

DELTA MOSQUITO & VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT

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Paul Harlien
Interim Manager
Operations Program Manager

Rick Alvarez
Vector Control Supervisor

Mary Ellen Gomez
Administrative Assistant

Bryan Ruiz
Supervisor Assistant

Andrea Troupin
Scientific Program Manager

Bryan Ferguson
Foreman

Erick Arriaga
Community Education &
Outreach Coordinator



Minutes of the Board of Trustees – Wednesday, April 10, 2024, Start: 4:30 p.m.

1. **Roll Call:**

Present: Greg Gomez, President; Linda Gutierrez, Secretary, Rosemary Hellwig, Larry Roberts, Kevin Caskey, Lori Berger, and Mike Burchett.

Absent: None

Staff: Paul Harlien, Interim Manager/Operations Program Manager; Mary Ellen Gomez, Administrative Assistant, Andrea Troupin, Scientific Program Manager

2. **Presentation of District of Distinction Accreditation to Delta Mosquito and Vector Control District:**

Mr. Erasmo Viveros, CSDA Central Network Coordinator presented the District of Distinction Certificate/Plaque to DMVCD Board of Trustees.

3. **Public Forum:**

None.

4. **Consent Calendar:**

Following discussion, it was moved by Rosemary Hellwig, seconded by Kevin Caskey and the members of the Board of Trustees unanimously approved the consent calendar as presented.

5. **Manager's Report:**

Paul Harlien, Interim Manager provided an update on Delta Mosquito and Vector Control District (DMVCD) March 2024 field operations. The Auto and Equipment Shop has completed all calibration on pesticide application equipment with the droplet tests

conducted by Nancy Voorhees from Clarke Company. All the fogging dispersal equipment has been certified. The zone operators conducted their zone operations for the past two weeks making applications as needed for mosquito control after seeing some large population number of mosquitoes early in the season due to the hot weather and early water irrigation by farmers.

Operations section has hired all its seasonal help to start training on April 15, 2024 for chemical application and safety, phone, drivers' safety, respirator fit testing, walking speed, and proper safety equipment usage.

In March, the DMVCD Community Education and Outreach Coordinator participated in the 5th and 6th Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) event series at Veva Blunt Elementary School. The Sequoia High School students visited DMVCD for a tour of the facilities and were provided with insight into the various job opportunities available within the District. A Spanish language outreach poster was created and distributed to local businesses, aimed at increasing the awareness of the DMVCD services among the Spanish-speaking residents. .

Andrea Troupin, Scientific Program Manager reported that ThermoFisher Scientific staff performed the KingFisher Flex and the Applied Biosystems 7500 qPCR machine yearly maintenance and calibrations, she also reported that Emcor was contacted to service the BSL3 laboratory because the alarms are not responding appropriately. We are still waiting for Emcor to respond with an automation quote and set up a repair date for the insectary humidifier because some parts are on backorder. Our Biologist, Mark Nakata finished mosquito fish tank modifications for *Saprolegnia* treatments and is waiting for quotes to have the fish fry baskets remade.

Mosquito trapping was performed in 3 out of 4 weeks during March 2024. Traps were set throughout the District in Goshen, Traver, Delft Colony, Dinuba, Orosi, Seville, Woodlake, Ivanhoe, Exeter, Farmersville and Visalia.

The mosquitoes trapped in February and March 2024 will be tested in April 2024, and all samples so far were negative for West Nile virus (WNV), St. Louis Encephalitis virus (SLEV), and Western equine encephalitis (WEEV) that were collected in January. Andrea and Pablo are currently performing the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Davis Arbovirus Research and Training (DART) Proficiency Panel to continue testing mosquitoes collected during the upcoming 2024 mosquito season.

In March, laboratory staff conducted tick flagging at three different locations; Kaweah Oaks Preserve, Homer Ranch and the rock plant in Woodlake. Two biologists from the CDPH visited our District to join the laboratory staff in two of those locations. The previous ticks collected from Woodlake rock plant were sent to the CDPH for rickettsial testing and one tick was positive for *Rickettsia rhipicephali*, which is not a human disease pathogen.

6. Quarterly Revenue/Expense Report:

The Administrative Assistant presented the Quarterly Expense/Revenue Report to the Board of Trustees.

7. Initiative 1935:

Following a brief discussion, it was moved by Rosemary Hellwig, seconded by Larry Roberts, and the members of the Board of Trustees unanimously approved the opposition of Initiative 1935.

8. Revised Policy Number 2110. Medical Examinations:

Following a brief discussion, it was moved by Mike Burchett, seconded by Rosemary Hellwig, and the members of the Board of Trustees unanimously approved the revisions to the Policy Number 2110.

9. Cal OES Resolution:

Following discussion, it was moved by Kevin Caskey, seconded by Larry Roberts, and the members of the Board of Trustees unanimously approved the Cal OES Resolution.

10. Board of Trustees Travel Calendar:

After a brief discussion regarding the Travel Calendar, Trustees were asked to notify Administrative Staff by the end of the month which meetings they wish to attend so the Budget will be prepared accordingly.

11. Closed Session §54957:

The members of the Board of Trustees, Public Employee Appointment, Title: General Manager adjourned to a closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.

12. Report from Closed Session:

The Board of Trustees discussed the decision regarding the appointment of the General Manager and terms and conditions of employment. It was moved by Larry Roberts, seconded by Lori Berger, and the members of the Board of Trustees unanimously approved the appointment of Mr. Conlin Reis as the new General Manager of Delta Mosquito and Vector Control District effective July 1, 2024.

13. Board of Trustees Member Comments:

None

14. Future Agenda Items:

None

15. Adjournment:

It was moved by Larry Roberts and seconded by Mike Burchett, and the Board of Trustees unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting of the DMVCD's Board of Trustees at 5:38 p.m.

Paul Harlien, Recording Secretary
