

**Special Meeting Minutes of the Board of Trustees of the Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District Meeting held October 18, 2023**

**Members Present:** Assistant Secretary Bruce Johnson, Michael Barth, Vice President Dr. Larry Kirk, Darlene Fredericks, Philip LaRocca, Chuck Reynolds, Secretary Melissa Schuster, and President Bo Sheppard.

**Members Excused:** Dr. Albert Beck and 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 Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District held on October 18, 2023, at 5117 Larkin Road, Oroville, CA 95965.
2. The October 18, 2023, Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District special 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 Kirk, seconded by Member Johnson, and passed unanimously with a vote of 8 ayes and 0 nays to approve the minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting held September 13, 2023, 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 – 7.4)
- 7.1 Under item 7.1 of Reports, District Manager's Report, the District Manager reported that on September 11, 2023 and October 9, 2023, District management attended the monthly West Nile virus (WNV) task force meeting with Butte County Public Health. The District shared mosquito abundance reports and both agencies discussed WNV season. The District has been releasing press releases as needed for WNV positive mosquitoes, sentinel chickens, and dead birds. BCPH has and will continue to issue all other WNV related press releases.

On September 14, 2023, the District completed the monthly management meeting and staff meeting. The District's Safety Committee held their monthly meeting as well as management.

On September 15, 2023, 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 18, 2023, all vehicle inspections were conducted and completed.

On September 25, 2023, District management attended a virtual meeting with the California State Water Resources Control Board to hear a report on the new vector control NPDES permit process. The District Manager provided the Board with the history of the NPDES permit and current status of the permit process.

On September 28, 2023, District management attended the Sac Valley Regional meeting virtually to discuss MVCAC action items, MVCAC bylaws, hear reports from industry, CDPH, MVCAC committees and other MVCDs. Also on this date, the seasonal lunch and meeting was held.

On October 2, 2023, District management attended a meeting with Leading Edge and Associates to discuss and review drone surveillance and control techniques. Leading Edge provided a free demonstration.

On October 4, 2023, the District Manager attended the MVCAC Fall Quarterly meeting virtually. Topics included finance, bylaws, and reports from committees as well as other business of the MVCAC.

- 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 with 31/38 chickens testing positive for WNV. CO2 trapping has continued and traps are being deployed routinely. Mosquito pools are being submitted for mosquito-borne disease. As of October 3rd, 2023, 483 pools have been submitted; with 69 of those pools being positive. Also, *Aedes aegypti* has been detected a total of 60 times in Chico, 78 times in Oroville, 12 times in Hamilton City, 7 times in Thermalito, 2 times in Biggs, and 1 time in Gridley.

West Nile virus (WNV) activity has increased within the District's service area with a total of 18 positive humans (1 asymptomatic blood donor), 1 positive horse, 2 dead birds, 70 positive pools, and 31 positive chickens. WNV has been identified in 183 humans, 697 dead birds, 4,135 mosquito pools, 163 chickens, and 26 horses in California to date.

The District's four indoor fish tanks are fully operational and produced 6,527 fry in September, and the District's outdoor fish ponds have continued to produce high amounts of fish as they begin to slow down for fall and winter. Also, the District's public fish tanks were taken out of the field on October 5th.

Mosquito and Vector Control Specialists (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 312 taken in the month of September (2,313 for the year).

As of October 3rd, the District has treated 11,489 acres of wetlands; compared to 6,243 acres at this time last year. The District has treated 56,944 acres of rice this year, compared to 56,152 acres at this time last year. The District has made 20 ULV adulticide treatments thus far, compared to 13 ULV adulticide treatments at this time last year.

The Public Relations (PR) Department is reviewing and updating (if needed) the District's website, brochures, photo and video files, and other informational documents. The District public service announcements continue to run on newspapers and television. The District also attended the Salmon Festival in Oroville on September 23rd.

- 7.3 Under item 7.3 of reports, 2023/2024 1st Quarter Fiscal Reports, the Administrative Manager reported that salaries and benefits category is 33.8% expended, services and supplies category is 58.2% expended, capital outlay category is 24.4%. It was then stated that overall expenditures are currently at 41.6% expended and current revenues are at 2.5% 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 Barth, Member Johnson, and Member Reynolds have terms expiring December 31, 2023, and were asked if reappointment was desired. Member Johnson and Member Reynolds signified a desire to be reappointed. District staff will send reminder letters to those Members respective appointing bodies.

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

## 8. Policy Matters (8.1 – 8.2)

- 8.1 Under item 8.1 of Policy Matters, the Board was asked to consider a Capital Expenditure for four (4) new "fleet" 2024 Ford F150 4x4 Super-cab pickup trucks. These items have been budgeted for. After some discussion it was moved by Member Reynolds, seconded by Member Johnson, and passed unanimously with a vote of 8 ayes and 0 nays to approve capital expenditure for four (4) new "fleet" 2024 Ford F150 4x4 Super-cab pickup trucks for a total of \$44,982.82 plus applicable fees.
- 8.2 Under item 8.2 of Policy Matters, the Board was asked to consider a Capital Expenditure for four (4) new "lot" 2022-2024 Ford F150 4x4 Super-cab pickup trucks. After some discussion it was moved by Member Barth, seconded by Member Johnson, and passed unanimously with a vote of 8 ayes and 0 nays to approve capital expenditure for (4) new "lot" 2022-2024 pickup trucks (not specifically Ford made) to not exceed \$45,003.00 with a maximum allowance not to exceed 10% plus applicable taxes and fees.

9. Under topic of the month, the District's Entomologist gave a presentation on biology of *Culiseta inornata*.
10. After reviewing the demands made upon the District for the past month, it was then moved by Member LaRocca, seconded by Member Schuster, and passed unanimously with a vote of 8 ayes 0

nays to authorize checks numbered 52957 through 53093 be signed and distributed. Expenditures for the month totaled \$635,982.51.

11. Under personnel to report, the District Manager reported that all seasonal employees were laid off on September 28, 2023, except for the Lab Technician who voluntarily separated from the District on October 5, 2023.
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 12:41 PM and concluded by stating that the next regular meeting of the BCMVCD Board of Trustees would meet at 4:00 PM on November 8, 2023, at the Oroville Headquarters' Board Room at 5117 Larkin Road, Oroville, CA 95965.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Schuster,  
Secretary