

**Regular Minutes of the Board of Trustees of the Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District Meeting held August 11, 2021**

**Members Present:** 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 and Carl Starkey.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Also Present:** District Manager Matt Ball, Assistant Manager Doug Weseman, and Office Manager Maritza Sandoval.

1. The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District held on August 11, 2021, at 444 Otterson Drive, Chico, CA 95928.
2. The August 11, 2021, Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 4:02 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 Johnson, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting held July 14, 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 on July 15, 2021, the District completed the monthly staff meeting and all vehicle inspections. The District's Safety Committee also met on this date. The District reopened its doors to the public and began operating normally after releasing the COVID-19 modified response. The District Manager reminded the Board that the District followed the existing COVID-19 Prevention Program (CPP) until a new revised CPP was required due to CalOSHA's new requirements.

On July 23, 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 July 20, 2021, the District Manager met remotely with a representative from Central Life Sciences to discuss products, availability, and prices.

On July 27, 2021, the District Manager met remotely with representatives of Adapco to discuss products, availability, and prices.

On August 3, 2021, the District Manager and Office Manager attended a free of charge webinar provided by the VCJPA. The webinar covered coping with change and navigating through a pandemic in the workplace.

On August 4, 2021, the District Manager met with a representative of Clarke Mosquito Control to discuss products, availability, and prices.

On August 6, 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.

The District Manager reported, CalPERS returns were higher than projected. OMAD paid its final expenses and soon Butte LAFCo will be able to officially dissolve OMAD and annex the District.

- 7.2 Under item 7.2 of reports, the department reports, the District Manager reported the District's New Jersey light traps and gravid traps have continued catching mosquitoes. *Culex pipiens* populations are somewhat lower than the previous year. *Culex tarsalis* populations are a bit higher than the previous year at this time. Some mosquito species populations have increased over the past month. 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 August 3, 2021, 296 pools have been submitted for testing. The sentinel chickens are having sera samples taken biweekly.

*Aedes aegypti* detections have continued and increased over the past month. Detections for 2021 include, Chico (4 locations), Oroville (2 locations), Thermalito (2 locations), and Gridley (1 location). The District initiated the District's Response Plan for Detection of Invasive Aedes Mosquitoes for each detection. The District Manager advised the Board for a need to revise the response plan in the fall to reflect the number of detections.

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 7 human, 52 mosquito pools, and 8 sentinel chickens with more pending.

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 6,000 fry were produced in July. The Vector Ecologist / Fish Biologist increased 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 August 3, 2021, 714Y has treated 2,839 acres of managed wetlands. The acreage at this time last year was 3,304 acres. 6633K has treated 29,120 acres of rice. The acreage at this time last year was 28,864 acres. As of August 11, 2021, 606Y has made 4 ULV adulticide treatments this year. Last year at this time, 606Y had made 0 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. The District's billboards went up on May 1 as well and will be rotating throughout the county. The District continues to send several 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.

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

8. Policy matters (8.1)

8.1 Under item 8.1 of policy matters, the Board was asked to consider approving the proposed draft of Personnel Policies, Policy #7226, Use of District Social Media. This policy has been reviewed and recommended by the District's legal counsel. After further discussion and review, it was then moved by Member Johnson, seconded by Member Schuster, and passed unanimously with a vote of 7 ayes and 0 nays to approve and adopt Personnel Policies, Policy #7226, Use of District Social Media with a suggested amendment.

9. Under topic of the month, the District Manager provided a report on invasive Aedes activity.

11. After reviewing the demands made upon the District for the past month, it was then moved by Member Schuster, seconded by Member Sheppard, and passed unanimously to authorize checks numbered 49589 through 49753 be signed and distributed. Expenditures for the month totaled \$1,262,459.11.

12. Under personnel, the District Manager reported Beth Vice announced her retirement on July 26, 2021, and will officially retire on November 1, 2021. Beth was the first District employee to be awarded AMCA's Boyd-Ariaz Grass Roots award and served the District for 33 years.

13. No correspondence items to report.

14. No other business to report

15. No persons wishing to address the Board pertaining to closed session matters.

16. No closed session items.

17. President Beck announced adjournment at 5:12 PM and concluded by stating that the next regular meeting of the BCMVCD Board of Trustees would meet at 4:00 PM on September 8, 2021, at the Chico Substation's Board Room at 444 Otterson Drive, Chico, CA 95928.

Approved as written by the Board of Trustees held on September 8, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

James "Bo" Sheppard,  
Secretary