

JANUARY 14, 2021 MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Sutter-Yuba Mosquito & Vector Control District Board of Trustees was called to order by Board President Bill Harris at 4:30 P.M., Thursday, January 14, 2021.

PRESENT: Board Trustee Secretary Sanbrook.

BY TELEPHONE: Board President Harris, Trustees Schmidl, Guzman, Ghag and Ken Meyers of Meyers Investment Group.

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Manager Abshier, General Foreman Hunt.

EMERGENCY AGENDA ITEMS: None

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. MINUTES OF DECEMBER 10, 2020
- B. BILLS FOR DECEMBER 2020

A motion was made by Guzman and seconded by Ghag approving the consent agenda. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2021: A motion was made by Ghag and seconded by Sanbrook approving the continuation of Bill Harris as Board President. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote. A motion was made by Guzman and seconded by Ghag approving the continuation of John Sanbrook as Board Secretary. The motion was approved with a unanimous vote.

QUARTERLY REVIEW OF THE DISTRICT'S DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN INVESTMENTS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2020: Meyers addressed the Board stating the plan had a decent year. The portfolio gained 9.77% for 2020. The portfolio YTD through January 6th, 2021 has increased 0.37%. Meyers added that a lot of money is still on the sidelines, investors are waiting for stability before getting into the market. Meyers noted BIM/Mid Cap gained 35.10% for 2020. Bond funds, Pac Core and Pimco also did well last year. Meyers added this year should be a normal year with the regular ebb and flows. Meyers is not recommending any changes in investments at this time. A motion was made by Sanbrook and seconded by Ghag to accept the Defined Benefit Plan Investment Quarterly Review. The motion was approved with a unanimous vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-14-21: First installment of Yuba County Taxes: A motion was made by Guzman and seconded by Ghag approving Resolution No. 01-14-21, requesting the first installment of Yuba County taxes. The motion was approved with a unanimous vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-14-21A: A Resolution of the Sutter-Yuba Mosquito & Vector Control District in Appreciation and Recognition of Service for Stanley Cleveland, Jr. A motion was made by Guzman and seconded by Ghag approving Resolution No. 01-14-21A. The motion was approved with a unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF A VECTOR ECOLOGIST POSITION: Approval is needed to create a full time Vector Ecologist position. With the detection of the invasive *Aedes*, additional help is needed in the Entomology department. Entomologist Blosser is already stretched thin performing additional trapping, monitoring oviposition traps, CDC traps and New Jersey light traps. Additionally, bottle bio assays used to test the efficacy of chemicals must be performed during the busy season. If Blosser were to leave the District, it would be difficult to replace him on short notice. A comprehensive job description was provided detailing tasks, job knowledge, duties, experience, education and pay scale (step 1 \$4,623 to step 13 \$6,649). The position is not budgeted for this year, but we

need to begin trapping for invasive species starting in April. Initial funding for this position will come from the Invasive *Aedes* Detection Response Reserve through June 30, 2021. Moving forward, the position will be budgeted for in Salaries and Benefits. The cost of the Vector Ecologist position, including salary plus benefits would be just shy of \$100,000 per year. A motion was made by Sanbrook and seconded by Guzman approving the addition of a Vector Ecologist position to permanent District staff. The motion was approved with a unanimous vote.

APPROVAL TO RECRUIT AND HIRE A VECTOR ECOLOGIST: The Vector Ecologist job announcement would post soon and remain open for four weeks. The expected start date will be April 1, 2021. This would allow time required for recruitment, interviews and a background check. The starting salary will be \$4,623 per month plus benefits. A motion was made by Sanbrook and seconded by Ghag to approve the hiring of a Vector Ecologist. The motion was approved with a unanimous vote.

PROPERTY FLOOD INSURANCE RATES FOR 2020: Abshier stated that our current policy ends February 24, 2021. For \$14,671, the policies would cover eight buildings owned by the District and their contents including buildings on Market Street in Yuba City. The cost of coverage has increased 12.3% from last year. Abshier noted the policy has increased more than 22% over the last three years. Northern California Counties are classified as being in an extreme drought. Currently the level of Shasta Lake is 45% of capacity with Oroville Lake at 35% capacity. Raising deductibles would result in a higher rate, as we would no longer carry preferred risk status. A motion was made by Schmidl and seconded by Sanbrook not to approve the purchase of flood insurance for one year. The motion was approved with a unanimous vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-14-21B: A resolution allowing an employee's surviving spouse to purchase District health insurance. The coverage would be similar to that offered to District retirees. All premiums would be paid by the spouse, with no cost to the District. Sanbrook asked if the Health and Safety Code allowed for surviving spouse coverage. Abshier noted he believed it does, he will double check to be sure. Butte MVCD recently lost an employee and was faced with this issue. He added that Butte County approved the spousal coverage and has the policy in place. A motion was made by Schmidl and seconded by Sanbrook approving Resolution No. 01-14-21B to allow a District employee's surviving spouse to purchase District health insurance. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

CONSIDERATION OF A CONTRIBUTION TO THE SUTTER-YUBA MOSQUITO & VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN TO REMAIN FULLY FUNDED: Abshier referenced a provided page from the FY 2019-20 audit, describing the net pension liability as of June 30, 2020, that stood at \$432,831. Abshier focused on two areas of the audit, Change of Assumption and Investment Experience. The increased liability in the Change of Assumption was due to a change in segment rates used in the calculation, as well as a change in the projected salary increases of plan participants, from 3% to 4.5%. In previous audits, 3% has been used. The Investment Experience increase was due to the market falling short of expectations. Abshier reported that the plan portfolio has recovered considerably since the end of the 2019-2020 fiscal year, earning \$360,274 on its holdings since July 9, 2020. Abshier is recommending a contribution of \$200,000 from our Unassigned General Reserve. A motion was made by Schmidl and seconded by Sanbrook approving the transfer of \$200,000 from the Unassigned General Reserve to account 51110 Retirement, in order to fund the Sutter-Yuba Mosquito and Vector Control District Defined Benefit Plan. The motion was approved with a unanimous vote.

APPROVAL TO WITHDRAW FUNDS FROM THE VCJPA MEMBER CONTINGENCY FUND: The proposed action failed for lack of a motion.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

MANAGER COMMENTS:

a) John Sanbrook was reappointed to the District Board and sworn in at the January 6, 2021, Board of Supervisors meeting.

b) The Yuba City Council will appoint a new District Trustee at their January 19, 2021 meeting. The Yuba County District Trustee seat remains vacant, no interest has been noted.

c) The MVCAC Annual Conference will be held virtually February 1-3. District staff will be attending. The cost for staff is \$75, \$50 for technicians.

d) The VCJPA annual workshop will be held online February 25-26, 2021. Abshier, Valencia and Farrell will be attending.

d) District activities

- Geweke Ford will have two new pick-ups delivered within two weeks. The third is scheduled for delivery in February.
- The conflict of interest form 700 needs to be completed by all Trustees.
- Clarke Mosquito Control advised of an issue with their product Anvil 10+10. An independent group called PEER, tested Anvil 10+10 and detected a class of chemical called PFAS in the product. The suspected source of the PFAS is the fluorinated packaging leaching to the product. Clarke is currently testing alternative plastic packaging options, and will transition to all PFAS free packaging. Clarke directed users not to use products contained in fluorinated packaging. They will be arranging for replacement and return of these products.
- **TRUSTEE COMMENTS:** Schmidl directed Abshier to obtain clarification of terminology used in determining the pension net liability in the District's Defined Benefit Plan for next year's audit.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, a motion was made by Guzman and seconded by Sanbrook to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote. President Harris adjourned the meeting.

John Sanbrook, Board Secretary