

Regular Minutes of the Board of Trustees of the Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District Meeting held October 8, 2025

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

Members Excused: Philip LaRocca 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 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District held on October 8, 2025, at 444 Otterson Drive, Chico, CA 95928.
2. The October 8, 2025, 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 Johnson, seconded by Member Smith and passed unanimously with a vote of 8 ayes and 0 nays to approve the minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting held September 10, 2025, 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 – 7.5)
- 7.1 Under item 7.1 of reports, District Manager's Report, the District Manager reported that on September 11, 2025, the District completed the monthly management meeting, staff meeting, and all vehicle inspections.

On September 12, 2025, the District Manager attended the biweekly Legislative Regulatory Committee call. MVCAC lobbyists and committee members reviewed legislation and current regulatory issues throughout the state. The District Manager provided an update on SB 707 that was signed by the Governor.

On September 16, 2025, District management attended a webinar presented by Holden Law Group on the Corrective Action Pt. II: The Meeting.

On September 17, 2025, District management attended a webinar presented by Beazley Security covering the world of artificial intelligence (AI) and the pro's and con's of utilizing AI in the workplace. The Board had a brief discussion on AI experiences and their knowledge of AI.

On September 18, 2025, District management attended a webinar presented by the VCJPA on Verbal Judo, De-escalation.

On September 23, 2025, District management attended a webinar presented by Holden Law Group on the Conducting Employee Evaluations.

On September 26, 2025, 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 30, 2025, District management attended a webinar presented by Holden Law Group on Managing Employee Time Keeping.

On October 1, 2025, District management attended a webinar presented by Streamline to review ADA compliance with the District's website and to review services to make ADA compliance more accessible.

On October 7, 2025, District management attended a webinar presented by Holden Law Group on Attendance and Leaves.

7.2 Under item 7.2 of reports, the Assistant Manager reported that the New Jersey light traps have continued catching mosquitoes. *Culex pipiens*, and *Culex tarsalis* populations are lower than the previous year at this time. *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. CO2 trapping has continued and traps are being deployed routinely. Mosquito pools are being submitted for mosquito-borne disease. As of September 30th, 447 pools have been submitted; with 28 of those pools being positive. Also, *Aedes aegypti* continues to be detected in Chico, Oroville, Hamilton City, Thermalito, Biggs, Gridley, and Paradise.

West Nile virus (WNV) activity has increased within the District's service area with a total of 3 positive humans, 28 positive pools, and 14 positive chickens. WNV has been identified in 47 humans, 138 dead birds, 2,500 mosquito pools, 49 chickens, and 4 horses in California to date. All WNV indicators are down from last year.

The District's four indoor fish tanks are fully operational and are continuing to produce fry. The District's outdoor fish ponds have continued to produce high amounts of fish as they begin to slow down for fall and winter.

Mosquito and Vector Control 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 573 taken in the month of September, and a grand total of 2,970 for the year.

As of September 30th, the District has treated 12,503 acres of wetlands; compared to 11,734 acres at this time last year. The District has treated 83,929 acres of rice this year, compared to 47,734 acres at this time last year. The District has made 9 ULV adulticide treatments thus far, compared to 20 ULV adulticide treatments at this time last year.

The District's Public Relations (PR) Department is reviewing and updating the District's website, brochures, photo and video files, and other informational documents. The District public service announcements continued to run through the end of September. The District also attended the Salmon Festival in Oroville on September 28th.

7.3 Under item 7.3 of reports, 2025/2026 1st Quarter Fiscal Reports, the Administrative Manager reported that current revenues are at 5.2% received, salaries and benefits category is 34.5% expended, services and supplies category is 68.4% expended, capital outlay category is 56.6% with overall expenditures currently at 48.4% expended.

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 Haymond, Member Fredericks, Member Kirk, and Member Smith have a term expiring December 31, 2025, and were asked if reappointment was desired. All Members signified a desire to be reappointed. District staff will send reminder letters to the respective appointing body.

After this final item of reports, President Sheppard 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 a capital expenditure to rebuild three (3) R985 radial engine cores from Younkin Aviation Inc. The three cores are District owned and have maxed out the flight hours per FAA requirements. The District Manager explained the reasoning and urgency for the requested expenditure and informed the Board of the time frame. He explained that the expense would not be in the current fiscal year due to the wait time. Younkin Aviation Inc has stated that they were 20 months out for the first engine and 3 to 6 months for each additional engine. It was stated that it was possible that work could be completed and paid in multiple fiscal years. After some discussion, it was moved by Member Ostling, and seconded by Member Schuster, and passed unanimously with a vote of 8 ayes and 0 nays to rebuild three (3) R985 radial engine cores from Younkin Aviation Inc, not to exceed \$97,000.00 per engine.

9. Under topic of the month, the District's Entomologist gave a presentation on WALs treatments.

10. After reviewing the demands made upon the District for the past month, it was then moved by Member Johnson, seconded by Member Smith, and passed unanimously with a vote of 8 ayes 0 nays to authorize checks numbered 56051 through 56182 be signed and distributed. Expenditures for the month totaled \$69,7175.98.

11. Under personnel, the District Manager informed the Board that one seasonal voluntarily separated employment with the District on September 18, 2025, another on September 25, 2025, and all remaining seasonal employees were laid off on October 2, 2025.
12. No items of correspondence to report.
13. Under other business, the Administrative Manager opened the sealed bids for the surplus vehicle. The winning bid was announced for vehicle #171, a 2011 Chevrolet Equinox in the amount of \$4,000.00. No action taken nor needed.
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 5:03 PM and concluded by stating that the next regular meeting of the BCMVCD Board of Trustees would meet at 4:00 PM on November 12, 2025, at the Chico Substation's Board Room at 444 Otterson Drive, Chico, CA 95928.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Schuster,
Secretary