



**San Mateo County
Mosquito and Vector Control District
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**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, JULY 9, 2008**

President Nickolas called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

TRUSTEES PRESENT:

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Ronald Anderson | Sam Lerner |
| Robert Blake | Robert Maynard |
| Robert Bury * | Leon Nickolas |
| Valentina Cogoni | Lawrence Peterson |
| John Curtis | Dennis Preger |
| Joseph Fil | James Ridgeway |
| Christine Fuller | Robert Riechel |
| Cal Hinton | Betsey Schneider |
| Ray Honan | |

TRUSTEES ABSENT:

- Tim Frahm
- Donna Rutherford
- Richard Tagg

STAFF PRESENT:

- Robert Gay, District Manager
- Karen Williams, Clerk of the Board
- James Counts, Field Operations Supervisor
- Chindi Peavey, Vector Ecologist

GUESTS/SPEAKERS PRESENT:

None

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Input on Non Agendized Items

No one from the public was present to speak.

Consent Calendar

MOTION: Approve the consent calendar, which consisted of the list of expenditures for June, revenue received for June, and minutes of the June board meeting. Curtis/Fil, carried unanimously.

Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Budget

Manager Gay reported on the final draft of the 2008-2009 General Fund and Capital Fund Budget. Finance Committee Chairman Preger thanked all Committee members for all their hard work over the past five months.

MOTION: Approve 2008-2009 General Fund and Capital Fund Budget. Fil/Preger, carried unanimously.

Public Hearing

This is the opportunity for any public members to address the Board with questions relevant to the setting of the Special Mosquito Control Tax and/or Benefit Assessment.

MOTION: To open Public Hearing. Hinton/Fuller, carried unanimously.

No members of the public were in attendance for the public hearing.

MOTION: To close Public Hearing. Riechel/Hinton, carried unanimously.

Resolution M-001-09

The purpose of this resolution is to fixing the amount of the Special Mosquito Control Tax for Mosquito Control Services within the originally designated cities and unincorporated areas. The amount is fixed at a maximum of \$3.74 per year, per parcel.

MOTION: To approve Resolution M-001-09. Hinton/Honan, carried unanimously.

Resolution M-002-09

The purpose of this resolution is to authorize the collection of the Special Mosquito Control Tax for Mosquito Control Services within the originally designated cities and unincorporated areas.

MOTION: To approve Resolution M-002-09. Peterson/Hinton, carried unanimously.

Resolution M-003-09

The purpose of this resolution is to order the levy of assessments for fiscal year 2008-09 for the North and West County Mosquito and Disease Control Assessment District. The unit cost for this fiscal year is \$16.57 per single family equivalent.

MOTION: To approve Resolution M-003-09. Honan/Hinton, carried unanimously.

District Programs/Staff Reports

Vector Ecologist Peavey reported on the activities of the Lab Department. The topics included:

- West Nile Virus Update: 213 dead birds have been reported in San Mateo County for 2008. 48 of these were suitable for testing and one tested positive for West Nile Virus. Three people have been infected in California but not from this county. 1 person was from Stanislaus and 2 people were from Tulare County. Statewide, 1 horse, 332 dead birds, 86 mosquito pools, 4 sentinel chickens and 1 squirrel have tested positive for West Nile virus. The Bay Area has no positive cases for humans, horses, squirrels or sentinel chickens.
- The Lab staff continues to study the current state of dog heartworm in the County. This study aims to update the status of dog heartworm in our area with information provided by County Veterinarians and traps collected in tree-hole mosquito populated areas. Former District Manager Charles Hansen published a thesis on this subject in the early 1980's.
- The Lab staff has been investigating an outbreak of Tularemia in a primate facility in Portola Valley. The staff have been trapping ground squirrels and testing their blood for the disease. Symptoms of Tularemia include sudden fever, chills, headache, diarrhea, muscle aches, joint pain and weakness. The disease is treatable with antibiotics.
- Dr. Peavey provided a presentation to Homeland Security at SFO about Tularemia, which can be used as an agent of biological warfare.

- The City of San Mateo has been receiving resident phone calls in the Laurel Creek area in San Mateo. At the present time, Dewey Pest Control is setting bait stations in the area east of El Camino Real to Laurie Meadows Park to provide control. The District suggested that Dewey extend the area to include east to Hwy 101. The District will provide bait stations on Cal Trans property heading north and south to help suppress the rodent population.
- The Lab staff continues to map out all bait stations with GPS information.
- Assistant Vector Ecologist Angela Rory and Lauren Couture will be leaving the District on July 18, 2008 to continue their education. We wish them the best.

Field Operations Supervisor Counts reported on the activities of the Operations Department. Topics included:

- The Operations department continues to work with Dewey Pest Control on rodent bait station inspections. The process has been time consuming.
- One of the summer hires had a vehicle accident in a right hand drive Jeep. It involved three vehicles and the cost to repair the damage to our vehicle is approximately \$8,000. The accident information was submitted to the VCJPA but we will be awaiting a police report from the CHP.
- The invasive cord grass program will be starting up in two weeks. James has decided not to do any mowing of the cord grass this year since the herbicide has worked so well in the past two treatment years. The Coastal Conservancy is extremely happy with the work that has taken place in the past. The treated areas surrounding the San Francisco Airport had significant impact and should be completed this year. The areas to be treated this season will be in the northern bay areas and should be smaller than in past years.
- Helicopter treatment for Mills Field, Sharp Park, Jasper Ridge and 3000 Portola Rd began on July 2, 2008. The helicopter did have a problem when it had arrived on site and repairs needed to be made before the treatment could take place. Though there was a three hour delay, the work was completed before the end of business that day.
- The Operations department will be picking up a new ARGO in the coming weeks. The oldest ARGO in our possession will be traded in.
- Field Supervisor Counts has been working with the manufacturers of BVA oil to change the viscosity of the product. It is a better product than GB1111 but does not work well in colder weather. Once the viscosity correction can be made, the District will use this material as its main treatment for water sources. It has no smell, which is important for the techs who apply it and to the residents who need it for their backyard ponds. Though this material is slightly more expensive, it will work better in the long run.

Mosquito and Vector Control Association of California (MVCAC)

Manager Gay reported on the activities for MVCAC. Manager Gay has been nominated for Vice President of the Coastal Region.

The MVCAC quarterly meeting will be held on Elk Grove on July 24, 2008.

Closed Session – Conference with Counsel, potential litigation

MOTION: To adjourn into closed session. Peterson/Hinton, carried unanimously.

MOTION: To come out of closed session. Hinton/Anderson, carried unanimously.

No action was taken in closed session.

District Manager's Activity Report

Manager Gay reported on the following activities:

Legislative Update:

MVCAC continues to monitor numerous bills that impact on mosquito and vector control issues.

Fiona Ma has sponsored a bill eliminating State and Federal use of pesticides. The responsibility would be given to the cities to handle. This bill is being aggressively opposed because it could create new laws on how pesticides are regulated.

SB1137 (Perata) is a bill dealing with foreclosed homes and the problems they create with abandoned swimming pools. The bill would make Banks or deed holders responsible for maintenance. The bill was signed into law by Governor Schwarzenegger on July 8, 2008. The District strongly supports this bill.

State Officials have called off the aerial spraying for the light brown apple moth, awaiting a pending environmental impact report.

AB 2763 (Laird) has been placed on Committee on Appropriation suspense file. If it continues to move forward, members may have to oppose unless it exempts MVCAC members for our communitywide ground application of pesticides. Author says it does not apply to us.

AB 2765 (Huffman) has been referred to Committee on Appropriation. If it continues to move forward, members may have to oppose unless it exempts MVCAC members for our communitywide aerial application of pesticides. Author says it does not apply to us.

ACR 117 (Laird) has been placed in the Committee on Appropriation suspense file. If it continues to move forward, members may have to oppose unless it exempts MVCAC members for our communitywide ground application of pesticides. Author says it does not apply to us.

SCR 87 (Migden) is in the Assembly held at the Desk.

AB 2760 (Leno) has been re-referred to Committee on Appropriation. If it continues to move forward, members may have to oppose unless it exempts MVCAC members for our communitywide aerial application of pesticides. Author says it does not apply to us.

Vector Control Joint Powers Agency

The 2009 Annual meeting has been moved from Aptos to Sacramento. Mike Simmons will be the facilitator.

Public Education Outreach

The public agency educational outreach program that involves all Districts in the coastal region, in conjunction with KCBS radio, will be renewed. The District's cost is \$5,000 and it will include 176 infomercials and 960 streaming infomercials online.

Financial Commentary

The District's annual audit is scheduled to begin August 12, 2008.

California Special District Association (CSDA)

Trustee Ray Honan (SSF) has been nominated to the CSDA Board for the Coastal Region.

Eight Trustees are scheduled to attend the upcoming meeting in Irvine, CA on September 22 – 25th 2008. They are Blake (Belmont), Fuller (Daly City), Cogoni (Menlo Park), Peterson (Hillsborough), Lerner (Atherton), Ridgeway (San Mateo) Riechel (San Bruno) and Maynard (Brisbane).

Barron Corporation Yard Building Project

Manager Gay reported that the District is still waiting the final clearance for the building permit.

General Comments

Trustee Ridgeway (San Mateo) delivered a report from the Grand Jury. The report was regarding the requirements for cities and local government compliance to GASB 45.

Board, Committee and Staff Announcements

AMCA

At last board meeting, President Nickolas took a secret ballot of all the Trustees to determine the number of Trustees that the District will allow to attend the annual AMCA meeting each year. The outcome of the ballot was a total number of Trustees allowed is 3 members. President Nickolas indicated that the attendance to the annual AMCA meeting will be as follows: The President plus 2 members are allowed. If the President is unable to attend, then only 2 members will be allowed to attend. The third position, in place of the President, will not be substituted. This decision will lessen the District funds allocated for travel expense. The Trustees scheduled to attend the 2009 Annual AMCA meeting in New Orleans, LA on April 5 – April 9, 2009 are:

Leon Nickolas	President
Ray Honan	Member
Robert Maynard	Member

District Policy Committee

Chairman Riechel reported on the updated policies that were included in the prepacket for this board meeting. The updates included minor wording changes, logo updates, formatting changes and punctuation. The policies that were updated were:

- 1010 Purpose of Board Policies
- 1030 Conflict of Interest
- 1040 Records Retention
- 1070 Special Mosquito Control Tax
- 1110 Claims Procedures
- 1120 Travel

The packet also included any applicable appendices referenced in the above policies.

MOTION: To approved selected policies. Honan/Hinton, carried unanimously.

General

Trustee Lerner (Atherton) reported on his recent ride-along with Mosquito Control Technician Brian Weber, who is the technician assigned to Atherton, Menlo Park and East Palo Alto. Trustee Lerner complimented Technician Weber on job skills, his enthusiasm for the job and his outstanding customer service skills with the public. Trustee Lerner indicated that he learned a great deal about what Mosquito and Vector Control duties are. He stated that Brian was an outstanding candidate to teach him about the District and he looked forward to another ride-along in the winter season.

Committee Meetings

Policy Committee: Chairman Riechel reported that the next scheduled meeting will be July 16, 2008 at 12:00pm to discuss further updates to the District Policy manual.

Environmental Committee: Chairman Curtis reported that the next scheduled meeting is September 10, 2008 immediately preceding the Board meeting at 6:00pm.

Strategic Planning: Chairman Fil that the next meeting would be scheduled after work begins on the Redwood City Corporate Yard.

Reminder of Next Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting

President Nickolas, in consultation with the Manager, have concluded there is not sufficient District business to conduct at the August meeting and recommend that the Board, by motion, schedule the next meeting for September 10, 2008.

MOTION: Approve next meeting for September 10, 2008. Hinton/Riechel, carried unanimously.

Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting. Peterson/Anderson, carried unanimously.
8:18pm

Approved:


District Manager


President

July 9, 2008
Date

*Trustee Bury arrived at 7:07pm