

Regular Minutes of the Board of Trustees of the Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District Meeting held June 14, 2023

Members Present: Michael Barth, Darlene Fredericks, Assistant Secretary Bruce Johnson, Vice President Dr. Larry Kirk, Philip LaRocca, Carl Starkey, and President Bo Sheppard.

Members Excused: Dr. Albert Beck and Secretary Melissa Schuster.

Members Absent: Chuck Reynolds.

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 June 14, 2023, at 444 Otterson Drive, Chico, CA 95928.
2. The June 14, 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 Fredericks, and passed unanimously with a vote of 7 ayes and 0 nays to approve the minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting held May 10, 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 May 11, 2023, the District completed the monthly staff meeting and all vehicle inspections. The District's Safety Committee met on this date.

On May 12, 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. Special districts have been amended out of the legislation that would have required the District to change website address to .gov or .ca.gov.

On May 17, 2023, District management met virtually with representatives of Streamline to review the District's website that is transferring to Streamline.

On May 18, 2023, District management met with Streamline to review the process of transitioning the District's website to Streamline's services.

On May 30, 2023, District management met with representatives of Leading Edge and Associates to discuss the gap analysis between MapVision 2.0 and MapVision 3.0. Also on this date, all District seasonal staff started working for the District.

On May 31, 2023, District management met with Streamline to review the process of transitioning the District's website to Streamline's services.

On June 1, 2023, topographical engineers and electrical engineers conducted site assessment surveys working for Russel Galloway and Associates which was a requirement to start on the plans of the District's building expansion project.

On June 5, 2023, District management met with representatives from Azelis and AMVAC to discuss products, prices, and inventories.

On June 6, 2023, District management met with representatives of Birdhaven Ranch to discuss the current study, discuss flooding schedules, and to review the past seasons project highlights.

On June 8, 2023, District management met with Streamline to review the process of transitioning the District's website to Streamline's services.

On June 12, 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 previewed the upcoming WNV season. The District will be releasing press releases

as needed for WNV positive mosquitoes, sentinel chickens, and dead birds. BCPH will issue all other WNV related press releases.

The District Manager informed the Board that the seasonal staff had commenced employment on May 30, 2023, with seven returning seasonal employees and four new. He also informed the Board that one seasonal had voluntarily quit on June 12, 2023, to seek employment with their prior employer. Management has begun seeking new candidates to hire for the seasonal vacancy.

- 7.2 Under item 7.2 of reports, the Assistant Manager reported that the District's New Jersey light traps have continued catching mosquitoes. According to the graph, *Culex pipiens* populations are slightly lower than the previous year. *Culex tarsalis* populations are similar to the previous year at this time. Most mosquito species populations have increased 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 June 7th, 2023, 23 pools have been submitted. Also, *Aedes aegypti* was detected in Chico on May 30th.

No West Nile virus (WNV) activity has been reported within the District's service area in 2023. WNV has been identified in 14 mosquito pools and 5 dead bird in California to date.

The District's four indoor fish tanks have been shut down for the season and are undergoing annual maintenance. The District has begun utilizing the outdoor fish ponds and is still working on an effective date to begin sending the fish tanks to the field. The timing is still dependent on the outdoor fish ponds production due to the extended winter, but management is anticipating next week.

Mosquito and Vector Control Specialists (Specialists) have continued with spring/summer 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. Seasonal staff began employment on May 30th and are now deployed in the field.

As of June 7th, the District has treated 1,643 acres of wetlands; compared to 282 acres at this time last year. The District has treated 1,502 acres of rice this year, compared to 682 acres at this time last year. The District has made 1 ULV adulticide treatments thus far, compared to 0 ULV adulticide treatments at this time last year.

The Public Relations (PR) Department is currently busy conducting public relations activities. The PR Department continues to review and update (if needed) the District's website, brochures, photo and video files, and other informational documents. The District is also in the process of transferring service providers and will be giving the District's website an overhaul. The District public service announcements continue to run on newspapers, radio, television, and digital advertising. The District attended Red Suspenders Day Parade on May 20th. The District has conducted multiple news interviews.

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

8. Policy matters (8.1 – 8.7)

- 8.1 Under item 8.1 of policy matters, the Board was asked to consider approving and adopting Resolution No. 23-03 which affirms the District's intent to continue assessments for fiscal year 2023-2024, preliminarily approving the Engineer's Report, and providing for notice of hearing for the Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District, Mosquito, Vector and Disease Control Assessment. It was then moved by Member Johnson, seconded by Member LaRocca, and passed unanimously with a vote of 7 ayes and 0 nays to approve and adopt Resolution No. 23-03 which affirms the District's intent to continue assessments for fiscal year 2023-2024, preliminarily approving the Engineer's Report, and providing for notice of hearing for the Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District, Mosquito, Vector and Disease Control Assessment.
- 8.2 Under item 8.2 of policy matters, the Board was asked to consider approving and adopting Resolution No. 23-04 which affirms the District's compliance with the California Underground Storage Tank Cleanup Fund (USTCF), as provided in 40 CFR 280.107. The District passed the original Resolution affirming compliance with USTCF of May 11, 1994, and amended the current Resolution to comply with SB 1764 on June 12, 1996. It was then moved by Member Barth, seconded by Member Starkey, and passed unanimously with a vote of 7 ayes and 0 nays to approve and adopt Resolution No. 23-04 which affirms the District's compliance with the California Underground Storage Tank Cleanup Fund (USTCF).
- 8.3 Under item 8.3 of policy matters, the Board was asked to consider renewing the annual membership with the Mosquito and Vector Control Association of California (MVCAC) in the

amount of \$11,000.00. MVCAC membership provides the District with legislative advocacy at the State level, continuing education programs, facilitates state certification programs, and coordinates the arbo-virus surveillance program. The District is a MVCAC NPDES Coalition Member which requires MVCDs to be members of the MVCAC. It was then moved by Member Kirk, seconded by President Sheppard, and passed unanimously with a vote of 7 ayes and 0 nays to renew the annual membership with the Mosquito and Vector Control Association of California (MVCAC) in the amount of \$11,000.00.

- 8.4 Under item 8.4 of policy matters, the Board was asked to consider approving a transfer of \$38,000.00 from Accumulated Capital Outlay Reserve to Capital Outlay, Buildings and Improvements, for the initial cost of the new 2,500 gallon above ground storage tank approved by the Board during the April 12, 2023, Board of Trustees meeting. It was then moved by Member Starkey, seconded by Member Fredericks, and passed unanimously with a vote of 7 ayes and 0 nays to approve a transfer of \$38,000.00 from Accumulated Capital Outlay Reserve to Capital Outlay, Buildings and Improvements.
- 8.5 Under item 8.5 of policy matters, the Board was asked to consider approving a transfer of \$90,000.00 from Appropriation for Contingencies to Capital Outlay, Communications, for the initial costs of MapVision 3.0 from Leading Edge and Associates approved by the Board during the May 10, 2023, Board of Trustees meeting. It was then moved by Member Fredericks, seconded by Member Starkey, and passed unanimously with a vote of 7 ayes and 0 nays to transfer of \$90,000.00 from Appropriation for Contingencies to Capital Outlay, Communications.
- 8.6 Under item 8.6 of policy matters, the Board was asked to consider approving a transfer of \$25,000.00 from Appropriations for Contingencies to Salaries and Benefits to cover unanticipated expenses. It was then moved by Member Kirk, seconded by Member LaRocca, and passed unanimously with a vote of 7 ayes and 0 nays to approve a transfer of \$25,000.00 from Appropriations for Contingencies to Salaries and Benefits.
- 8.7 Under item 8.7 of policy matters, the Board was asked to consider approving a capital expenditure for a 2022 or 2023 Ford Explorer XLT. The District Manager explained the need of this capital expenditure and the status of the previously approved capital expenditure for a 2023 Ford Explorer Base 4x4 that was approved during the September 14, 2022, Board meeting. After further discussion, it was then moved by Member LaRocca, seconded by Member Barth, and passed unanimously with a vote of 7 ayes and 0 nays to approve a capital expenditure up to \$50,123.61 to purchase either of the two vehicles with the direction to purchase the cheaper of the two if available.
9. Under topic of the month, the District's Entomologist gave a presentation on biology of *Culex pipiens*.
10. After reviewing the demands made upon the District for the past month, it was then moved by Member Johnson, seconded by Member Fredericks, and passed unanimously with a vote of 7 ayes 0 nays to authorize checks numbered 52404 through 52518 be signed and distributed. Expenditures for the month totaled \$230,212.37.
11. Under personnel, the District Manager reported that seasonally employed personnel commenced employment with the District on May 30th and are expected to remain with the District through the end of September. One seasonal voluntarily quit on June 12, 2023, to seek employment with their prior employer. Management has begun seeking new candidates to hire for the seasonal vacancy. The District promoted Charlie Favilla to Regional Supervisor I on May 23, 2023.
12. No items of correspondence to report.
13. Under other business to report, the District Manager informed the Board that the District had made a \$700,000.00 Additional Discretionary Payment (ADP) to CalPERS toward it's unfunded liability balance with the Administrative Manager explaining the justification and benefits of the payment.
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 July 12, 2023, at the Chico Substation's Board Room at 444 Otterson Drive, Chico, CA 95928.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Schuster,
Secretary