

DELTA MOSQUITO & VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT

Dr. Mustapha Debboun
General Manager

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Crystal Grippin
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Paul Harlien
Operations Program Manager

Erick Arriaga
Community Education & Outreach Coordinator

Mary Ellen Gomez
Administrative Assistant

Bryan Ferguson
Foreman

Rick Alvarez
Vector Control Supervisor

Bryan Ruiz
Supervisor Assistant

Minutes of the Board of Trustees – Wednesday, July 12, 2023, Start: 4:30 p.m.

1. **Roll Call:**

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

Absent: Larry Roberts

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

2. **Employee Introduction:**

The General Manager re-introduced Juan Pablo Ortega to the Board of Trustees to his new promoted Biologist position that was vacated by Javier Valdivias.

3. **Employee of the Quarter:**

The General Manager and the Board of Trustees presented the 2nd 2023 Quarter of Employee Certificate to Rick Alvarez to the Board of Trustees. Rick was thankful and gave a brief synopsis of changes he has seen in the District over his 33 years of service.

4. **Public Forum:**

None

5. **Consent Calendar:**

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

6. Manager's Report:

Dr. Debboun provided an update on Delta Mosquito and Vector Control District (DMVCD) current field and laboratory operations. We continue to work with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), and Tulare County Public Health to provide them with all the mosquito data and documentation they need for funding support due to the flood water and severe winter rains that created more mosquito water-breeding sources. We have been conducting additional ULV treatments throughout June in the District due to the increase in the number of West Nile virus (WNV) positive mosquito samples. The District-wide average of 73.3 mosquitoes per trap night for June was 311.8% higher than the 2022 average of 17.8 mosquitoes per trap night. There were 40 technician and homeowner mosquitofish requests in June where 1,712 mosquitofish were distributed. The first Saint Louis Encephalitis virus positive mosquito sample was diagnosed on June 29, 2023.

The DMVCD participated in the following educational and outreach events: two Farmers Markets in Visalia, two Rawhide Baseball games in Visalia, and gave four Senior presentations in Woodlake, Farmersville, Cutler/Orosi, and Dinuba. The general Delta MVCD outreach presentation has been translated into Spanish for use during Spanish-speaking audiences. In addition, the laboratory staff gave a tour to four staff personnel from the Tulare County Public Health Department.

Dr. Mustapha Debboun was selected to be a member of the International Editorial Board of the One Health & Implementation Research (OHIR) Journal. In addition, he was also invited to be a Guest Editor of the Special Issue, Vector-Borne Diseases and its Pathogens in Tropics and Subtropics Areas: Knowledge and Gap of the OHIR Journal.

7. Disposition of Surplus Vehicle(s):

Following discussion, it was moved by Kevin Caskey, seconded by Lori Berger and the Board of Trustees unanimously approved the disposition of two old unused vehicles.

8. Policy # 3010:

The General Manager and the Board of Trustees discussed the Districts' Educational Policy. A decision was not determined at this time pertaining to any revisions to the Policy and will be re-evaluated later.

9. Migration to .gov:

The General Manager discussed the migration of .gov process with the Board of Trustees and presented the letter signed by President Greg Gomez giving the approval to initiate the process. Following discussion, it was moved by Rosemary Hellwig, seconded by Greg Gomez and the Board of Trustees unanimously approved the migration of Deltamvcd.org to Deltamvcd.gov.

10. Board of Trustee Member Comments:

None.

11. Future Agenda Items:

None

12. Adjournment:

It was moved by Belen Gomez, seconded by Linda Gutierrez, and the Board unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting of the DMVCD's Board of Trustees at 5:33 p.m.

Dr. Mustapha Debboun, Recording Secretary
