



San Mateo County Mosquito Abatement District

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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, FEBRUARY 13, 2008

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

TRUSTEES PRESENT:

Ronald Anderson	Robert Maynard
Robert Bury	Leon Nickolas
Robert Blake	Lawrence Peterson
Valentina Cogoni	James Ridgeway
John Curtis	Robert Riechel
Joseph Fil	Betsey Schneider
Christine Fuller	Richard Tagg
Ray Honan	

TRUSTEES ABSENT:

Cal Hinton	Dennis Preger
Tim Frahm	Donna Rutherford

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

A moment of silence was given in memory of former City of San Mateo Trustee, Roland Finley, who passed away February 9, 2008 after a brief illness.

Public Input on Non Agendized Items

None

Consent Calendar

MOTION:

Approve the consent calendar, which consisted of the list of expenditures for January, revenue received for January, minutes of the January board meeting, two (2) fixed asset retirements and Resolution M-005-08 Appreciation of Service for Doris Kellett. Honan/Peterson, carried unanimously.

Vector Control Program

Manager Gay reported on the status of adding vector control services to our current list of programs. The District is awaiting passage of a Resolution from the County Board of Supervisors to transfer service from Environmental Health to Mosquito Abatement. This is expected at a March Board of Supervisors meeting.

Vector Ecologist Chindi Peavey provided a report on the previous phone calls received by Environmental Health over the past year on vector control services.

Bay Road Property Update

Manager Gay reported on the current status of the Bay Road property. The plans have been submitted to the County.

The subcontractors are being assembled by our General Contractor, Bernie Head. Many of the same subcontractors that have been used on our previous building projects will be completing the phase III building project.

The District, along with the County Controllers Office, is working on having the property tax bill exempted. We have contacted the individual taxing agencies and the corrections should be made shortly.

District Programs/Staff Reports

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

- The numbers of mosquitoes found in traps has been reduced due to the cool weather.
- Brochures are being mailed out to physicians regarding the Lyme disease survey that was being prepared previously.
- Assistant Vector Ecologist Nakano attended a workshop on pesticide resistance at the Coachella Valley Vector Control District. The workshop was held a day after the MVCAC annual meeting in Palm Springs.
- Vector Ecologist Peavey and Field Supervisor Counts have been regularly attending meetings on the South Bay salt pond restoration project to oversee the District's interests.
- Vector Ecologist Peavey and Field Supervisor Counts attended a Mori Point Advisory Council meeting. A resident submitted a "Letter to the Editor" in the Pacifica Tribune complaining about the red-legged frog ponds constructed at Mori Point which she stated were creating mosquito breeding sites. The comments made in the letter had many incorrect facts regarding mosquito abatement and a clarification of the services we provide and the function of the ponds were necessary.
- A meeting was held today at the District with members from the Coastal Region regarding a national mosquito management plan being formulated by U.S. Fish and Wildlife for regulation for mosquito control on refuge lands. A regional response is being created, in conjunction with Alameda County and Santa Clara County, in regard to the Don Edwards Wildlife Refuge, which borders each of these counties.
- The Lab will be working on a study of blood meal analysis for *Culex pipiens*. This study may take several years of compilation to get good results.
- Assistant Vector Ecologists Nakano and Rory will be working on a Veterinarian's survey on canine heartworm and a study of the County's prevalence of heartworm occurrences.

- Tick surveillance is continuing. The Lab and Operations staff are checking different parks throughout the county looking for seasonal distribution between the North and South County areas.
- A representative from Bell Labs trained the Operations and Lab staff on the use of rodenticide.

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

- All eight jeeps have arrived and they are being sent to Mar-Len Supply for modifications to the tank areas.
- The marsh areas of Bair Island are beginning to show signs of mosquito breeding. This will require us to use a helicopter for aerial treatment in the next one to two weeks to prevent a mosquito fly off.
- The technicians have been at Bair Island removing old siphon pipes, which were used to drain water out of parts of Bair Island. The pipes are being cut and removed for disposal. Winches and cables have been used to remove the pipes, which are partially submerged in mud and are 150 feet long, 12 inches around and ½ inch thick. The purpose of removing these old pipes is to assist US Fish and Wildlife to open this area back to tidal marsh.
- The invasive cord grass program will continue this year. The die-off from last year's treatment was good and the program should last another one to two years to completely resolve the invasive cord grass issue.

Mosquito and Vector Control Association of California (MVCAC)

Manager Gay reported on the activities for MVCAC. The Mosquito and Vector Control Association of California Annual meeting was held January 24-26, 2008 in Palm Springs. Attendees commented on their experience at the meeting.

Leon Nickolas: “Enjoyed the conference”. Ralph Heim, MVCAC, had commented on the dire predictions of the State of California Budget crisis.

Valentina Cogoni: Enjoyed the conference. She found the presentation on Forensic Entomology quite interesting. She also found the presentation about the discovery of West Nile virus in New York State very informative.

James Ridgeway: This was his first conference. He was impressed with Coachella Valley District's operation due to its programs and its size. He really enjoyed himself.

Larry Peterson: He found the conference very informative.

Betsey Schneider: Betsey enjoyed the presentation on the discovery of West Nile virus in New York State. The speaker was a veterinarian at the Bronx Zoo who coordinated several health agencies into action when the virus first became apparent. She also stated to not only look at the impact on humans but animals serve as a precursor and must be watched closely to prevent other diseases. “You never know what animal will provide the first warning for the next virus”.

Robert Maynard: Enjoyed the discussion on tick born diseases.

Christine Fuller: She was inspired by the passion of everyone involved. As a whole, she felt she learned a lot of new information. She also enjoyed the student competition.

Ron Anderson: He complimented the staff on their presentations and the Manager on his moderating. He was interested in the tick born diseases and would like to hear more information on this topic in the future. He was interested in the legislative section and the goings on in Sacramento.

He learned about a new product called pervious concrete. This product can be used to eliminate standing water by having the water drain through the product rather than pool on top.

Chindi Peavey: Chindi also enjoyed the presentation from the veterinarian from the Bronx Zoo.

James Counts: James also enjoyed the veterinarian from New York. The other talks on West Nile Virus were similar to conferences before. He enjoyed the interaction between Districts and the ability to meet and mingle with your peers.

Robert Gay: It is a great educational tool and opportunity to network. It is also a great opportunity to see how other District's work and how their programs are managed.

Manager Gay will be meeting with the new management company, Smith Moore, to discuss arrangements for the 2009 annual conference, which will be held in Burlingame, at the Hyatt Hotel. Since our District will be one of the hosting Districts, we will be instrumental in making arrangements for attendees and providing field trips and points of interest during the conference. We will be working in conjunction with the other Coastal Region Districts.

American Mosquito Control Association Conference

Manager Gay reported on the activities for AMCA. The annual meeting will be held March 2 – 6th, 2008 in Sparks, Nevada. Two Trustees and five staff members will be attending.

District Manager's Activity Report

Manager Gay reported on the following activities:

Legislative

The District continues to work on Department of Health Services funding issues and potential loss of the continuing education programs.

There will not be a Legislative Day this year. There will be some meetings arranged with local legislators in February or March to discuss issues important to mosquito abatement.

General

The District will be reviewing the continuance of the KCBS Media program.

Board Committee and Staff Announcements

Clerk Williams stated that the bi-annual requirement for ethics training has been announced to the applicable Trustees. Availability to complete the training online has been provided to each trustee. Certificates of completion must be turned in to the Clerk of the Board to be kept on file.

Committee Meetings

Policy Committee: Chairman Riechel reported that the next scheduled meeting will be in conjunction with the Finance Committee on March 26, 2008 at 12:00pm to discuss the Capital Asset Policy and Procedures along with other budgeting processes.

Environmental Committee: Chairman Curtis reported that the next scheduled meeting is March 12, 2008 immediately preceding the Board meeting at 6:00pm.

Strategic Planning: Chairman Fil reported that the next scheduled meeting is March 25, 2008 at 12:00pm.

Finance Committee: Manager Gay reported the next meeting is scheduled in conjunction with the Policy Committee on March 26, 2008 at 12:00pm.

Reminder of Next Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for March 12, 2008 at 7:00pm.

MOTION: Approve next meeting for March 12, 2008. Curtis/Peterson, carried unanimously.

Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting in memory of Congressman Tom Lantos and also Pacifica Fire Fighter Jeffrey Rhodes. Curtis/Blake carried unanimously. 8:53pm
Approved:



District Manager



President

March 12, 2008

Date