

DELTA MOSQUITO & VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT

Dr. Mustapha Debboun
General Manager

1737 West Houston Avenue * Visalia, California 93291
Phone (559) 732-8606 * (877) 732-8606 * Fax (559)-732-7441

Crystal Grippin
Scientific Program Manager

Hector Cardenas
Operations Program Manager

www.deltamvcd.org

Erick Arriaga
Community Education & Outreach Coordinator

Mary Ellen Gomez
Administrative Assistant

Paul Harlien
Foreman

Rick Alvarez
Vector Control Supervisor



Bryan Ruiz
Supervisor Assistant

Minutes of the Board of Trustees – Monday, May 9, 2023, Start: 4:30 p.m.

1. Roll Call:

Present: Greg Gomez, President; Belen Gomez, Secretary; Linda Guttierrez, Larry Roberts, Kevin Caskey and Lori Berger

Absent: None

Staff: Dr. Mustapha Debboun, General Manager; Mary Ellen Gomez, Administrative Assistant

2. Public Forum:

None

3. Consent Calendar:

Following discussion, it was moved by Linda Guttierrez, seconded by Lori Berger and the Board of Trustees unanimously approved to accept the consent calendar as presented.

4. Manager's Report:

Dr. Debboun provided an update on Delta Mosquito and Vector Control District (DMVCD) current field and laboratory operations. Field operations received 83 mosquito service requests in April. We built a screened in-wall in the Fish Hatchery with doors to keep the birds and pigeons from entering; and updated some of the safety containment units in the Pesticide Room to ensure if we ever have a chemical leak, we will be able to not only contain the chemical but also save it so it can be used with no waste. We trained all the hired seasonals for three days and provided them with respirator fit testing for their safety while applying pesticides. Our laboratory passed the California Department of Public Health Proficiency Panel for mosquito-borne disease testing. Routine mosquito surveillance throughout the District and Arbovirus testing for West Nile virus,

Saint Louis Encephalitis virus, and Western Equine Encephalitis virus began in the second week of April. There were 26 technician and homeowner mosquito requests in April where 1,273 mosquitoes were distributed. The DMVCD participated in the following educational and outreach events: three Visalia Rawhide Baseball games, a Museum Jamboree at Mooney Grove Park, City of Visalia Earth Day Celebration, two High School tours, and gave three presentations to Sequoia High School students and the Exeter Independent study group.

The newly hired 19 mosquito seasonal employees and full-time staff of DMVCD participated in a donated COSCTCO Pizza Luncheon to celebrate the start of the 2023 Mosquito Season on April 28, 2023.

5. Benefit Assessment Resolution:

The General Manager presented the Benefit Assessment Resolution to the Board of Trustees. Following a brief discussion, it was moved by Kevin Caskey, seconded by Larry Roberts to approve the said resolution.

6. Public Hearing Approval:

The General Manager discussed the approval for the Public Hearing with the Board of Trustees. Following the brief discussion, it was moved by Kevin Caskey, seconded by Lori Berger to approve the Public Hearing on June 14, 2023.

7. Oxitec Collaboration:

Dr. Debboun provided an update on the current collaboration effort between Oxitec and Delta Mosquito and Vector Control District and Oxitec's adjustment of California field trial plans for 2023.

8. Letter of Invitation to an International Public Health Researcher:

Dr. Debboun informed the members of the Board of Trustees about an invitation letter to Dr. Josephine Wanjiku Ngunjiri from Nairobi, Kenya to tour Delta Mosquito and Vector Control District in August 2023 and learn about our Integrated Mosquito Management practices.

9. Board of Trustee Member Comments:

The General Manager presented the Health and Safety code to the Board of Trustees regarding Trustee pay. The General Manager notified Belen Gomez to take her individual Trustee photo at the next meeting.

10. Future Agenda Items:

Lori Berger, our newest Board of Trustees member requested to provide her with information on the upcoming conferences in 2023 via email.

11. Adjournment:

It was moved by Kevin Caskey, seconded by Linda Guttierrez, and the Board unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting of the DMVCD's Board of Trustees at 5:16 p.m.

Dr. Mustapha Debboun, Recording Secretary
