

Delta Mosquito & Vector Control District

Conlin Reis
District Manager

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Vacant
Admin. & Fiscal Coordinator

Benjamin Sperry
Operations Program Manager

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Bryan Ferguson
Foreman

Andrea Troupin
Scientific Program Manager



Erick Arriaga
Community Education & Outreach Coordinator

Delta Mosquito and Vector Control District

Minutes of the Board of Trustees – Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Start: 4:38 p.m. | Adjournment: 5:34 p.m.

1. Roll Call

Present:

Trustee Greg Gomez, President
Trustee Linda Gutierrez, Secretary
Trustee Lori Berger
Trustee Mike Burchett
Trustee Rosemary Hellwig

Absent:

Trustee Larry Roberts
Trustee Kevin Caskey

Staff Present:

Conlin Reis, General Manager
Andrea Troupin, Scientific Program Manager
Benjamin Sperry, Operations Program Manager
Valeria Ortega, Administrative & Fiscal Coordinator

Operations Leads (all present):

- Lisa Salgado, Residential Operations Lead
- Jorge Perez, Municipal & Commercial Operations Lead

- Carlos Rodriguez, Rural Properties Operations Lead
- John McGrew, Agricultural Operations Lead

Public:

- Refugio Gallegos, Ivanhoe Public Utilities District
 - Kerri Salazar, Local Resident
-

2. Public Forum

Per agenda procedures, the public was invited to comment on non-agenda matters.

Kerri Salazar, local resident, expressed concern regarding the District's use of area-wide pesticide spraying. No action stemmed from the comment.

Two other public communications were received prior to the meeting regarding the internal reorganization. No action was taken on these comments.

No other public comments were received.

3. Introduction of New Operations Leads / Reorganization Review

The General Manager introduced the newly appointed Operations Leads and highlighted their backgrounds, operational expertise, and the benefits each brings to the reorganized field structure. Their skillsets are expected to significantly strengthen supervision, field standardization, technical training, and long-range program development.

Each Lead expressed appreciation for the opportunity, and the Board welcomed the new leadership team.

No action required.

4A. Consent Calendar – ACTION

Items included:

- October Minutes

- Checks for Ratification
- Checks for Approval
- *Quarterly Investment Report (not presented at this time)*

Motion: Trustee Gomez

Second: Trustee Hellwig

Vote: Passed by unanimous vote

Consent Calendar approved as amended.

4B. Abatement Hearing – ACTION

(Taken out of order by President Gomez to accommodate Mr. Gallegos; numbering retained for clarity.)

The Board held a nuisance abatement hearing under Health & Safety Code §§2060–2067 regarding mosquito-producing conditions at the Ivanhoe PUD wastewater treatment facility and ponds.

Operations Program Manager Benjamin Sperry reported:

- Persistent and significant mosquito activity at the site
- Recent cooperative remediation measures (vegetation removal, leak repair)
- Ongoing need for structured oversight and site management
- The District's willingness to assist Ivanhoe PUD in pursuing regulatory or funding mechanisms for long-term improvements

The Board determined that the conditions constituted a public nuisance and directed the General Manager to proceed with abatement while assessing pesticide product costs only, imposing no statutory abatement fees, contingent on continued cooperation and a future agreement.

Vote:

- **Ayes:** Trustee Gomez, Trustee Burchett, Trustee Berger
- **Noes:** Trustee Gutierrez, Trustee Hellwig
- **Absent:** Trustee Roberts, Trustee Caskey

Motion passed by majority vote.

The hearing was closed.

5. Manager's Report

The General Manager reported declining mosquito abundance and minimal virus activity in October. Major staff time was dedicated to the operational reorganization, including interviews and assessments of 39 candidates, resulting in the appointment of four Operations Leads and four Vector Control Specialists. Work began on a comprehensive SOP overhaul to strengthen continuity across administrative, operational, and laboratory functions.

Two public communications were received expressing concern about the reorganization. Operationally, rural teams performed over 1,600 inspections and 400 treatments, while fleet operations remained stable. Field staff continued to address late-season sources such as dairies, retention basins, and neglected pools. Surveillance data showed abundance below historical averages and very low virus detection. Outreach conducted multiple school presentations and community events, and the laboratory processed over 45,000 mosquitoes with seven WNV-positive samples. Mosquitofish production and distribution increased significantly.

6. Budget Adjustment for Operational Reorganization & Technology Improvement – ACTION

The Board reviewed the proposed transfer of **\$13,000 from Salaries to Subscriptions and Office Expenses** to support technology purchases, Google Workspace expansion, and licensing for the newly structured Operations Team.

Motion: Trustee Hellwig

Second: Trustee Berger

Vote: Passed by unanimous vote

Budget adjustment approved.

7. Modified Winter Work Schedule (Optional Four-Tens) – ACTION

The Board considered authorizing a **modified winter work schedule** allowing eligible employees to work **four ten-hour days (4×10s)** during the period of **December 1 through early February**, depending on field conditions. As described in the agenda, the schedule is intended only for **indoor, low-intensity project work**, such as long-form clerical tasks, SOP development, training preparation, and program planning. It would **not apply to outdoor field operations**, which will maintain standard hours.

Employees may elect to **waive the 30-minute unpaid meal period** during these extended indoor shifts. The schedule is **voluntary** and will serve as a **pilot program** for Winter 2025–26 before potential incorporation into District policy.

Motion: Trustee Hellwig
Second: Trustee Burchett
Vote: Passed by unanimous vote

Modified winter schedule approved.

8. Item Removed

The item numbered 8 on the agenda was removed prior to the meeting due to time constraints and a listing error.

9. Tulare County Account Signers – ACTION

The Board approved designating all Trustees, along with the General Manager and Administrative & Fiscal Coordinator, as signers on the Tulare County account.

Motion: Trustee Gutierrez
Second: Trustee Hellwig
Vote: Passed by unanimous vote

Signer update approved.

10. Resolution 26-04 – ACTION

The Board reviewed **Resolution 26-04**, which:

- Added California CLASS and Tri Counties Bank as recognized depositories
- Set and clarified the timeline for the previously authorized fund transfer
- Integrated the District's Fiscal Oversight Policy for consistency of financial procedures

Motion: Trustee Burchett
Second: Trustee Berger

Roll-Call Vote:

- **Yeas:** Trustee Gomez, Trustee Berger, Trustee Burchett, Trustee Hellwig, Trustee Gutierrez
- **Noes:** None
- **Absent:** Trustee Roberts, Trustee Caskey

Resolution 26-04 adopted by unanimous vote of Trustees present.

11. Board of Trustees Member Comments

No comments offered.

12. Future Agenda Items

The Board requested addition of **District-managed Trustee email accounts** to the December agenda.

13. Adjournment

A motion by Trustee Gomez to adjourn at **5:34 p.m.** passed by unanimous consent.

Conlin Reis, Recording Secretary

Approved by the Board of Trustees on: _____

BOARD PRESIDENT

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

BOARD SECRETARY

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____