

CONTRA COSTA MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING
MINUTES NO. 14-2

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Contra Costa Mosquito and Vector Control District was held on Monday, March 10, 2014, in the District Office at 155 Mason Circle, Concord, California.

TRUSTEES PRESENT Richard Ainsley
 Soheila Bana
 Jeff Bennett
 Perry Carlston
 Warren Clayton
 Chris Cowen
 Jim Fitzsimmons
 Peggie Howell
 Morris Jones
 Michael Krieg
 Richard Mank
 Richard Means
 Dan Pellegrini
 Jim Pinckney
 Sharyn Rossi
 Jose Saavedra
 Diane Wolcott
 Darryl Young

TRUSTEES ABSENT Randall Diamond
 Myrto Petreas
 Rolando Villareal

OTHERS PRESENT Ray Waletzko, Assistant Manager
 Steve Schutz, Scientific Program Manager
 Deborah Bass, Public Affairs Manager
 Chris Miller, Biologist
 Douglas Coty, Legal Counsel
 Allison Nelson, Administrative Secretary
 Kris Torske

1. President Pinckney called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. A roll call indicated that 18 Trustees were present, three were absent, and there is one vacancy.
3. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

** Motion made by Trustee Pellegrini and seconded by Trustee Saavedra to approve the agenda as posted. *Motion passed unanimously.*

5. PUBLIC INPUT ON NON AGENDA ITEMS - None

6. PRESENTATION

Jim Fitzsimmons, Trustee, for 10 years of service

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. MINUTES - APPROVAL OF MINUTES 14-1, REGULAR BOARD MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 13, 2014

B. EXPENDITURES - APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES OF JANUARY 1, 2014 THROUGH FEBRUARY 28, 2014, INCLUDING CHECKS NO. 21793 THROUGH NO. 21987 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$604,887.30

C. PAYROLL - APPROVAL OF PAYROLL EXPENDITURES OF JANUARY 1, 2014 THROUGH FEBRUARY 28, 2014, INCLUDING CHECKS NO. 65369 THROUGH NO. 65504, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$286,866.62

D. INVESTMENT ACTIVITY REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2013 & JANUARY 2014

E. APPROVAL OF TRUSTEE TRAVEL

** A motion was made by Trustee Krieg and seconded by Trustee Ainsley to approve the consent calendar. *Motion passed unanimously.*

8. ACTION ITEMS

A. Audit Committee Report - Trustee Saavedra recommended the Board of Trustees approve a three year contract with the auditing firm of Maze & Associates. Ms. Vikki Rodriguez would continue to serve as the Engagement Partner for the District audits. The audit contract reflects the estimated COLA increase of 3% each year and would continue to rotate the field auditor each year. It was noted that Maze & Associates is well respected in the industry and many of their customers are government agencies.

** A motion was made by Trustee Saavedra and seconded by Trustee Pellegrini to approve a three year extension for audit services with Maze & Associates.

9. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

A. Financial Report - Assistant Manager Ray Waletzko gave an overview of the District budget year to date. It was noted that District costs for *Retirement, Other Post Employment Benefits* and *Workers Compensation* are all paid in advance for the year. Questions about *Health Insurance* and *Electric, Gas & Water* expenditures were also addressed.

B. Annual Environmental Audit/CEQA Compliance - Scientific Program Manager Steve Schutz, presented a summary of the 2013 Environmental Audit. The District adopted a mitigated negative declaration in 1999, which is a statement of best management practices we follow which explains that we avoid or mitigate

any potential environmental impact our programs may have. There were no significant changes to our program in 2013, that would have increased our environmental impact. This District, along with a consortium of Coastal Mosquito & Vector Control Districts, are in the process of acquiring a full Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) from an environmental consulting firm to ensure that our program has the highest level of CEQA documentation possible. The template document is tailored to each individual District's policies and procedures, and is scheduled to be completed in the next few months.

A major component of our program continues to be biological control in the form of mosquitofish. District technicians continue to stock fish in neglected swimming pools and a variety of other sources. County residents are able to pick up mosquitofish for ornamental ponds on their property and other residential sources. Pesticide use increased in 2013, but remains well below the ten year average. An ongoing reduction continues in the use of larvicidal oils in favor of bacterial larvicides and growth regulators. Our program remains largely larval control orientated and District use of adulticides was lower in 2013 than the previous years. It was noted that it is still necessary at times to adulticide due to high WNV activity.

- C. Dengue and Invasive Species - Scientific Program Manager Steve Schutz, provided an update on Dengue and the recent re-introduction of *Ae. albopictus* and *Ae. aegypti* into California. *Ae. albopictus* (Asian tiger mosquito) surfaced in Southern California and the Bay Area in 2001, and at the time were associated with shipments of bamboo plants arriving from China. Infestations were found at nurseries in Southern California and the Bay Area and it was believed that the mosquitoes were eradicated in 2001. However, in 2011, a District in the Los Angeles basin found a population of this species in a residential area. Since the discovery surveillance was conducted and it was determined that the species was much more wide spread than previously thought. The District surmised that the species was not eradicated in 2001. *Ae. Aegypti* (yellow fever mosquito) were discovered in Madera and Fresno County in July 2013, and later in San Mateo County. Massive door to door inspections were needed in the affected neighborhoods to control these mosquitoes. Smaller Districts saw significant taxing of their financial resources because of the need to increase their staff. Both of these mosquitoes are significant vectors for diseases that presently do not occur here; but only because we did not have the vector. Now that the mosquitoes are in California there is serious concern they could become established and possibly establish disease transmission cycles. Both mosquitoes like to live around homes and will breed in any water filled container. *Ae. aegypti*, in addition to transmitting yellow fever, is also a primary vector of Dengue fever and the species is currently established in the Southeastern United States. These species are not attracted to the traps typically used for mosquito surveillance so specialized traps are required to assess their populations. The District is working on these new traps and they should be ready in a few weeks.
- D. Mosquitofish Production at Contra Costa Mosquito & Vector Control District - District Biologist Chris Miller discussed the past, present, and future of mosquitofish production at the District. The primary mosquito control agent used at the District is the Western mosquitofish (*Gambusia affinis*). The former General Manager of the District, Chuck Beesley, was interested in rearing

mosquitofish at the District because of the inconsistent access to them in the wild. He obtained grants to begin the process of a production system and after many different designs a successful fry production system was implemented. In addition, native fish research is being conducted at the District, because although mosquitofish have worked well in California they are not a native species. The Sacramento Perch, Sacramento Blackfish, California Roach and Sacramento Hitch are the native species that have been researched. The Sacramento Perch is not in use as it was difficult to rear the larval fish in tanks because they need large quantities of small organisms to survive. The Sacramento Blackfish are also not in use as they were easy to breed but they did not control mosquito larvae in swimming pools. There is promising work with the California Roach as they are currently controlling mosquito larvae in 20 swimming pools in the County. There is still much research to be done with the Sacramento Hitch. It is the hope that after all the research is complete the District will have a native biological control agent to use in specific mosquito breeding environments in the future.

- E. Reports on Conference/Meetings Attended - AMCA & MVCAC - Steve Schutz, Scientific Program Manager, submitted summaries of both conferences and thanked the board for allowing him to attend each meeting as they are both very informative and beneficial to bring back information to other employees at the District. Trustee Wolcott discussed her thoughts on the MVCAC conference, as did Trustee Bennett. The primary focus was the *Ae. aegypti* and the threat of emerging diseases.

10. BOARD AND STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Board - Trustee Means noted that some of the vectors that cause emerging diseases are in nearby Counties and we need to be prepared should they take up residence in our County.
- B. Staff - None

11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

** A motion was made by Trustee Jones and seconded by Trustee Bana to adjourn the meeting. *Motion passed unanimously.*

I certify the above minutes were approved as read or corrected at a meeting of the Board held on May 12, 2014.

Ayes: _____
Noes: _____
Absent: _____
Abstain: _____

H. Richard Mank
Secretary, Board of Trustees