

DELTA MOSQUITO & VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT

Dr. Mustapha Debboun
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Crystal Grippin
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Mary Ellen Gomez
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Bryan Ferguson
Foreman

Rick Alvarez
Vector Control Supervisor

Bryan Ruiz
Supervisor Assistant

Minutes of the Board of Trustees – Wednesday, June 14, 2023, Start: 4:30 p.m.

1. **Roll Call:**

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

Absent: Rosemary Hellwig and Lori Berger

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

2. **Employee Introduction:**

Dr. Debboun introduced our newest employee, i.e., Vector Control Technician III/Mechanic, Landon McGill to the Board of Trustees. The floor was then opened for Landon who exchanged some welcoming remarks and got familiarized with each of the Board of Trustees members.

3. **Public Forum:**

None

4. **Consent Calendar:**

Following discussion, it was moved by Belen Gomez, seconded by Greg Gomez and the Board of Trustees unanimously approved to accept the consent calendar as presented.

5. **Manager's Report:**

Dr. Debboun provided an update on Delta Mosquito and Vector Control District (DMVCD) current field and laboratory operations. Field operations received 147 mosquito service requests in May. We are well above the average of the number of treatments going through pesticide chemicals faster than in the previous years due to the large amounts of standing water, pockets of water pools, containers, groundwater ditches, etc....We are working with Federal Emergency

Management Agency (FEMA), California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), and Tulare County Public Health to seek funding support for the flood water and snowmelt runoff which will create more mosquito water-breeding sources and additional mosquito population problems as the temperature increases. The rivers and irrigation ditches are running at high levels now and will also increase as temperatures get high. There were 53 technician and homeowner mosquitofish requests in May where 2,974 mosquitofish were distributed. The first West Nile virus positive mosquito sample was collected on May 17, 2023. The DMVCD participated in the following educational and outreach events: three Visalia Rawhide Baseball games and a Senior Day at the Park at Mooney Grove Park in Visalia.

The California Department of Public Health Vector Control Technician Examination for the South San Joaquin Valley Region (SSJVR) was hosted by DMVCD on May 18 and the exam was taken by 31 Vector Control Technicians from eight Districts.

6. Public Hearing:

The Board President opened the floor up for John Bliss and Emanuel Peterson from SCI to discuss the continuation of the District's Prop 218, i.e., Benefit Assessment. Since no members of the Public were present, the Board of Trustees President verified that no protest letters were received by the DMVCD, and then closed the Public Hearing.

7. Resolution 2023-02:

Mr. John Bliss discussed Resolution 2023-02, i.e., the Engineer's Report and levied the annual assessment. Following the discussion, it was moved by Larry Roberts, seconded by Linda Gutierrez and the Resolution was unanimously approved.

8. 2023-2024 Fiscal Budget and Resolution 2023-03:

Dr. Debboun presented the Draft 2023-2024 Fiscal Budget and Resolution 2023-03 to the Board of Trustees. Following a discussion, it was moved by Kevin Caskey, seconded by Larry Roberts to approve the documents presented.

9. Federal Emergency Management Assistance (FEMA) Funding Process:

Dr. Debboun informed the members of the Board of Trustees that DMVCD has started the process to seek funding support for the flood water, severe rains, and future snowmelt runoff which will create more mosquito water-breeding sources and additional mosquito population problems as the temperature increases throughout the mosquito season.

10. Letter to California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR):

The General Manager discussed the Letter that the Board of Trustees needed to sign and forward it to the Director of California Department of Pesticide Regulation. Following the discussion, it was moved by Larry Roberts, seconded by Belen Gomez and the letter was approved unanimously to be sent to DPR.

11. Board of Trustee Member Comments:

None.

12. Future Agenda Items:

The Board of Trustees expressed interest in including Policy #3010 in the next Board of Trustees Meeting. The Board President requested from the Administrative Assistant to email all Board Members a copy of the policy.

13. Adjournment:

It was moved by Linda Guttierrez, seconded by Greg Gomez, and the Board unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting of the DMVCD's Board of Trustees at 5:30 p.m.

Dr. Mustapha Debboun, Recording Secretary
