

Regular Minutes of the Board of Trustees of the Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District Meeting held August 9, 2023

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

Members Excused: Dr. Albert Beck and Darlene Fredericks.

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 August 9, 2023, at 444 Otterson Drive, Chico, CA 95928.
2. The August 9, 2023, 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 Kirk, seconded by Member Schuster, and passed unanimously with a vote of 8 ayes and 0 nays to approve the minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting held July 12, 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 – 7.2)
- 7.1 Under item 7.1 of Reports, District Manager's Report, The District Manager reported that on July 13, 2023, the District completed the monthly staff meeting and all vehicle inspections. The District's Safety Committee held their monthly meeting as well as management.

On July 18, 2023, the District Manager met with a representative from Clarke to discuss products, pricing, projections, and product availability.

On July 19, 2023, the District Manager and Administrative Manger gave a presentation to the Oroville Exchange Club. The presentation was a brief overview of the District and Invasive Aedes detections and response.

On July 21, 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 July 25, 2023, District management attended the MVCAC Summer Board meeting virtually. The association discussed items such as a possible dues increase, the dead bird program, received reports from the MVCAC committees, and heard reports from CDPH and industry.

On July 26, 2023, District management attended a meeting with the AB 896 working group to discuss wetland owner communications with member districts, projects underway, a new CDFW wetland incentive program, and the Bird Haven Ranch project.

On August 3, 2023, the District Manager met with a representative from Central Life Sciences to discuss products, pricing, projections, and product availability. Also on this date, the District's auditor performed the preliminary audit for fiscal year 2022/2023. At this time, no major findings were reported. The final audit will be completed remotely, and a final audit report will be presented to the Board by representatives from C J Brown & Company in the fall or winter.

- 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* and *Culex tarsalis* populations are higher than the previous year at this time but are lower than past years. *Anopheles freeborni* has begun to increase over the past month. 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 August 1st, 2023, 349 pools have been submitted; with 24 of those pools being positive. Also, *Aedes aegypti* has been detected a total of 12 times in Chico, 17 times in Oroville, and 5 times in Hamilton City. District continues to follow its Invasive

Mosquitoes Response Plan with door-to-door inspections for new detections and ground larviciding treatments with its WALS (Wide Area Larvicide Spray) sprayer.

West Nile virus (WNV) activity has increased within the District's service area with a total of 24 positive pools and 18 positive sentinel chickens. WNV has been identified in 8 human cases, 147 dead birds, 1,225 mosquito pools, 13 chickens, and 1 horse in California to date. The District received confirmation of its first human case in Butte County this year.

The District's four indoor fish tanks are fully operational and produced 6,223 fry in July. This number is higher than the previous six-month average. The District's outdoor fishponds continue to produce high amounts of fish.

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 increased over the past month.

As of August 1st, the District has treated 6,149 acres of wetlands; compared to 2,253 acres at this time last year. The District has treated 36,496 acres of rice this year, compared to 39,186 acres at this time last year. The District has made 8 ULV adulticide treatments thus far, compared to 2 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, radio, television, and digital advertising. The District Manager and Administrative Manger gave a presentation to the Oroville Exchange Club on a brief overview of the District and Invasive Aedes detections and response.

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 amendments to Personnel Policy, Policy 7005, Hiring Age Limits, Advancement, Promotions, and Probation. After some discussion it was moved by Member Barth, seconded by Member Reynolds, and passed unanimously with a vote of 8 ayes and 0 nays to approve Personnel Policy, Policy 7005, Hiring Age Limits, Advancement, Promotions, and Probation with an edit to remove section 7005.3.
- 8.2 Under item 8.2 of Policy Matters, the Board was asked to consider amendments to Personnel Policy, Policy 7016, Meals and Rest Periods. It was moved by Member LaRocca, seconded by Member Johnson, and passed unanimously with a vote of 8 ayes and 0 nays to approve Personnel Policy, Policy 7016, Meals and Rest Periods as written. The Board brought item 8.2 back for discussion with no action taken and the original motion to stand.
- 8.3 Under item 8.3 of Policy Matters, the Board was asked to consider amendments to Personnel Policy, Policy 7025, Holidays. It was moved by Member Johnson, seconded by Member Kirk, and passed unanimously with a vote of 8 ayes and 0 nays to approve Personnel Policy, Policy 7025, Holidays as written.
- 8.4 Under item 8.4 of Policy Matters, the Board was asked to consider amendments to Personnel Policy, Policy 7040, Sick Leave. It was moved by Member Reynolds, seconded by Member Johnson, and passed unanimously with a vote of 8 ayes and 0 nays to approve Personnel Policy, Policy 7040, Sick Leave as written.
9. Under topic of the month, the District's Entomologist gave a presentation on biology of *Anopheles freeborni*.
10. After reviewing the demands made upon the District for the past month, it was then moved by Member Johnson, seconded by Member Starkey, and passed unanimously with a vote of 8 ayes 0 nays to authorize checks numbered 52676 through 52822 be signed and distributed. Expenditures for the month totaled \$1,234,518.92.
11. No items under personnel to report.
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 4:53 PM and concluded by stating that the next regular meeting of the BCMVCD Board of Trustees would meet at 4:00 PM on September 13, 2023, at the Chico Substation's Board Room at 444 Otterson Drive, Chico, CA 95928.

Approved as written by the Board of Trustees meeting held September 13, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Schuster,
Secretary