far, compared to 20 ULV adulticide treatments at this time last year.

The Public Relations Department is reviewing and updating (as needed) the District's website, brochures, photo and video files, and other informational documents. The District public service announcements continued to run through the end of September. The District also attended the Salmon Festival in Oroville on September 28th.

7.3 Under item 7.3 of reports, 2024/2025 1st Quarter Fiscal Reports, the Administrative Manager reported that salaries and benefits category is 33.6% expended, services and supplies category is 69.4% expended, capital outlay category is 16.7%. It was then stated that overall expenditures are currently at 44.7% expended and current revenues are at 11.7% received.

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

7.5 Under item 7.5 of reports, the District Manager reported that Member Starkey has a term expiring December 31, 2024, and was asked if reappointment was desired. Member Starkey signified a desire to be reappointed. District staff will send reminder letters to the respective appointing body.

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

8. Policy matters (8.1 – 8.4)

8.1 Under item 8.1 of policy matters, the Board was asked to consider an MOU with Golden State Risk Management Authority (GSMRA). GSMRA's Board approved final amendments to the GSRMA Health MOU and directed staff to distribute to Members for execution. It was then moved by Member Schuster, seconded by Member Johnson, and passed unanimously with a vote of 9 ayes and 0 nays to approve the MOU with Golden State Risk Management Authority.

8.2 Under item 8.2 of policy matters, the Board was asked to consider amendments to Personnel Policy, Policy 7075, Workers Compensation. These amendments were recommended by the District's legal counsel. It was then moved by Member Kirk, seconded by Member Smith, and passed unanimously with a vote of 9 ayes and 0 nays to approve amendments to Personnel Policy, Policy 7075, Workers Compensation.

8.3 Under item 8.2 of policy matters, the Board was asked to consider amendments to Personnel Policy, Policy 7045, California Family Rights Act (CFRA) Leave. These amendments were recommended by the District's legal counsel. It was then moved by Member LaRocca, seconded by Member Fredericks, and passed unanimously with a vote of 9 ayes and 0 nays to approve amendments to Personnel Policy 7045, California Family Rights Act (CFRA) Leave.

- 8.4 Under item 8.3 of policy matters, the Board was asked to consider amendments to Personnel Policy, Policy 7085, Health Benefit Plan. These amendments were recommended by the District's legal counsel. It was then moved by Member Schuster, seconded by Member Starkey, and passed unanimously with a vote of 9 ayes and 0 nays to approve amendments to Personnel Policy 7085, Health Benefit Plan.
9. Under topic of the month, the District's Entomologist gave a presentation on Oropouche Virus.
10. After reviewing the demands made upon the District for the past month, it was then moved by Member Johnson, seconded by Member Kirk, and passed unanimously with a vote of 9 ayes 0 nays to authorize checks numbered 54469 through 54606 be signed and distributed. Expenditures for the month totaled \$697,425,86.
11. Under personnel to report, the District Manager reported that all seasonal employees were laid off on September 26, 2024.
12. No items of correspondence to report.
13. No other business to report.
14. No persons wishing to address the Board pertaining to closed session matters.
15. No closed session matters warranting legal counsel.
16. President Sheppard announced adjournment at 5:06 PM and concluded by stating that the next regular meeting of the BCMVCD Board of Trustees would meet at 4:00 PM on November 13, 2024, at the Chico Substation's Board Room at 444 Otterson Drive, Chico, CA 95928.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Schuster,
Secretary