

JULY 9, 2020 MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Sutter-Yuba Mosquito & Vector Control District Board of Trustees was called to order by Board President Harris at 4:30 P.M., Thursday, July 9, 2020.

PRESENT: Schmidl, Guzman.

BY TELEPHONE: President Harris, Secretary Sanbrook, Cleveland, Ghag and William Ontiveros from Sharpe Software.

ALSO PRESENT: Manager Abshier, General Foreman Hunt and Financial Advisor Ken Meyers

EMERGENCY AGENDA ITEM: None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Minutes of June 11, 2020
- B. Bills for June 2020

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

925 MARKET STREET PROPERTY LEASE AGREEMENT: Board approval to lease the 925 Market Street property to Sharpe Software, beginning July 1, 2020. Ontiveros explained since the Covid 19 shutdowns, his staff is working remotely. Due to the uncertainty of possible future state mandated shutdown orders, he is asking for a one year lease. Previously the lease was three years. Ontiveros thanked the Board for the many years of leasing the Market Street property. The Board reiterated their appreciation. A motion was made by Schmidl and seconded by Harris approving a one year lease of 925 Market Street property to Sharpe Software for \$1,696 per month. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

QUARTERLY REVIEW OF THE DISTRICT'S DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN INVESTMENTS AS OF JULY 10, 2020: Ken Meyers of Meyers Investment Group addressed the Board. The District's portfolio year to date is down 5.17%. Meyers noted BIM/MID Cap was the top performing stock, up 5.7% followed by Rvft Con Inc up 3.92%. Bonds have been hit hard; down 20%. MidCore was down 17.86% and blue chip stocks were down by 8.95%. Meyers noted overall we are okay and recommended we make no changes at this time. A motion was made by Cleveland and seconded by Sanbrook approving the quarterly review of the District's Defined Benefit Plan. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

PROPOSITION 4 APPROPRIATION LIMIT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021: A motion was made by Guzman and seconded by Schmidl to open the Proposition 4 Appropriation Limit public hearing. The motion was approved by unanimous vote. Board Secretary Sanbrook opened the public hearing. No members of the public were present. A motion was made by Sanbrook and seconded by Schmidl to close the Proposition 4 Appropriation Limit public hearing. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote. Board Secretary Sanbrook closed the public hearing. Abshier explained that the 2019-2020 appropriation limit was \$5,981,419. The limit for the 2020-2021 budget is \$6,373,202. CPI is one of the factors used in setting the limit. CPI is the change in personal income. Our budget for fiscal year 2020-2021 is based on projected revenue and is far below the appropriation limit.

FINAL BUDGET APPROVAL FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021: Board members were provided with the 2020-2021 Budget. The Salaries and Benefits portion of the budget reflects a 16.8% increase or \$285,968 higher than the approved budget for 2019-2020. The increase is largely due to a significantly higher contribution than last year for fully funding the defined benefit plan. The Services and Supplies portion of the budget reflects a 5.4% or \$81,816 increase of over the approved budget for fiscal year 2019-2020. Increasing pesticide costs, some services, insurance costs and earlier timed applications for *Culex* mosquitoes can be attributed to the increase. The Fixed Assets portion of the budget reflects a 10.1% increase or \$17,800 higher than the approved budget for 2019-2020. The majority of the increase can be attributed to the cost of one more pickup and one more Promist fogger than was purchased last year. These changes increased the Total Expenditures by 11.4% or \$389,584 over 2019-2020, to \$3,793,782. A motion was made by Ghag and seconded by Guzman approving the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget of \$3,793,782. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

APPROVAL TO RENEW THE CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP WITH THE MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA (MVCAC) FOR THE 2020-2021 FISCAL YEAR: Abshier stated that the membership dues structure changed one year ago. We

are in a tiered system where Districts with operating budgets between three million and five million pay \$10,500 in annual dues. We get a lot of value with our membership. A motion was made by Schmidl and seconded by Sanbrook approving renewal of our Corporate Membership in the MVCAC at \$10,500. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

APPROVAL TO RENEW THE AMERICAN MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION (AMCA) MEMBERSHIP FOR THE 2020-2021 FISCAL YEAR: Annual dues are calculated through a formula using a percentage of the operating budget. The dues for 2020-2021 are \$2,075. Much of the AMCA's work involves lobbying Congress for members. The association was instrumental in securing funding for the SMASH act. We are able to watch required continuing education videos free of charge. A motion was made by Guzman and seconded by Sanbrook approving the renewal of our membership with the AMCA for \$2,075. The motion was approved with a unanimous vote.

RESOLUTION 07-09-20: RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE SUTTER-YUBA MOSQUITO & VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT AUTHORIZING ELECTRONIC TRANSFER OF FUNDS BY THE YUBA COUNTY AUDITOR. Historically, the Yuba County Auditor has paid the District its monies by issuing a paper check which was endorsed by the District and deposited with the Sutter County Treasurer. A recent payment was lost in the mail, requiring signing of an affidavit and the issuance of a new check. An electronic transfer will be much simpler and more secure. A motion was made by Ghag and seconded by Schmidl approving Resolution 07-09-20. The motion was approved with a unanimous vote.

APPROVAL TO PURCHASE A CLARKE PROMIST ADULTICIDE FOGGER: Approval is needed to purchase a new Promist Dura adulticide fogger. The fogger would replace an old obsolete fogger. The purchase of three foggers was previously budgeted. We need to take delivery of one unit now and the other two before the end of the calendar year, to take advantage of current year pricing and to get the most benefit from the one year warranty. The Promist Dura has been a very dependable machine and is backed by a great service department and parts are readily available. Another fogger, the Curtis Dyna-Fog is priced about \$1,000 less at \$15,954.51. In the past we have had issues with product support and parts availability. A motion was made by Ghag and seconded by Sanbrook approving the purchase of a Clarke Promist Dura adulticide fogger for \$16,901.51. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

APPROVAL FOR THE PURCHASE OF A-1 WALS AEROSOLIZER: The A-1 is the mist blower of choice to control the invasive *Aedes* species. The droplets are propelled sixty feet in the air and come down into tiny cryptic sources where the invasive mosquitoes breed. The unit also will be utilized to treat areas such as duck clubs and refuge ponds. We tested the A-1 last year with very good results. Another mist blower, the Buffalo Turbine is available, costing \$27,500, about \$10,000 more than the A-1 unit. We already purchased a long bed pickup to accommodate the length of the A-1 machine. A motion was made by Guzman and seconded by Schmidl approving the purchase of an A-1 WALS Aerosolizer for \$17,400. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

MANAGER COMMENTS: Two mosquito samples submitted for mosquito-borne disease testing returned positive for West Nile virus. The locations of the positive samples were from Live Oak and the North Butte area. Additional spraying has been scheduled in response to the findings. Statewide there has been one human case and one positive horse, twenty-three dead birds and 135 mosquito pools tested positive. The New Jersey Mosquito Trap counts are at or near the 10 year average for *Culex tarsalis*, *pipiens* and *Anopheles freeborni*. Abshier reminded the Board that the *tarsalis* is the mosquito of concern for West Nile transmission. Eric Blosser is working on an adjustment factor to the light trap data for the new LED bulbs. Abundance numbers from these traps drive the decision making on when to begin adulticide spraying. This year our strategy was to begin spraying early. There is evidence that suggests early spraying can dramatically reduce the number of mosquitoes at their normal peak.

District staff has begun visiting neglected pools where photo evidence shows a potential for mosquito production. In Sutter County, 295 pools were marked as suspect. Inspections and or treatments have been made to 91 pools thus far. Staff has 204 pools left to be inspected. In Yuba County, 297 pools were marked as suspect. Inspections or treatments have been made to 24 pools. Staff has 273 pools left to be inspected.

Mosquitofish harvesting is underway for planting in rice fields for mosquito control. About half of the ponds at our Nicolaus facility have been seined. We have harvested 1,489 lbs. of fish thus far. We had a large group of Pelicans that showed up in the late spring. These birds consume a lot of fish and are difficult to get to leave. We are about one third through the Bti rice field larviciding program. As of Wednesday, July 8, 2020, 37,918 acres of rice has been treated. At the end of the program in early August, about 100,000 acres of rice will be treated.

Currently, adulticide spraying by ground truck has covered 30,446 acres. Adulticide spraying by air has covered 95,000 acres.

Field cage tests were performed to evaluate Evergreen aduicide by air and ground. Evergreen performed well by ground with mixed results by air. We are confident the material is working well.

Jessica Farrell has been selected for the Administrative Assistant position. Jessica was chosen from the five applicants we interviewed. We received 42 applications for this position. She brings retail, teaching and office experience. She performed well on the oral and written portions of the testing. Jessica was chosen by the interviewing panel and will start on Monday, July 13th.

Bill Terbush was chosen for the third Field Foreman position. Bill started working at the District in 1997 as a summer helper. He returned to the District in 2014 and has been a full time Field Technician for the last six years. Bill has obtained the CDPH license in categories A, B, C, and D and is very proficient with the GIS mapping system.

The MVCAC meeting was held on July 7th, 2019 via teleconference. The Executive Board voted for the dissolution of the Trustee council. Instead, there will be one Trustee seat on each committee and one Trustee elected to the Executive Board. The Trustees can still be involved in planning, training and if they choose, the Trustee breakfast. Another item discussed was that the contracts with KP and AMG will expire in 2021. The contracts will be open for bid. SB 1383 was passed by the California Senate expanding CFRA coverage to include employers with five or more employees.

If the current COVID-19 pandemic does not prevent it, the MVCAC Fall Quarter meeting will be held on November 5 and 6, 2020 in Costa Mesa. The Annual Conference will be January 31 through February 2, 2021 in Monterey.

Abshier also noted:

- Staff is busy answering requests for service.
- Planting mosquitofish in rice fields.
- Checking green swimming pools.
- Monitoring pastures for mosquito production.
- We are practicing social distancing and wearing masks when six feet distancing can't be maintained.
- Start times have been staggered and one crew has moved to the old Gilsizer office in the back of the yard.

TRUSTEE COMMENTS: Guzman asked if the potential for a large *Aedes* problem in Wheatland was a possibility this year. Abshier explained that the source that was responsible for the large hatch last year has been put into rice production and will not be a problem.

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

John Sanbrook, Board Secretary