

Regular Minutes of the Board of Trustees of the Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District Meeting held September 10, 2025

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

Members Excused: Secretary Melissa Schuster.

Members Absent: None.

Also Present: District Manager Matt Ball, 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 September 10, 2025, at 444 Otterson Drive, Chico, CA 95928.
2. The September 10, 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 Smith, seconded by Member Kirk and passed unanimously with a vote of 8 ayes and 0 nays to approve the minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting held August 13, 2025, as written with Member Starkey abstaining due to his excused absence.
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 August 14, 2025, the District completed the monthly management meeting, staff meeting, and all vehicle inspections. Also on this date, the District Manager and Member Schuster attended the Paradise Town Council Special Meeting to listen to and report on the Town of Paradise's sewer plan.

On August 15, 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 August 26, 2025, District management and administrative staff attended a webinar presented by the VCJPA on Employer/Employee Interactive Process as well as attended a webinar presented by Holden Law Group on Leading by Example.

On August 28, 2025, District management staff attended a training webinar provided by Interwest Insurance on Workers' Compensation.

On August 29, 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 remained open and served the public on September 1, 2025 (Labor Day). Nearly all employees volunteered to work on the holiday.

On September 2, 2025, District management attended a webinar presented by Holden Law Group on the Five-Steps to Impactful Coaching Conversations.

On September 3, 2025, the District's Safety Committee met to discuss the past month's safety issues and to plan for next month's training.

On September 8, 2025, District management hosted the monthly West Nile virus (WNV) task force meeting with Butte County Public Health attending. The two agencies reviewed mosquito abundance, WNV activity, discussed the roles of both agencies, and discussed public education and outreach. Also on this date, District management attended a webinar presented by CalPERS regarding CalPERS 2024-25 investment returns and employer impacts.

On September 9, 2025, District management attended a webinar presented by Holden Law Group on the Corrective Action Pt. I: The Document.

- 7.2 Under item 7.2 of reports, the District Manager reported that the New Jersey light traps have continued catching mosquitoes. *Culex pipiens* are much higher than last year and *Culex tarsalis* populations are similar to the previous year at this time. *Anopheles freeborni* populations are higher than the previous year. *Aedes* populations are slightly higher than last year and are beginning to rise due to fall flood-up. 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 3rd, 391 pools have been submitted; with 25 of those pools testing positive. *Aedes aegypti* continues to be detected in Oroville, Chico, Thermalito, Hamilton City, Gridley, and Biggs.

West Nile virus (WNV) activity has increased within the District's service area with a total of 2 positive humans, 0 dead birds, 23 positive pools, and 7 positive chickens. The human death due to WNV was a Butte County resident. WNV has been identified in 22 human cases (1 fatal), 111 dead birds, 1,912 mosquito pools, 25 chickens, and 0 horses in California to date.

The District's four indoor fish tanks have been operating as normal in preparation for winter production. For the month of August, the indoor fish tanks produced nearly 13,000 fry. The District's outdoor fish ponds continue to produce high amounts of fish as well.

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 increased with a total of 850 taken for the month of August compared to 541 last year.

As of September 3rd, the District has treated 8,722 acres of wetlands compared to 8,450 acres at this time last year. The District has treated 79,739 acres of rice this year, compared to 45,967 acres at this time last year. This is a record for acres of rice treated. The previous record was just over 66,000. The District has made 6 ULV adulticide treatments thus far, compared to 0 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 continue to run on newspapers, radio, television, digital advertising, billboards, bus stop shelters, and on buses. On September 27th, the District is planning on attending the Salmon Festival in Oroville.

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 V171, a 2011 Chevrolet Equinox with over 100,000 miles, surplus to need, authorize a minimum bid amount, and authorize management to dispose of via the highest bidder. District management recommended a minimum bid of \$500.00. It was then moved by Member Starkey, seconded by Member Ostling, and passed unanimously with a vote of 9 ayes and 0 nays to adopt amendments to declare V171 surplus to need and authorize a minimum bid amount of \$500.00.
9. Under topic of the month, the District's Entomologist gave a presentation on biology of *Aedes melanimon*.
10. After reviewing the demands made upon the District for the past month, it was then moved by Member Starkey, seconded by Member Johnson, and passed unanimously with a vote of 9 ayes 0 nays to authorize checks numbered 55920 through 56050 be signed and distributed. Expenditures for the month totaled \$531,628.09.
11. Under personnel, the District Manager informed the Board that three seasonal employees separated from the District. Two seasonal employees voluntarily separated and one seasonal employee was terminated.
12. No items of correspondence to report.
13. Under other business, the District manager reminded the Board that four terms are to expire at the end of the year. Trustees with expiring terms showed interest in reappointment.
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 4:41 PM and concluded by stating that the next regular meeting of the BCMVCD Board of Trustees would meet at 4:00 PM on October 8, 2025, at the Chico Substation's Board Room at 444 Otterson Drive, Chico, CA 95928.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Schuster,
Secretary