

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

Rick Alvarez
Vector Control Supervisor

www.deltamvcd.org



Paul Harlien
Operations Program Manager

Bryan Ruiz
Supervisor Assistant

Mary Ellen Gomez
Administrative Assistant

Bryan Ferguson
Foreman

Erick Arriaga
Community Education & Outreach Coordinator

Andrea Troupin
Scientific Program Manager

Minutes of the Board of Trustees – Wednesday, September 13, 2023, Start: 4:30 p.m.

1. Roll Call:

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

Absent: Lori Berger

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

2. Public Forum:

None.

3. Consent Calendar:

Following discussion, it was moved by Rosemary Hellwig, seconded by Linda Guttierrez and the members of 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. We conducted Ultra Low Volume (ULV) fogging in the high trap count and West Nile virus (WNV) positive mosquito areas along with the Wide Area Larvicide System (WALS) treatments early in the morning from 2:00 am to 5:30 am. With the consistent work of our Administrative Office staff and EMD networking services, our .org e-mail address has been completely transformed to **deltamvcd.gov**. We continued monitoring the In2Care Mosquito Traps to help in the augmentation of controlling the invasive Yellow Fever mosquito, *Aedes aegypti* (L.). We removed the old out of date and unsafe automotive vehicle lift rack from the Wash Bay area and replaced with a new Occupational Safety and Health

Administration (OSHA) compliance safe automotive heavy-duty lift with safety locks that can handle the weight of the bigger and heavier trucks.

Routine mosquito surveillance continued throughout August with 47,970 mosquitoes collected across 1,731 trap nights as of August 31, 2023. Arbovirus testing for WNV, St. Louis Encephalitis virus (SLEV), and Western equine encephalitis virus (WEEV) continued in August. Laboratory staff tested 848 mosquito samples with 173 tested positive for WNV, 48 for SLEV, and 25 for WNV and SLEV combined. There were 29 technician and homeowner mosquito fish requests in August where 6,074 mosquitofish were distributed as of August 30, 2023. Our laboratory staff also tested 48 mosquito samples from Tulare Mosquito Abatement District and 11 samples collected from Tulare by Vector Disease Control International.

The Delta Mosquito and Vector Control District participated and attended 9 community and outreach events: two Visalia Rawhide Baseball games, 2 Wednesday Visalia Farmers Markets, and 1 Saturday Visalia Farmers Market. We also attended the Exeter National Night Out, a Backpack school giveaway event in London, and Farmersville and Woodlake senior centers where we provided information and answered any questions or concerns, they had about personal protective measures against mosquitoes.

5. Non-Elective Component:

Following discussion, it was moved by Larry Roberts, seconded by Greg Gomez and the members of the Board of Trustees unanimously approved setting the premium component required for medical health coverage in the Section 125 plan maintained by the District.

6. Reappointments:

Dr. Debboun requested if the three Board members: Greg Gomez, Linda Guttierrez, and Rosemary Hellwig would like to extend their terms on the Board as their current terms will end on December 31, 2023. They each were interested in renewing and extending their terms.

7. AB1234 and AB1825 Training Requirements:

Dr. Debboun informed the Board members of the status of their two required trainings, i.e., Harassment Prevention (AB1825), and Ethics (AB1234) which none need updated immediately.

Board President, Greg Gomez will need to renew his AB1234 Ethics Training in March 2024, Board Member Linda Guttierrez will need to renew her AB1825 Harassment Prevention in October 2024. All the remaining Board members will not need to renew their training until 2025.

8. Audit Preparation:

Following review of the engagement letter, it was moved by Rosemary Hellwig and seconded by Linda Guttierrez and the Board of Trustees unanimously approved the JWN Engagement Letter for the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year.

9. Board of Trustees Member Comments:

Larry Roberts notified the General Manager and the Administrative Assistant that he was notified by a Family Member they are experiencing a high number of Mosquitoes near their home by the Dinuba Golf Course. The Administrative Assistant obtained the contact information and notified the Trustee that she will reach out to them the next day and scheduled an inspection appointment.

The General Manager and Greg Gomez, Board President briefly discussed the potential annexation for the City of Lindsay.

Kevin Caskey mentioned that he will be meeting with the Tulare County Historical Society and will spread the word regarding the District and the Board of Trustees.

10. Future Agenda Items:

The Board of Trustees requested to meet JWN, Jaribu W. Nelson either virtually or in person at the next Board Meeting.

11. Adjournment:

It was moved by Rosemary Hellwig, seconded by Linda Guttierrez, and the Board unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting of the DMVCD's Board of Trustees at 5:20 p.m.

Dr. Mustapha Debboun, Recording Secretary
