

Regular Minutes of the Board of Trustees of the Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District Meeting held September 11, 2024

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

Members Excused: Secretary Melissa Schuster.

Members Absent: None.

Also Present: District Manager Matt Ball, Assistant Manager Aaron Lumsden, Administrative Manager Maritza Sandoval, Entomologist Amanda Bradford, and a member of the public.

1. The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District was held on September 11, 2024, at 444 Otterson Drive, Chico, CA 95928.
2. The September 11, 2024, 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 Starkey, and passed unanimously with a vote of 7 ayes and 0 nays to approve the minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting held August 14, 2024, as written, with members Johnson and Member Kirk abstaining due to their excused absences.
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 August 15, 2024, the District completed the monthly management meeting, staff meeting, and all vehicle inspections. The District's Safety Committee held their monthly meeting as well as management. Also on this date, 6633K was removed from the crash site and transported to the Plain Parts in Pleasant Grove.

On August 16, 2024, 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 20, 2024, District management and administrative staff attended a weekly meeting with Leading Edge and Associates to review the status of MapVision 3.0 and to discuss the needs still needing to be completed on the project.

On August 22, 2024, the National Transportation Safety Board's (NTSB) aircraft accident was submitted by the District and NTSB verified receipt of delivery.

As a reminder, the District was open and operating on Labor Day having a large majority of the staff willing to work the holiday.

On September 9, 2024, District management attended the monthly West Nile Virus Task Force Meeting with Butte County Department of Public Health. The monthly meeting discusses mosquito abundance surveillance, mosquito-borne disease surveillance, mosquito surveillance, and public education and outreach efforts.

- 7.2 Under item 7.2 of reports, the Assistant Manager reported that the District's New Jersey light traps have continued catching mosquitoes. *Culex pipiens* and *Culex tarsalis* populations are lower than the previous year at this time. *Anopheles freeborni* populations are lower than the previous year at this time and have begun their downward trend. 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 4th, 348 pools have been submitted; with 58 of those pools being positive. Also, *Aedes aegypti* has been detected a total of 79 times in Chico, 53 times in Oroville, 41 times in Thermalito, 8 times in Hamilton City, 1 time in Paradise, 1 time in Biggs, and 1 time in Gridley.

West Nile virus (WNV) activity has increased within the District's service area with a total of 7 positive

human, 4 dead birds, 58 positive pools, and 19 positive chickens. WNV has been identified in 27 human cases (3 fatal), 352 dead birds, 1,386 mosquito pools, 75 chickens, and 5 horses in California to date.

The District's four indoor fish tanks have been re-stocked with fish and are ready to produce when the outdoor fish ponds shut down for the season. The District's outdoor fish ponds continue to produce high amounts of fish.

Mosquito and Vector Control Specialists (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 over the past month with a total of 541 taken.

As of September 4th, the District has treated 8,450 acres of wetlands; compared to 7,748 acres at this time last year. The District has treated 45,967 acres of rice this year, compared to 55,740 acres at this time last year. The District has made 8 ULV adulticide treatments thus far compared to 13 ULV adulticide treatments at this time last year. The Assistant Manager provided the Board with a brief report of the current ULV process and operations that are being contracted.

The Public Relations (PR) Department is reviewing and updating (if needed) 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 28th, 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 to consider a capital expenditure for the rebuild of the District's R-985-AN14B aircraft engine. The Board originally approved a quote of \$22,900.00 plus tax and fees at the November 9, 2022, Board meeting. After the engine was fully diagnosed the Board approved at the July 10, 2024, Board meeting \$25,000.00, plus 20% for unforeseen repairs, plus freight, taxes, and applicable fees. The engine is now complete, and the Board was asked to consider a capital expenditure for the rebuild in the amount of \$32,670.00 plus all taxes, freight, and applicable fees. It was then moved by Member LaRocca, seconded by Member Johnson, and passed unanimously with a vote of 9 ayes and 0 nays to approve the capital expenditure for the rebuild in the amount of \$32,670.00 with a 20% allowance for unforeseen repairs plus all taxes, freight, and applicable fees.

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 54332 through 54468 be signed and distributed. Expenditures for the month totaled \$508,789.17.

11. No personnel items to report.

12. Under items of correspondence, the Board reviewed a letter sent to the Governor of the State of California.

13. No other business to report.

14. No persons wishing to address the Board pertaining to closed session matters.

15. Closed session matters (15.1)

15.1 Under closed session matters, President Sheppard announced that the District was going into closed session for Labor Negotiations – CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR(s). Gov't. Code 54957.6. District Designated Representative(s): District Manager Ball. Labor negotiations involving unrepresented employees of the Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District; Assistant Manager, Administrative Manager; Regional Supervisor II & I; Pilot II; Entomologist II; Vector Ecologist / Fish Biologist; Office Assistant, and Mosquito and Vector Control Specialists. The Board went off the record and into close session at 4:47 PM and returned from closed session and on the record at 5:20 PM. No action taken, nor needed, but direction and parameters were provided to the District Manager

16. President Sheppard announced adjournment at 5:20 PM and concluded by stating that the next regular meeting of the BCMVCD Board of Trustees would meet at 4:00 PM on October 9, 2024, at the Chico Substation's Board Room at 444 Otterson Drive, Chico, CA 95928.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Schuster,
Secretary