

CONTRA COSTA MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES NO. 05-03

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Contra Costa Mosquito and Vector Control District was held on May 9, 2005, in the District Office at 155 Mason Circle, Concord, California.

TRUSTEES PRESENT      Nancy Brownfield  
                                 Jon Elam  
                                 Jim Fitzsimmons  
                                 Heather Gibson  
                                 Richard Head  
                                 C. Kaleinani Lau  
                                 Tim McDonough  
                                 Jeannette Mahoney  
                                 Richard Means  
                                 Daniel Pellegrini  
                                 Myrto Petreas  
                                 James Pinckney  
                                 Ronald Tervelt  
                                 Dick Vesperman  
                                 Diane Wolcott

TRUSTEES ABSENT      Russ Belleci  
                                 Richard Mank  
                                 Earl Mortenson  
                                 John Poon

OTHERS PRESENT      Craig Downs, General Manager  
                                 Ray Waletzko, Administrative & Finance Manager  
                                 Mark Cornelius, Legal Counsel  
                                 Nancy Thurman, Administrative Secretary

1. President Petreas called the meeting to order at 7:18 p.m.
2. A roll call indicated that 15 Trustees were present, 4 were absent, and there are 3 vacancies.
3. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AS POSTED
- \*\* A motion was made by Trustee McDonough and seconded by Trustee Head to approve the agenda as posted. *Motion passed unanimously.*
- 5.\* PUBLIC INPUT ON NON AGENDA ITEMS - None
- 6.\* CONSENT CALENDAR - The following items listed \* are enclosed. If the Board would like to discuss any item listed, it may be pulled from the Consent Calendar.

- A. ✨ MINUTES - APPROVAL OF MINUTES 05-2, REGULAR BOARD MEETING HELD ON MARCH 14, 2005
- B. ✨ EXPENDITURES - APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES OF MARCH 1, 2005 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2005, INCLUDING CHECKS NO. 12275 THROUGH NO. 12465, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$475,206.51
- C. PAYROLL - APPROVAL OF PAYROLL EXPENDITURES OF MARCH 1, 2005 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2005, INCLUDING CHECKS NO. 56650 THROUGH NO. 56821, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$242,265.34
- D. ✨ INVESTMENT ACTIVITY REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2005 & MARCH 2005

\*\* A motion was made by Trustee Elam and seconded by Trustee McDonough to approve the Consent Calendar. *Motion passed unanimously.*

## 7. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Report on Trustee Travel - Resolution 05-1 has been reworded and submitted to the board for approval. After some discussion, final wording was approved.

\*\* A motion was made by Trustee Vesperman and seconded by Trustee Elam to approve the resolution as amended. *Motion passed unanimously.*

- B. Budget Committee Report - Chairperson Tervelt reported that the committee met on April 25, 2005, and discussed the budget year to date through April 15<sup>th</sup>. He noted that Administrative & Finance Manager Waletzko will update the committee on our reserve position at the next meeting as well as a projected budget for fiscal year 2005/2006. He also reported that the amount set aside for West Nile pesticide purchases in the current fiscal year may fall short of the budgeted amount; and if so the issue will come before the full Board of Trustees in July for approval. The committee will meet again June 13, 2005.

The Budget Committee recommended the creation of an Audit Committee, to meet with the District auditor prior to the start of the annual audit, and subsequent to the completion of the audit.

\*\* A motion was made by Trustee Tervelt and seconded by Trustee Elam to create an Audit Committee. *Motion passed unanimously.*

## 8. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

- A. Advanced Planning Committee Report - Chairperson Brownfield reported that the Advanced Planning Committee is continuing to review current operations, and felt that the previous five year goals are being fulfilled. The committee is discussing how to augment and enhance programs like the mosquitofish program, Lyme disease, hantavirus, tularemia, and arena virus surveillance for better service to the community. The committee encourages support for public relations and outreach programs to increase District awareness and recognition. They would like to see pesticide information presented to our communities before we find it necessary to aerial spray. The next meeting of the committee is scheduled for August 1, 2005.

- B. Executive Committee Report - Chairperson Petreas reported that at the April 11, 2005 meeting, the question was raised about the authority of the Executive Committee to perform the RFP for the Audit. It was resolved by the fact that the Board has charged the Committee to do such. A Public Notice was placed in the *Contra Costa Times* and the RFP was sent to thirteen selected CPA firms. It was reported that to date we have received one response. Staff was directed to submit all responses to committee members for ranking and to select firms for interview, on June 7, 2005.
- C. Personnel Committee Report - Trustee Petreas chaired the Personnel Committee meeting held on April 18, 2005. Existing finances, budget, retirement and long-term projections were considered to determine how many staff positions could be added, as well as adjustments made to existing positions. Changes were recommended to the Employee Handbook. They will be submitted to the union, and then be presented to the full board for adoption, hopefully in time for the July meeting.
- D. Report on West Nile Virus - General Manager Downs updated the board. To date there have been 62 positive birds in 21 counties in the state. Contra Costa still has only three positive birds for the year. There have been 567 bird reports submitted through the state hotline. Additionally, one chicken flock converted positive, along with one positive mosquito pool, both in southern California. Activity has dropped off in the past month, partly due to the weather, and this phenomenon is occurring across the nation.
- E. Report on Legislation - General Manager Downs gave an overview of the following bills, currently being considered in Sacramento:

AB 1259 (Daucher) appears to be a workaround of Prop. 1A, to reallocate property taxes to "award" counties for low income housing projects. This bill has been referred to the Revenue & Taxation Committee.

AB 991 (Devore) was prompted by a member of the Orange County Vector Control District to limit the size of their board, thus eliminating representation from each city in the county. This bill is no longer viable, and no adjustment to the size of the board was accomplished.

AB 1234 (Salinas) and SB 393 (Ortiz) are competing bills to address special district audits, board ethics, reimbursements for travel. AB 1234 is not as restrictive or severe regarding the above issues. AB 1234 targets all public agencies, and is actually favored by Special Districts. Neither bill is targeting benefits afforded to board members, but will require mandatory ethics training, and very specific wording outlining reimbursements.

## 9. BOARD AND STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS -

BOARD: Trustee Petreas inquired about Trustee Mortenson's condition after his release from the hospital. General Manager Downs will call him and pass information to the trustees via e-mail.

Trustee Petreas reported on attendance at the AMCA Conference. She attended sessions on source reduction and alternatives to chemical pesticides. Soy based formulas, acoustic waves and alternatives to DEET (geranium oil) were presented, although most of the information was presented by manufacturers, so it is not without bias, and lacks scientific data backup. She suggested that field

personnel and other staff members might benefit from attendance at these conferences to become aware of new advances in equipment and control.

Trustee Tervelt attended GIS and GPS sessions, where maps are created using this technology to pinpoint areas where spraying and surveillance efforts could be most effectively used. He attended a demonstration of RAMP testing, although our experience has not been as successful as promoted by the manufacturer.

Trustee Wolcott mentioned that at the session she attended, a neighboring district stated that they continued to focus their community education on school programs rather than the approach that we are taking. She made note of how many districts employ fleets of aircraft to accomplish spraying of adult mosquitoes, and how expensive that can be in comparison to our approach to treating larva. She was disturbed by the animosity directed toward environmental advocates as a group at this conference.

Trustee Vesperman reported on the Contra Costa Special Districts Association. When the meeting was held to elect a representative from Special Districts to LAFCO, the meeting was presided over by a state representative rather than a local one. Mr. David Piepho was elected to this position. Trustee Vesperman suggested the Board appoint a trustee to officially represent the Board at these meetings. This item will be placed on the next Board agenda.

Trustee McDonough brought it to the board's attention that there is now an alternative public investment vehicle to LAIF, Cal Trust, which he became aware of at the last Pinole City Council meeting. It is administered by a JPA, currently paying slightly higher interest rates than LAIF, and reacts to the market faster than LAIF. It was requested that Administrative & Finance Manager Waletzko check into this as an alternative.

It was requested that a list of all cities passing Nuisance Ordinances with Administrative Citation Authority, as well as a list of cities proclaiming April 25 through May 1 West Nile Virus & Mosquito & Vector Control Awareness Week, be available at the next Board meeting.

STAFF: West Nile Virus tabloid will be placed in mailboxes May 9<sup>th</sup>, or in the Contra Costa Times on May 14, 2005.

## 12. ADJOURNMENT

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