

Regular Minutes of the Board of Trustees of the Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District Meeting held November 10, 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, Entomologist Amanda Bradford, and Vector Ecologist/ Fish Biologist Ryan Rothenwander.

1. The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District held on November 10, 2021, at 444 Otterson Drive, Chico, CA 95928.
2. The November 10, 2021, Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 4:09 PM by President Beck.
3. Seeing and hearing no persons wishing to address the Board on items not on the agenda, President Beck proceeded to request approval of the minutes.
4. After review, it was then moved by Member Kirk, seconded by Member Starkey, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting held October 13, 2021, as written.
5. No persons wishing to address the Board on closed session matters.
6. No closed session matters.
7. Reports (7.1 – 7.2)
- 7.1 Under item 7.1 of reports, District Manager's Report, the District Manager reported that on October 14, 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 met with all staff and presented and explained the District's proposal.

On October 15, 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 October 18, 2021, the District Manager and Assistant Manager attended a meeting with Matson and Isom to discuss the company's annual performance and to provide updates on ongoing projects.

On October 19 and 20, 2021, District management interviewed applicants for the open Mosquito and Vector Control Specialist position.

On October 21, 2021, the District Manager attended via Zoom the Sac Valley Region meeting. The region discussed MVCAC Board action items, SIT, heard reports from MVCAC committees, other agencies, vendors, and Sac Valley Region districts. The District Manager met with representatives from Valent BioSciences to discuss new products in development, pricing, and to review the services provided during the past mosquito season.

On October 25, 2021, the District Manager and Assistant Manager attended a meeting with Matson and Isom to discuss current projects. Also, on this date, the District received confirmation that the California State Board of Equalization Boundary Change was approved, and the District was provided the acknowledgement form. This concludes OMAD's dissolution and annexation of OMAD's existing service area being incorporated to BCMVCD.

On October 26 and 27, 2021, the District Manager attended remotely the MVCAC Fall Quarterly meeting. During the meeting the District Manager attended various MVCAC Committee meetings, reported for the Legislative Committee, and the MVCAC Board meeting.

On November 2, 2021, the District had an above ground storage tank inspection. The District is amending its spill prevention control plan pursuant to Butte County Environmental Health's requirements. As of the Board meeting, the District passed its inspection.

On November 4, 2021, the District Manager was a guest lecturer for California State University, Chico, for the Butte County Public Health Director's Environmental Health class.

On November 9, 2021, all licensed District personnel attended a MVCAC Coastal continuing education session.

The District Manager reminded the Board that the District will be closed on November 11, 2021, in observance of Veteran's Day.

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. Gravid traps were pulled on November 8, 2021, and light traps were pulled on November 10, 2021. Sentinel chicken samples were taken through November 10, 2021. CO2 trapping has continued and traps are being deployed routinely. As of November 2, 2021, 436 pools (record submission) have been submitted for testing. The mosquito surveillance season is over as of now.

The District Manager 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 Manager 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 27 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 10,000 fry were produced in October, a greater than 2,000 fry increase from September. 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 pulled for the season. The public can still request fish and/or visit the District offices.

Mosquito and Vector Control Specialists (Specialists) have continued with fall surveillance and control operations. A third round of storm drain treatment has been completed. Agricultural, managed wetlands, ditches, drains, and pasture inspections and treatments continued through October. 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 November 3, 2021, 714Y has treated 8,550 acres of managed wetlands. The acreage at this time last year was 9,027 acres. 6633K has treated 41,110 acres of rice. The acreage at this time last year was 43,404 acres. 606Y has made 19 ULV adulticide treatments this year. Last year at this time, 606Y had made 12 ULV treatments.

The Public Relations (PR) Department season for the most part is over. The PR Department will be releasing a press release soon when tick activity commences. 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 continued leaving door hangers in the area where the invasive mosquitoes were collected.

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

8. Policy matters (8.1 – 8.5)

8.1 Under item 8.1 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 are \$7,615.00 annually. The District rejoined the CSDA in April of 2017. It was moved by Member Sheppard, seconded by Member Schuster, and passed unanimously with a vote of 9 ayes 0 nays to renew membership with the California Special Districts Association (CSDA).

8.2 Under item 8.2 of policy matters, the Board was asked to consider approving and adopting Resolution No. 21-11, a Resolution Approving Revisions to the Early Retirement Incentive Program. It was then moved by Member Barth, seconded by Member Ostling, and passed unanimously with a vote of 9 ayes 0 nays to approve Resolution No. 21-11, a Resolution Approving Revisions to the Early Retirement Incentive Program.

8.3 Under item 8.3 of policy matters, the Board was asked to consider approving an application for the Early Retirement Incentive Program. The District Manager confirmed that the eligibility requirements have been met. It was then moved by Member Kirk, seconded by Member Barth, and

passed unanimously with a vote of 9 ayes 0 nays to approve an application for the Early Retirement Incentive Program for Ms. Vice.

- 8.4 Under item 8.4 of policy matters, the Board was asked to consider amendments to Personnel Policy, Policy 7020, Vacations. The amendments were discussed at the October 13, 2021, Board meeting and shared with District staff on October 14, 2021. It was then moved by Member Sheppard, seconded by Member Ostling, and passed unanimously with a vote of 9 ayes 0 nays to approve amendments to Personnel Policy, Policy 7020, Vacations to go into effect January 1, 2022.
- 8.5 Under item 8.5 of policy matters, the Board was asked to consider amendments to Personnel Policy, Policy 7040, Sick Leave. The amendments were discussed at the October 13, 2021, Board meeting, shared with District staff on October 14, 2021, and 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 0 nays to approve amendments to Personnel Policy, Policy 7040, Sick Leave to go into effect January 1, 2022.
9. Under topic of the month, the District's Vector Ecologist/Fish Biologist reported on the current status of the District's aquaculture program
10. After reviewing the demands made upon the District for the past month, it was then moved by Member Schuster, seconded by Member LaRocca, and passed unanimously to authorize checks numbered 50043 through 50158 and 50183 be signed and distributed. Expenditures for the month totaled \$205,560.98.
11. Under personnel, the District Manager reported that Jeremy Edwards was conditionally offered the position of Mosquito and Vector Control Specialist on October 21, 2021 and will commence employment on November 15, 2021, pending approval of all the District's preemployment requirements being met.
12. Under correspondence, the Board reviewed and acknowledged receipt from the California State Board of Equalization and the District's 2022 Holiday schedule.
13. No other business to report.
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, the District Manager informed the Board that 12 of 16 non-management employees had signed the proposal and that the District Manager and Assistant Manager were heavily in favor of the proposal making 14 of 18. With the majority pleased with the Board's offer, the Board then agreed to not go into closed session and it was then moved by Member Barth, seconded by Member Ostling, and passed unanimously with a vote of 9 ayes 0 nays to make the Board's offer the last, best, and final and directed the District Manager to ratify the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).
16. President Beck announced adjournment at 4:54 PM and concluded by stating that the next regular meeting of the BCMVCD Board of Trustees would meet at 4:00 PM on December 8, 2021, at the Chico Substation's Board Room at 444 Otterson Drive, Chico, CA 95928.

Respectfully submitted,

James "Bo" Sheppard,
Secretary