



San Mateo County Mosquito Abatement District

1351 Rollins Rd
Burlingame CA 94010
(650) 344-8592 Fax (650) 344-3843
www.smcmad.org

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, MARCH 12, 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 | Dennis Preger |
| John Curtis | James Ridgeway |
| Joseph Fil | Robert Riechel |
| Tim Frahm | Donna Rutherford |
| Christine Fuller | Betsey Schneider |
| Ray Honan | Richard Tagg |

TRUSTEES ABSENT:

Cal Hinton

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

President Nickolas introduced two candidates for the Trustee position for the Town of Atherton. In attendance, were Jack Phillips and Howard Crittenden. They would be observing the process to determine if they would be interested in participating if selected.

Consent Calendar

MOTION: Approve the consent calendar, which consisted of the list of expenditures for February, revenue received for February, minutes of the February board meeting, and three (3) fixed asset retirements. Curtis/Peterson, carried unanimously.

Vector Control Program

Manager Gay reported on the status of adding vector control services to our current list of programs. He stated that he had received a letter from Brian Zamora regarding the preparation of a Resolution to transfer services. This resolution should go to the Board of Supervisors in April. Currently, the Lab and Operations departments are reviewing the work of the Environmental Health Department to see how service calls are currently managed.

Bay Road Property Update

Manager Gay reported on the current status of the Bay Road property. The plans have been submitted to the County. Manager Gay reviewed the history of the building projects leading up to where we are currently. Manager Gay reported on the building configuration and the list of sub contractors that will be working on the project.

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.
- James Counts and Chindi Peavey met with personnel from Don Edwards Wildlife Refuge in regard to a national mosquito management plan being formulated by U.S. Fish and Wildlife for regulation for mosquito control on refuge lands. Work needs to be done on ecological assessments for the Bair Island area but they can take months or years to complete. The control work that the District does on Bair Island will continue due to the large areas of mosquito breeding at the site.
- A mosquito identification workshop will be attended by several of the Mosquito Control Technicians and an Assistant Vector Ecologist to assist them with field identification.
- 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.
- A High School intern will be joining the Lab staff in the summer.
- Brochures are being mailed out to physicians regarding the Lyme disease survey that was being prepared previously.
- Several staff members will be attending a rare pond species workshop. The topic is to inform individuals about the survey techniques used to identify rare species in water sources.
- The Lab staff participated in a rodent survey. They trapped 12 animals and will be looking for occurrences of Tularemia.
- Dr. Peavey and Assistant Vector Ecologist Marcus attended a Lyme Disease Advisory Council meeting today. The meeting consists of Doctors and people who have been diagnosed with Lyme disease. The purpose is to discover better methods of diagnosing the disease and its treatments.
- Predictions for West Nile virus for this year: In our area, this may be a busy year. Contra Costa County already has several positive birds and two chickens have tested positive in Los Angeles County.

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

- All eight right hand drive jeeps, which are used for catch basin treatments, have had all of there modifications completed. One jeep was on display in the parking lot for everyone to inspect.

- Helicopter spraying of Bair Island occurred for two consecutive days this month. More than 1500 acres of the marsh were treated. Some of the areas that may have been missed due to wind drift were treated by hand by the Technicians.
- James will be attending a meeting Thursday with a professor from Southern California who is interested in our methods of eradication of the invasive non-native cord grass. 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.
- Maintenance of the Operations vehicles is continuing. Work was completed on repairing the Hovercraft and one of the Argos that had a transmission problem.

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 for 2009 will be held at the Hyatt Hotel, Burlingame. The Coastal Region will be meeting with the MVCAC administrative team from Smith Moore to begin the arrangements for the event. Though this meeting will be handled by the Region, a lot of the emphasis will be on our District since we are the hosting city. The District will be hosting a hospitality suite for the first Sunday and probably another one for Monday evening. Vendors will be asked to sponsor an event. John Rusmiser, Alameda County MAD, is the Coastal Region President and he will be the person in charge of arranging and scheduling the presentations and workshop sessions.

Trustee Preger reported on his experience at the recent annual meeting in Palm Springs. He stated that he was impressed by a U.S. Weather Bureau speaker and the discussion on how weather impacts our industry. There was also a representative from the Florida Institute of Technology that was very knowledgeable about Burlingame mosquito abatement history. He enjoyed the meeting and looked forward to the 2009 annual meeting.

American Mosquito Control Association Conference

Manager Gay reported on the activities for AMCA. The annual meeting was held March 2 – 6th, 2008 in Sparks, Nevada. Two Trustees and five staff members attended. The 2009 Meeting will be held on New Orleans, Louisiana.

Trustee Schneider reported on her experience at the AMCA meeting. She enjoyed the wealth of knowledge and the diversity of the speakers was wonderful. She attended a presentation by Donald Roberts of Uniform Services University of Health Sciences, who reported on the evolution of DDT for malaria control. Spraying provided a great decrease in infant mortality from 64% to 38% by 1950. There was a tremendously successful history with indoor spraying and by 1960, malaria was under control. Then a book came out in 1962 about the environmental impact of DDT and endangered species, which began a grass-roots campaign against DDT spraying. Trustee Schneider also reported that the Trustee session was very informative and the topics ranged from larviciding to adulticiding to actual dispersal specifics about droplet size and weather inversions. She enjoyed the conference a great deal!

Trustee Anderson reported on his experience at the AMCA meeting. He enjoyed the trustee session as commented on by Trustee Schneider. He gathered a large amount of knowledge by attending the Legislative session presented by Ralph Heim. The session highlighted the importance of getting to know the local representatives to promote our programs and continue to garner support for them. With budget cuts happening at the state level, it is extremely important to keep the need for public health issues funded. Trustee Anderson enjoyed the conference.

District Manager's Activity Report

Manager Gay reported on the following activities:

Legislative

The MVCAC Legislative Committee is following a Senate Bill 1376 (Duchaney) which would limit the amount of reserves that a District can carry to 10%. This would be impossibility for our District considering that we receive our major revenue in the months of December and April. We would be unable to pay payroll and expenses without having a large reserve to begin each fiscal year.

West Nile Virus and Mosquito and Vector Control Awareness week has been designated for April 21 through April 25, 2008. Each city was sent a letter asking for adoption by their respective Council.

General

A 30 second public service announcement for West Nile Virus in the form of DVD was provided for review. It is available to local cable stations for broadcast.

Finance Administrator Williams has completed the revision to the Fixed Asset software and a new streamlined, user friendly process will now be in place to record and remove fixed assets from inventory. This new method and reporting will be discussed at the March 26th Policy/Finance joint committee meeting.

CSDA will be holding it's next meeting entitled "Embracing Technology" in Irvine California on September 22 – 25th, 2008. Interested attendees need to contact either Manager Gay or Finance Administrator Williams to finalize reservations.

The annual VCJPA insurance program meeting was held Feb 24 – 26th, 2008 in Aptos. Manager Gay and Trustee Preger attended and stated that our insurance program is going quite well.

Recently, Sac/Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District was investigated during their audit and it was determined that they must treat their Trustees as employees, thus eligible for withholding taxes. We will be reviewing this decision.

Board Committee and Staff Announcements

Manager Gay reported on an update of Trustee Cal Hinton. He spoke to Cal's wife who stated that he is recovering from his injuries and still on pain medication and heavily sedated. Flowers and a card with well wishes have been sent by the District. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Manager Gay reported on an update of Mosquito Control Technician Cavanaugh. She is still recovering from her injuries and receiving physical therapy. Her outlook for a full recovery is good and we wish her a speedy recovery.

Committee Meetings

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

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.

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

Environmental Committee: Chairman Curtis reported that the next scheduled meeting is April 9, 2008 immediately preceding the Board meeting at 6:00pm.

Reminder of Next Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for April 9, 2008 at 7:00pm.

MOTION: Approve next meeting for April 9, 2008. Honan/Anderson, carried unanimously.

Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting. Peterson/Fuller, carried unanimously. 8:46pm
Approved:


District Manager


President

April 9, 2008
Date