

Regular Minutes of the Board of Trustees of the Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District Meeting held May 8, 2024

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

Members Excused: Carl Starkey.

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 held on May 8, 2024, at 444 Otterson Drive, Chico, CA 95928.
2. The May 8, 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. On items not on the agenda, the District Manager asked the Board if the Administrative Manager could begin opening the vehicle bids in preparation for item 8.4. The District Manager also reported that he, the Assistant Manager, and President Sheppard visited former President Beck to present him with his Resolution and plaque. Seeing and hearing no other 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 Kirk, seconded by Member Ostling, and passed unanimously with a vote of 9 ayes and 0 nays with Member LaRocca, Member Schuster, and Member Smith abstaining due to their excused absence to approve the minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting held April 10, 2024, as written.
5. No persons wishing to address the Board on closed session matters.
6. No closed session matters needing legal counsel.
7. Reports (7.1 - 7.2)
- 7.1 Under item 7.1 of reports, District Manager's Report, the District Manager reported that on April 11, 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 the Oroville Building Review Committee meeting where the District's vehicle shed expansion project was approved.

On April 12, 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 April 16, 2024, District management and administrative staff attended a weekly meeting with Leading Edge and Associates to review the status of MapVision 3.0 and to discuss the needs still needing to be completed on the project. Also on this date, District staff met with a prospective pilot.

On April 17, 2024, District management attended a CalOSHA workshop as well as attended the Sac Valley Region meeting.

On April 18, 2024, the District Manager attended the MVCAC Budget meeting. The MVCAC is proposing a deficit budget.

On April 22, 2024, District management attended a webinar on Initiative 1935 provided by CSDA free of charge.

On April 23, 2024, District management and administrative staff attended a weekly meeting with Leading Edge and Associates to review the status of MapVision 3.0 and to discuss the needs still needing to be completed on the project.

On April 24, 2024, the District management met with representatives of UC Davis and Bird Haven Ranch to discuss the ongoing project at the Bird Haven Ranch. This multi-year study is on year three.

On April 25, 2024, the District Manager met with representatives of Central Life Sciences to discuss products, pricing, and availability. The District Manager also attended the MVCAC Spring Board meeting.

On April 29, 2024, the District gas tank was fixed and the three-year SB 989 testing was completed.

On April 30, 2024, District management and administrative staff attended a weekly meeting with Leading Edge and Associates to review the status of MapVision 3.0 and to discuss the needs still needing to be completed on the project.

On May 2, 2024, District management met with the District's auditor to begin the interim audit requirements for fiscal year ending 6/30/2024. The Board President reported he was interviewed by the District's auditor and part of the annual audit. He informed the Board that if they ever needed to speak with the auditor, they could ask the District for his contact information.

The District Manager provided a report regarding the District's aerial operations and provided a summary of what District management has done, looking into, and plans for the upcoming season. The District Manager informed the Board that they have been performing interviews for a potential journeymen or apprentice pilot.

- 7.2 Under item 7.2 of reports, the Assistant Manager reported that tick surveillance has continued for the season. A total of 34 tick pools have been submitted for testing and an additional 30 submitted today, with 0 pools testing positive for the presence of *B. burgdorferi*, 4 pools testing positive for the presence of *B. miyamotoi*, and 1 pool testing positive for the presence of *Anaplasma phagocytophilum*. Areas where pools were collected include Bidwell Park, Lime Saddle, Lake Wyandotte, and Loafer Creek. The District's New Jersey light traps were placed and operational on April 16th. The District's gravid traps were placed and started operating on April 15th. The sentinel chickens arrived and were placed in their coops on April 25th. CO2 trapping will commence in the upcoming weeks.

No West Nile virus (WNV) activity has been reported within the District's service area in 2024. WNV has been identified in 1 mosquito pool and 14 dead birds in California to date.

The District's four indoor fish tanks continue to operate normally and produced 25,303 fry for the month of April. The Vector Ecologist / Fish Biologist is maintaining the stock in each rearing tank and is preparing to conduct annual maintenance on the system as soon as our ponds are fully operational for the year. The District will be looking to place sentinel fish tanks into the field towards the end of May and into June. The timing will depend on the production of the District's fish ponds.

Mosquito and Vector Control Specialists (Specialists) have continued with winter/spring mosquito surveillance and treatments in rock pits, dredger pits, flood water areas, agricultural, ditches, drains and urban sources. Specialists have also continued with annual training, calibration, maintenance, required annual reading, and winter compound projects. Service requests for inspections, fish, and treatments have increased, with a total of 69 requests taken over the past month.

The District's Air Operations is continuing annual maintenance on the three District aircraft and are on track to be ready as needed.

The Public Relations (PR) Department is currently preparing for the upcoming public relations season. The PR Department continues to review and update (if needed) the District's website, brochures, photo and video files, and other informational documents. Nearly all the District's public service announcements have begun running on newspapers, radio, television, digital advertising, billboards, bus stop shelters, and on buses. The District attended the Chico Home and Garden Show on April 6th and 7th, the Gold Nugget Craft Fair on April 27th and 28th, and is planning to attend the Red Suspenders Day Parade on May 18th.

After this final item of reports, President Sheppard 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 reviewing the Hamilton City Benefit Assessment. It was the recommendation of the District Manager to maintain the current level of service provided to Hamilton City based on previous discussions with a representative from Hamilton City and having no complaints from the residents of Hamilton City. It was then moved by Member Johnson, seconded by Member LaRocca, and passed unanimously with a vote of 9 ayes and 0 nays to continue the same level of service provided to Hamilton City.

- 8.2 Under item 8.2 of policy matters, per the Direction of the Board President, District management drafted Policy 7018. The Board was asked to consider adoption of Personnel Policy, Policy 7018, Paid Administrative Leave. It was then moved by Member Schuster, seconded by Member Sheppard, and passed unanimously with a vote of 9 ayes and 0 nays to adopt Personnel Policy, Policy 7018, Paid Administrative Leave.
- 8.3 Under item 8.3 of policy matters, the Board was asked to consider amendments to Operations Policy, Policy 3060, Disposal of Surplus Property or Equipment. It was then moved by Member LaRocca, seconded by Member Kirk, and passed unanimously with a vote of 9 ayes and 0 nays to amend Operations Policy, Policy 3060, Disposal of Surplus Property or Equipment.
- 8.4 Under item 8.4 of policy matters, the Administrative Manager opened sealed bids for the surplus vehicles. The winning bids were announced; Truck #160, 2007 Ford F150 winning bid \$7,600.00; Truck #166, 2010 Ford F-150 winning bid \$7,200.00; Truck #169, 2011 Dodge Dakota winning bid \$6,777.00; Truck #70, 2010 Dodge Dakota winning bid \$7,627.00. No action taken nor needed.
- 8.5 Under item 8.5 of policy matters, the Board was going to be asked to consider lowering the minimum bid amount for each truck that did not receive bids by May 7, 2024, and to authorize the sale to the highest bidder. All surplus vehicles were sold in item 8.5, no action taken nor needed.
9. Under topic of the month, the District's Entomologist gave a presentation on the biology of yellow jackets.
10. After reviewing the demands made upon the District for the past month, it was then moved by Member Johnson, seconded by Member Haymond, and passed unanimously with a vote of 9 ayes 0 nays to authorize checks numbered 53814 through 53936 be signed and distributed. Expenditures for the month totaled \$541,087.15.
11. No other business to report.
12. Under correspondence, the Board reviewed a letter from Congressman LaMalfa.
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 5:07 PM and concluded by stating that the next regular meeting of the BCMVCD Board of Trustees would meet at 4:00 PM on June 12, 2024, at the Chico Substation's Board Room at 444 Otterson Drive, Chico, CA 95928.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Schuster,
Secretary