

**Regular Minutes of the Board of Trustees of the Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District Meeting held September 8, 2021**

**Members Present:** President Dr. Albert Beck, Michael Barth, Bruce Johnson, Vice President Dr. Larry Kirk, Philip LaRocca, Steve Ostling, Assistant Secretary Melissa Schuster, and Secretary Bo Sheppard.

**Members Excused:** Carl Starkey.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Also Present:** District Manager Matt Ball, Assistant Manager Doug Weseman, Office Manager Maritza Sandoval, Entomologist Amanda Bradford, and Office Assistant Sara MacKenzie.

1. The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District held on September 8, 2021, at 444 Otterson Drive, Chico, CA 95928.
2. The September 8, 2021, Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 4:00 PM by President Beck.
3. Seeing and hearing no persons wishing to address the Board on items not on the agenda, President Beck proceeded to request approval of the minutes.
4. After review it was then moved by Member Johnson, seconded by Member Kirk, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting held August 11, 2021, as written.
5. No persons wishing to address the Board on closed session matters.
6. No closed session matters.
7. Reports (7.1 – 7.2)
- 7.1 Under item 7.1 of reports, District Manager's Report, the District Manager reported that on August 12, 2021, the District completed the monthly staff meeting and all vehicle inspections. The District's Safety Committee also met on this date.

On August 17, 2021, the District Manager attended via Zoom the MVCAC Executive Board meeting. This monthly meeting is where all member district managers attend to discuss legislation, action items of the MVCAC, plan, and discuss challenges for the upcoming season.

On August 18, 2021, the District received confirmation that OMAD had officially paid its CalPERS contract and that the contract with CalPERS has been terminated. LAFco is waiting to hear from the California State Board of Equalization and the County of Butte.

On August 20, 2021, the District Manager attended the biweekly MVCAC Legislative and Regulatory conference call. The meeting discussed pending and drafted legislative bills, the state budget, COVID-19 issues, and reviewed a few regulatory issues.

On August 25, 2021, the District Manager, Entomologist, and Vector Ecologist / Fish Biologist attended a webinar conference from Clarke Mosquito Control where the BioGents line of mosquito traps was discussed, explained, and reviewed.

On August 26, 2021, the District management attended a cyber security webinar provided by M&I free of charge.

The District's Office Manager attended CSDA's Annual Conference on August 30 through September 2. At the meeting, the Office Manager provided a brief verbal report.

- 7.2 Under item 7.2 of reports, the department reports, the District Manager reported the District's New Jersey light traps and gravid traps have continued catching mosquitoes. Both *Culex pipiens* and *Culex tarsalis* populations are somewhat higher than the previous year. Sentinel chicken samples are continuing to be taken biweekly. CO2 trapping has continued and traps are being deployed routinely. Mosquito pools are being submitted for mosquito-borne disease. As of September 8, 2021, 373 pools have been submitted for testing. The sentinel chickens are having sera samples taken biweekly.

*Aedes aegypti* detections have continued and increased over the past month. Detections for 2021 include, Chico, Oroville, Thermalito, and Gridley. The District initiated the District's Response Plan for Detection of Invasive Aedes Mosquitoes for each detection.

West Nile virus (WNV) activity continues to increase throughout the State as well as within the District's service area. The District has WNV positive detections in 10 humans (1 fatality), 77 mosquito pools, 2 dead birds, and 24 sentinel chickens.

The District's four indoor fish tanks continue to operate normally. Currently, three tanks are working as rearing tanks with another tank holding the fry from the rearing tanks. Fry numbers continue to increase. Over 3,600 fry were produced in August. The Vector Ecologist / Fish Biologist increased the stock in each rearing tank and will continue to test the tanks for optimal production. The public mosquitofish tanks have been placed and a total of 13 locations are stocked with fish for the public.

Mosquito and Vector Control Specialists (Specialists) have continued with summer surveillance and control operations. Swimming pool inspections have been completed and a second round of storm drain treatment has been completed. Agricultural, managed wetlands, ditches, drains, and pasture inspections and treatments continue. Service requests for inspections, fish, and treatments have continued to be taken and serviced. Many door-to-door inspections and treatments have been made to manage the invasive *Aedes*.

As of August 31, 2021, 714Y has treated 4,445 acres of managed wetlands. The acreage at this time last year was 4,481 acres. 6633K has treated 39,307 acres of rice. The acreage at this time last year was 43,151 acres. 606Y has made 8 ULV adulticide treatments this year. Last year at this time, 606Y had made 4 ULV treatments.

The Public Relations (PR) Department is currently preparing for the upcoming public relations season. The PR Department is reviewing and updating (if needed) the District's website, brochures, photo and video files, and other informational documents. The District mobile friendly website continues to be updated as needed. The District public service announcements began on May 1, 2021, running on radio and television. The District's billboards went up on May 1 as well and will be rotating throughout the county. The District continues to send several press releases and the media has covered them by printing and televising the District's messaging. The District continued with distributing mailers and leaving door hangers in the area where the invasive mosquitoes were collected.

After this final item of reports, President Beck asked the District Manager to proceed to policy matters.

8. Policy matters (8.1 – 8.2)

8.1 Under item 8.1 of policy matters, the Board was asked to consider approving the proposed draft of Personnel Policies, Policy #7227, Use of Personal Social Media. This policy has been reviewed and recommended by the District's legal counsel. It was then moved by Member Sheppard, seconded by Member Schuster, and passed unanimously with a vote of 8 ayes and 0 nays to approve and adopt Personnel Policies, Policy #7227, Use of Personal Social Media.

8.2 Under item 8.2 of policy matters, the Board was asked to consider approving the proposed amendments to Personnel Policies, Policy #7255, Employee Driver Safety and Driving Record. It was then moved by Member Sheppard, seconded by Member Johnson, and passed unanimously with a vote of 8 ayes and 0 nays to approve revision to Personnel Policies, Policy #7255, Employee Driver Safety and Driving Record.

9. Under topic of the month, the District's Entomologist presented a report on the biology and control of *Aedes melanimon*.

10. After reviewing the demands made upon the District for the past month, it was then moved by Member Barth, seconded by Member LaRocca, and passed unanimously to authorize checks numbered 49754 through 49899 be signed and distributed. Expenditures for the month totaled \$315,239.32.

11. No personnel items to report.

12. Under correspondence, the Board reviewed letters from CalPERS and CSDA.

13. Under other business, the District Manager stated that Member Starkey was listening in to the meeting and the Board wished him a speedy recovery.

14. No persons wishing to address the Board pertaining to closed session matters.

15. No closed session items.

16. President Beck announced adjournment at 4:35 PM and concluded by stating that the next regular meeting of the BCMVCD Board of Trustees would meet at 4:00 PM on October 13, 2021, at the Chico Substation's Board Room at 444 Otterson Drive, Chico, CA 95928.

Respectfully submitted,

James "Bo" Sheppard,  
Secretary