MINUTES OF THE MARCH 17, 2020
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
SACRAMENTO-YOLO MOSQUITO & VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT

PLACE: 8631 Bond Road, Elk Grove, CA 95624
TIME: 10:00 a.m.

TRUSTEES PRESENT:

Jayna Karpinski-Costa  President  Citrus Heights
Craig Burnett  Vice President  Folsom
Gar House  Secretary  Winters
Christopher Barker  Davis
Raul DeAnda  West Sacramento
Sean Denny  Woodland
Bruce Eldridge  Yolo County
Lyndon Hawkins  Elk Grove
Gar House  Winters
Raymond LaTorre  Sacramento
Susan Maggy  Sacramento County
Robert McGarvey  Rancho Cordova
Marcia Mooney  Galt
Vacant  Isleton

TRUSTEES ABSENT:

LEGAL COUNSEL:

Jennifer Buckman

STAFF PRESENT:

Gary Goodman  Manager
Samer Elkashef  Assistant Manager
Janna McLeod  Administrative Manager
Steve Ramos  Program Coordinator
Marty Scholl  Ecological Management Supervisor
Tony Hedley  Fisheries Supervisor
Luz Robles  Public Information Officer

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by President Jayna Karpinski-Costa.

Roll Call

All Trustees were present; therefore, there was a quorum present. Trustee McGarvey arrived at 10:06am. Trustees Burnett, DeAnda, Mooney, House, Eldridge, Denny and Barker all attended via teleconference. The City of Isleton appointment remains vacant. Legal Counsel Jennifer Buckman also attended the meeting via teleconference.

Pledge of Allegiance

All phones and electronic devices are requested to be silenced during the meeting.
1. ITEMS FOR APPROVAL BY GENERAL CONSENT

Trustee LaTorre noted a correction to the Minutes. He was present at the February meeting, but, his name was not listed as a Trustee who was present. On a motion by Trustee Maggy seconded by Trustee LaTorre, the Board voted to approve General Consent Items a. through c. with the correction to the Minutes as noted. The vote was taken by roll call and the motion passed by the following vote: Ayes: 12, Noes: 0, Absent: 0.

   a. Minutes of the February 18, 2020 Board of Trustees Meeting;
   b. Expenditures for February 2020;
   c. Board Consideration of Surplus District Property.

2. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

This item is reserved for members of the public who wish to speak on items not on the agenda.

There were none.

3. REPORTS TO THE BOARD

   a. Manager’s Report:

MVCAC Legislative Day was held on March 4th, 2020. Sean Denny and the Manager made visits to our local offices. The MVCAC is very active in pursuing continued funding for the Gateway program along with funding to help support novel techniques in the fight to control aedes populations statewide. We also discussed the current state of mosquito control in California and potential expectations for the upcoming year. A copy of our legislative asks is included in the report. The AMCA annual conference in Portland was cancelled due to the growing concerns regarding COVID-19. It was a difficult decision for the AMCA Board to make, but the health and welfare of our membership during the time of uncertainty surrounding this new virus was the motivating factor. The District has been active in tracking the impact that COVID-19 would have on District operations. We have advised staff to follow all appropriate public health guidelines to help protect against transmission. We will continue to monitor the situation as things change and will follow the advice of those professionals that are responsible for the protection of public health (CDC, CDPH, and local Health Officers). We do not anticipate major interruptions to our operations, and will do our best to continue our work where possible. District staff is working on scheduling interviews to fill current seasonal vacancies within various departments. The seasonal staff will begin in April. The Vector Control Joint Powers Agency (VCJPA) workshop was held in Santa Cruz earlier this month. Janna McLeod attended on behalf of the District. Our VCJPA is in a good financial position overall and the District continues to have minimal claims. The AMCA Washington Conference will be held on May 11-13. Sean Denny and the Manager will represent the District.

   b. Reports from Trustees Attending the MVCAC Annual Conference:

Trustee Christopher Barker attended the MVCAC conference and reported on the presentations he attended. He was particularly interested in the talks and side conversations relating to Aedes mosquitoes and underground sources. Based on what was presented and what other Districts are seeing it has not been conclusively determined if Aedes are breeding or just resting in the water within underground sources. He found Debbie Dritz’s talk on bottle bioassays and ULV treatment results and other discussions on resistance testing encouraging. Products used in combination with different synergists may help to reduce resistance issues previously seen in the field.
c. Reports from Trustees Attending the MVCAC Legislative Day:
Trustee Sean Denny attended the Legislative Day with Manager Goodman. They were able to meet with several officials or their staff. Trustee Denny thought several offices were going to be quick visits to drop off materials and they actually got to meet with the staff. These visits are vital to educating new staff and reminding other staff of what is important to us as well as informing them of any bills that are being supported by mosquito control. Personal visits are more effective with staff than simple mailers or emails.

d. Reports from District Departments: Written reports were provided in the Board packet from each department. Department supervisors gave an oral presentation and were available to answer any questions.

Lab/Surveillance: Laboratory Director, Marcia Reed provided a written report.

Ecological Management: Ecological Management Supervisor, Marty Scholl discussed department activities including Stormwater, Drainages and Planning Program, Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) Program, Wetland Program, and Pool Program. Staff submitted comments to City of West Sacramento and City of Folsom for maintenance projects in their areas. The City of Elk Grove shared ground survey markers with GIS for the District to use to verify the accuracy of our UAS imagery with good results. Staff presented to over 70 wetland managers on the use of UAS for mosquito and vector control over wetland habitats. Staff attended a Waters of the US (WOTUS) workshop with new definitions that will take effect next year. Ten swimming pools have been referred to the Ecological department with six enforcement letters going out to the owners of record.

Biological Control: Fisheries Supervisor, Tony Hedley reported on department activities including projects, facility maintenance, training, fish rearing, movement between ponds and regular tank cleaning activities. Technicians have completed most of the annual training and are now focusing on preparing for moving fish from predatory exclusion ponds to open grow out ponds once overnight temperatures reach a stable 60 degrees or more.

Larval and Adult Control: Program Coordinator, Steve Ramos discussed department activities. Technicians have been responding to service requests and performing the first round of inspections for known swimming pools and spas. Catch Basins are being inspected for larval density and treatments are being made as necessary. Crews have been finishing brush clearing projects and four field technicians were recently hired to fill two vacancies from retirements and two new staff to work on suburban control including service requests for Aedes aegypti.

Public Outreach: Public Information Officer, Luz Robles reported on department activities including the School Program, Advertising, Events, the Fight the Bite Contest, and, Repellent and Materials Distribution. Prior to schools being shut down due to COVID-19 staff and Red Shoe Productions were able to hold 5 of the 6 assemblies that had been planned for schools. Trustee House attended the assembly held in Winters and saw a lot of engagement from the kids who were in attendance. Planning with consultant Benjamin/Luken has begun and will kick off during Mosquito Awareness Week in April. Most events that were planned for April have been cancelled due to the pandemic and this along with school closures may affect the number of entries we may receive for the Fight the Bite Contest. Repellent requests are coming in from various community groups including the City of Galt for an event, and, Harm Reduction Services and Mercy Peddlers who both provide services to the homeless population.
4. BOARD REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF AMCA ANNUAL CONFERENCE FEES

Manager Goodman presented the item and was available to answer questions. AMCA is asking interested members to waive the refund process to help minimize the financial impacts to the association caused by the cancellation of the conference due to COVID-19. On a motion by Trustee Denny seconded by Trustee DeAnda, the Board voted to decline the refund of AMCA Annual Conference Fees totaling $4,490. The vote was taken by roll call and the motion passed by the following vote: Ayes: 12, Noes: 0, Absent: 0.

5. CLOSED SESSION- PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT (Government Code § 54957) – FIELD TECHNICIAN

At 11:00am President Karpinski-Costa adjourned the Regular Meeting to go into the Closed Session for Item 5. The Board returned to Open Session at 11:05 am. The Board reported that it voted to extend the medical leave of absence for Henry Estrada for another 60 days or to the May Board meeting, scheduled for May19, 2020. The vote was taken by roll call and the motion passed by the following vote: Ayes: 12, Noes: 0, Absent: 0.

6. BOARD/STAFF GENERAL DISCUSSION

The planned visit by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has been cancelled.

Manager Goodman was invited to speak at the Arizona Mosquito Control meeting and that has been changed to a webinar due to COVID-19.

The District has and may need to enact the Natural Disaster Leave Policy due to the COVID-19 situation if and/or when applicable.

Form 700 is due by April 1st.

The April Board meeting originally scheduled for April 21st may need to be moved to April 20th due to scheduling conflicts.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:06 am.

I certify that the above minutes substantially reflect the general business and actions taken by the Board of Trustees at the March 17, 2020 meeting.

Gary Goodman, Manager

Approved as written and/or corrected by the Board of Trustees at the April 21, 2020 meeting.

Gar House, Board Secretary