

***Regular Minutes of the Board of Trustees of the Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control  
District Meeting held June 10, 2020***

**Members Present:** Gordon Andoe, President Dr. Albert Beck, Michael Barth, Bruce Johnson, Vice President Dr. Larry Kirk, Philip LaRocca, Steve Ostling, Assistant Secretary Melissa Schuster, Secretary Bo Sheppard, and Carl Starkey.

**Members Excused:** None.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Also Present:** District Manager Matt Ball, Assistant Manager Doug Weseman, Office Manager's Maritza Sandoval and Edith Del Rio.

1. The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District held on June 10, 2020, was live streamed via Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84031869653?pwd=OFdpTW9ydVRhaVVGekprdUE3N2I6UT09>
2. The June 10, 2020, Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 4:00 PM by President Beck.
3. Seeing and hearing no persons wishing to address the Board on items not on the agenda, President Beck proceeded to request approval of the minutes.
4. After review it was then moved by Member Starkey, seconded by Member Schuster, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting held May 13, 2020, as written.
5. No persons wishing to address the Board on closed session matters.
6. No closed session matters.
7. Board Member of the month: Member Kirk: Member Kirk provided a verbal summary of his public and professional service and how he came to be a member of the Board.
8. Reports (8.1 – 8.2)
- 8.1 Under item 8.1 of reports, District Manager's Report, the District Manager reported that on May 14, 2020, the District completed the monthly staff meeting and all vehicle inspections. The District's Safety Committee also met on this date.

On May 15 and May 29, 2020, the District Manager attended the biweekly MVCAC Legislative and Regulatory conference call. The meeting discussed pending and drafted legislative bills, the state budget, COVID-19 issues, and reviewed a few regulatory issues.

On May 19, 26, 2020, and June 2, 9, 2020, the District Manager attended the weekly COVID-19 MVCAC Manager's meeting via conference call. The managers of the MVCAC discussed, shared current conditions, and planned for district operations during the COVID-19 pandemic. Each district sounded off with what each has learned, shared legal counsel advise, and planned on how best to protect employees of districts and the communities each serves.

On May 21, 2020, the District Manager attended a continuing education course online presented by Valent BioSciences. The topic was on wide area larviciding (WALS) utilizing biological larvicides and insect growth regulator larvicides. The session was educational and well worth attending. The session was free of charge to the District.

As a reminder, the District was closed on May 25, 2020, in observance of Memorial Day.

On May 26, 2020, the District Manager met via Zoom with the Butte County Grand Jury. The report should be released soon.

On May 27, 2020, the District Manager and Office Manager met with a representative from Esplanade Office Furniture to review layouts for administration and briefing room desk and storage options.

On June 3, 2020, the District Manager attended and presented at the Lyme Disease Support Group meeting via Zoom. The presentation covered where and when ticks of medical significance could be found, proper tick removal, and ways to limit one's exposure to ticks. Also commencing on this date, Fedak and Brown LLP conducted a two-day interim testing audit and met with the District's Office Manager remotely. The final audit will most likely be conducted in October.

On June 4, 2020, District management met with representatives of Gray Lodge Wildlife Area via Zoom to discuss the upcoming year's mosquito surveillance and control, water availability, and flooding schedules.

The District currently has offered employment to eleven (11) seasonal applicants. Currently, the District has ten (10) employed. The District needs fourteen (14). The District has advertised on Chico Help Wanted.Com, Craigslist, the local newspapers, on the District's website, at CSU Chico, and Butte College.

During the week of June 8<sup>th</sup>, the District commenced aerial surveillance flights to identify unmaintained swimming pools and other sources of water suspected of mosquito-breeding. The District Manager reported that Chico, Nord, and Hamilton City surveillance flights have been completed and that staff should receive the first batch of maps soon.

## **COVID-19 UPDATE**

Currently, the District is still following all the procedures, protocols, and worker protection policies reported to the Board in April. The District offices are still closed to the public and the District is not answering person to person service requests. The District continues to be on good supply of personal protective equipment and sanitization products. The District Manager continues to follow the Butte County Public Health Department's Public Health Officer's guidance and recommendations and is monitoring the Governor's daily press conferences. The District Manager reported that he amended the COVID-19 Worker Protection Policies, Item #13, to allow District staff to travel in the same vehicle when absolutely necessary and when doing so, the policy states a face covering must be worn by all employees within the vehicle.

The Board discussed COVID-19 moving forward considerations such as the July Board Meeting, District office closure, and employee worker protection policies. COVID-19 infections have more than doubled in the past several weeks locally. The consensus of the Board was to keep the District offices closed to the public, to continue to operate under the procedures and policies that have been followed the past three months, and to continue to host the Board meetings remotely. The District will reassess these procedures next month.

- 8.2 Under item 8.2 of reports, the department reports, the District Manager reported that tick surveillance has now ceased for the season. Tick surveillance will again commence in the fall of 2020. A total of 126 tick pools have been submitted to Placer MVCD for the 2019/2020 tick season. The District is awaiting test results for all tick pools. Areas where pools were collected include, Bidwell Park, Lime Saddle, Lake Wyandotte, and Loafer Creek. The District's New Jersey light traps were placed and operational on April 14, 2020. The District's gravid traps and New Jersey light traps continue to operate and capture mosquitoes. The sentinel chickens are having sera samples taken biweekly. Yellow jacket surveillance and CO2 trapping have commenced.

No West Nile virus (WNV) activity has been reported within the District's service area in 2020. WNV has been identified in six California counties to date; Los Angeles, Napa, Riverside, Sacramento, Santa Clara, and Tulare. St. Louis encephalitis has been identified in Riverside County.

The District's four indoor fish tanks are operational. Currently, two tanks are working as a rearing tank with another tank holding the fry from the rearing tanks. The other tank is awaiting a stocking of fish. The tanks produced nearly 6,000 fry for the month of May. Tank stocks will continue to increase now that fish are available. The Vector Ecologist / Fish Biologist will continue to test the tanks for optimal production. The public mosquitofish tanks were placed at their locations with signs and were stocked with fish on May 28, 2020, (Attachment #2 for locations).

Mosquito and Vector Control Specialists (Specialists) have continued with mosquito surveillance and control operations in man-made containers, storm drains, retention ponds and other urban sources. Camp Fire surveillance and control continues. Countless burnt properties have yielded many mosquito-breeding sources with an abundance of larvae. Surveillance and control of mosquitoes within rice, other agricultural sources, and managed wetlands has commenced. Service requests for inspections, fish, and treatments have increased dramatically over the past month.

The District's Air Operations has completed annual maintenance on the three District aircraft and loader truck. The District's two larvicide ships have already been making aerial larvicide applications. The new loader truck is believed to be ahead of schedule and the District hopes completion by the end of June.

The Public Relations (PR) Department is currently preparing for the upcoming public relations season. The PR Department is reviewing and updating (if needed) the District's website,

brochures, photo and video files, and other informational documents. The District mobile friendly website continues to be updated as needed. The Assistant Manager is working with Matson & Isom on the District's new website. All public events scheduled for the months of March through July have been cancelled due to COVID-19. All the District public service announcements began on May 1, 2020 and will continue running on radio and television through September. The District's billboards continue to rotate throughout the county and will through the end of September. Member Schuster asked if funds not being spent on the fair booths would be reallocated to other outreach activities. The District Manager replied that most likely the District would bolster its newspaper public service announcements.

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

9. Policy matters (9.1 – 9.3)

- 9.1 Under item 9.1 of policy matters, the Board was asked to consider approving and adopting Resolution No. 20-07, a Resolution of Affirming the Intent to Continue Assessments for fiscal year 2020-2021, 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 Sheppard, and passed unanimously with a vote of 10 ayes (Andoe, Beck, Barth, Johnson, Kirk, LaRocca, Ostling, Schuster, Sheppard, and Starkey) and 0 nays to approve and adopt Resolution No. 20-07.
- 9.2 Under item 9.2 of policy matters, the Board was asked to consider approving and adopting Resolution No. 20-08, a Resolution of Affirming Compliance with 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 Kirk, seconded by Member Starkey, and passed unanimously with a vote of 10 ayes (Andoe, Beck, Barth, Johnson, Kirk, LaRocca, Ostling, Schuster, Sheppard, and Starkey) and 0 nays to approve and adopt Resolution No. 20-08.
- 9.3 Under item 9.3 of policy matters, the District Manager reported on the District's Oroville Headquarters asphalt conditions, discussed options going forward, and sought the Board's direction on how best to proceed. After further discussion, the Board directed the District Manager to provide recommendations and acquire quotes to completely resurface the front parking lot of the Oroville headquarters and bring that information back to the Board in July.
10. Under topic of the month, the District Manager provided a brief report and review of the biology and identification of *Culex pipiens*.
11. After reviewing the demands made upon the District for the past month it was then moved by Member Sheppard, seconded by Member Schuster, and passed unanimously with a vote of 10 ayes (Andoe, Beck, Barth, Johnson, Kirk, LaRocca, Ostling, Schuster, Sheppard, and Starkey) and 0 nays to authorize checks numbered 47807 through 47908 be signed and distributed. Expenditures for the month totaled \$205,463.22.
12. Under personnel, the District Manager reported that eight (8) seasonal employees commenced employment with the District on May 26, 2020. The District continues to advertise and seek further applicants for three (3) currently open seasonal positions. The District Manager introduced Edith Del Rio Carriedo as the interim Office Manager to cover for the Office Manager during pregnancy leave.
13. No correspondence items to report.
14. No other business to report.
15. No persons wishing to address the Board on closed session matters.
16. No closed session matters.
17. President Beck announced adjournment at 5:13 PM and concluded by stating that the next regular meeting of the BCMVCD Board of Trustees would meet at 4:00 PM on July 8, 2020, via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,

James Bo Sheppard,  
Secretary