

DELTA MOSQUITO & VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT

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Bryan Ferguson
Foreman

Minutes of the Board of Trustees – Wednesday, May 8, 2024, Start: 4:33 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

2. **Public Forum:**

None.

3. **Consent Calendar:**

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

4. **Manager's Report:**

Paul Harlien, Interim Manager provided an update on Delta Mosquito and Vector Control District (DMVCD) April's 2024 field and laboratory operations. There were 31 mosquito service requests in April 2024. All full-time and seasonal staff have completed the annual training and are out in their zones. Technicians are working on the first round of storm drain treatments in Visalia and outlying towns. Work with Tulare Irrigation District to schedule the seasonal treatments at the rock plant, they pay for the plane and DMVCD supplies the chemical.

All staff have read the DMVCD Policy Manual and signed that they have read and understand the district's policies.

Giotto's Alarm installed a security monitor in the front office giving the ability to view access to and from the district, increasing security on the grounds. We also purchased a reception desk for the front office, ensuring privacy for the workstation and remaining ADA compliant.

In April, the DMVCD Community Education and Outreach Coordinator participated in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) event series at Four Creeks Elementary School. The Visalia Unified School District (VUSD) had their media team make a short video edit of the STEM event, which was featured as a local news press release. The VUSD requested another 150 copies of the "Take Action" Newspaper handouts to be used at Four Creeks Elementary for STEM events for the students to study and create their own mosquito-bite prevention projects. These projects were displayed at the event. In addition, the DMVCD was invited to the Tulare County Museum Jamboree event at Mooney Grove Park; this was the second time attending this event. DMVCD was also invited to the Party of the Planet - Earth Day event on Saturday, April 20th, at the Tulare County Courthouse parking lot, along with the Saturday Visalia Farmers Market.

The 4th quarter students at Sequoia High School visited DMVCD for a tour of the facilities and were provided with insight into the various job opportunities available within the district.

Andrea, the Scientific Program Manager, contacted Emcor 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. Air filters were replaced on the BSL-2/3 HVAC systems. Mark, Biologist, has had some algae issue in tank A and is working on rectifying this problem. He is also looking for a metal supplier to have the fish fry baskets remade.

Routine mosquito trapping started on April 16, 2024. Traps were set throughout the District in Goshen, Traver, Delft Colony, Dinuba, Orosi, Seville, Kings River area, Elderwood, Woodlake, Lemon Cove, Ivanhoe, Exeter, Farmersville, and Visalia.

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Proficiency Panel for mosquito-borne disease testing was completed by Juan Pablo Ortega, Biologist, in March and the results were submitted to CDPH. The laboratory passed the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Proficiency Panel for mosquito-borne disease testing. A passing result is required for the district to submit in-house mosquito-borne disease test results to the state.

5. Benefit Assessment Resolution:

Following a brief discussion, it was moved by Mike Burchett, seconded by Larry Roberts to approve the said resolution.

6. Public Hearing Approval:

Following discussion, it was moved by Rosemary Hellwig, seconded by Lori Berger and the members of the Board of Trustees unanimously approved the Public Hearing on June 12.

7. Termination of Consultation Services – Dr. Mustapha Debboun:

Following discussion, it was moved by Mike Burchett, seconded by Kevin Caskey, abstention from Lori Berger and the members of the Board of Trustees approved the termination of Dr. Mustapha Debboun's Consultation Services.

8. Board of Trustees Member Comments:

Mike Burchett briefly discussed a meeting he had at a city open session and that he briefly discussed the district with them.

9. Future Agenda Items:

Greg Gomez mentioned that he would like to see presentations soon covering the before and after of the Season as had been done in the past.

10. Adjournment:

It was moved by Larry Roberts and seconded by Lori Berger, and the Board of Trustees unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting of the DMVCD's Board of Trustees at 5:12pm.

Paul Harlien, Recording Secretary
