

DELTA MOSQUITO & VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT

Dr. Mustapha Debboun
General Manager

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Rick Alvarez
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Mary Ellen Gomez
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Bryan Ferguson
Foreman

Erick Arriaga
*Community Education &
Outreach Coordinator*

Andrea Troupin
Scientific Program Manager



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

1. **Roll Call:**

Present: Greg Gomez, President; Belen Gomez, Secretary, Rosemary Hellwig, Linda Guttierrez, Larry Roberts, and Lori Berger.

Absent: Kevin Caskey

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

2. **Employee of the Quarter:**

The General Manager and the members of the Board of Trustees recognized and presented Bryan Ferguson with the Delta Mosquito and Vector Control District (DMVCD) Employee of the Quarter Certificate and added his name to the Employee of the Quarter Plaque.

3. **Public Forum:**

None.

4. **Consent Calendar:**

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

5. **Disposition of Concrete Mixer and Old Surplus Vehicles:**

Following discussion, it was moved by Larry Roberts, seconded by Linda Guttierrez and the members of the Board of Trustees unanimously approved to sell or dispose of a concrete mixer and three older trucks from the DMVCD vehicle fleet.

6. Manager's Report:

Dr. Debboun provided an update on DMVCD current field and laboratory operations. All the vehicles passed the annual smog inspection for the year 2022-2023 cycle. A newly enforced front fence and a new gate with a rod iron fence were installed in late November and completed in early December 2023. Dr. Debboun and the Operations Program Manager met with Senator Melissa Hurtado for the opening of her new Tulare office in Tulare City on November 30 and showed her some of the outreach materials we usually present to the public and the community education and outreach van. In addition, The DMVCD hosted the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Vector Control Technician Exam 89 for the South San Joaquin Valley Region (SSJVR) on November 16, 2023. The exam was taken by 45 technicians from 8 Districts, i.e., Consolidated, Delta, Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, South Fork, and Tulare across the SSJVR.

Laboratory staff accidentally while trapping found a mosquito species, *Culex restuans* known commonly as the White-dotted mosquito at the Rock Plant in Woodlake which has not previously been found in our District during the mosquito season. Mosquito abundance for 2023 was 313, 502 mosquitoes collected across 9, 330 trap nights for an average of 33.6 mosquitoes per trap night for the 2023 mosquito season. In addition, for the 2023 mosquito season, a total of 473 mosquito samples tested positive for West Nile virus (WNV), 172 for St. Louis Encephalitis Virus (SLEV), and 47 for both WNV and SLEV out of 7,028 mosquito samples. Laboratory staff conducted tick flagging at the Rock Plant and found 33 Pacific Coast ticks known as *Dermacentor occidentalis* which can spread Rocky Mountain Spotted fever, Pacific Coast tick fever, Tularemia, and tick-bite paralysis.

In November, the DMVCD community education and outreach program participated and attended four community and education outreach events: two presentations at Dinuba High School, one at Mount Whitney High School, and a tour for the same group of students. We also started taking part in the first eight science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) events with eight Visalia Elementary schools on November 28, 2023.

7. GPS Tracker and Dash-Camera Bids:

Following discussion, it was moved by Rosemary Hellwig, seconded by Belen Gomez and the members of the Board of Trustees unanimously approved to accept the Verizon GPS Tracker and Dash-Camera bid.

8. Solar and Backup Generator System Bids:

The General Manager presented the Solar and Backup Generator System Bids to the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees opted to table this and re-evaluate it at the February 2024 Board Meeting.

9. Holiday Gift:

Following discussion, it was moved by Belen Gomez, seconded by Lori Berger and the members of the Board of Trustees unanimously approved a General Holiday gift card in the amount of \$60.00 to each employee.

10. January Meeting:

Following discussion, it was moved by Linda Guttierrez, seconded by Rosemary Hellwig, abstention from Lori Berger, the members of the Board of Trustees unanimously approved the cancellation of the January 2024 Board of Trustees Meeting.

11. Closed Session:

Adjourned to closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9

12. Board of Trustees Member Comments:

The General Manager discussed the Governance February 2024 training that needs to be completed by Greg Gomez, President, and Lori Berger to complete the application for the District of Distinction. A Certificate of Appreciation and Gratitude from the General Manager and the members of the Board of Trustees was presented to Belen Gomez, Secretary, as she will be stepping down from the Board of Trustees, effective December 31, 2023.

13. Future Agenda Items:

None.

14. Adjournment:

It was moved by Larry Roberts and seconded by Linda Guttierrez, and the Board of Trustees unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting of the DMVCD's Board of Trustees at 6:40 p.m.

Dr. Mustapha Debboun, Recording Secretary
