

SEPTEMBER 9, 2021 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, September 9, 2021.

PRESENT: Secretary Sanbrook, Trustees Guzman, Kirchner and Link

BY TELEPHONE: President Harris, Trustees Schmidl and Ghag

ALSO PRESENT: Manager Abshier and General Foreman Hunt

ABSENT: None

EMERGENCY AGENDA ITEMS: None

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Minutes of August 12, 2021
- B. Bills for August 2021

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

APPROVAL TO SET THE DISTRICT FORECASTED RESERVES IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR THE 2021-2022 BUDGET: THIS ACTION WILL BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH GASB 54. Abshier reported that the DDT Soil Contamination Market Street Property Reserve will increase by \$250,000 to \$2,250,000. The \$85,000 Asphalt Replacement and Re-leveling Reserve was moved into the operating budget in July. The Unassigned General Reserve will increase by \$100,000 to \$775,000 or 13.7% of all District reserves. The total Committed, Assigned and Unassigned Reserves will be \$5,669,166. A motion was made by Sanbrook and seconded by Link approving the District Forecasted Reserves Implementation Plan for the 2021-2022 Budget. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

MANAGER COMMENTS: Abshier reported that no West Nile Virus human cases have been reported in Sutter County. Thus far in Sutter County, 3 chickens, 17 mosquito pools and one dead bird have tested positive for the year. In Yuba County, eleven mosquito pools and one chicken have tested positive. No human cases or dead birds have been reported in Yuba County. Statewide, there have been 32 human cases this year compared to 45 human cases at this time last year.

Mosquito abundance in the New Jersey Light Traps is showing that *Culex tarsalis* and *Culex pipiens* numbers are well below the ten year average. We have had record low *Culex tarsalis* numbers this year. The Butte County MVCD advised that their *Culex tarsalis* numbers for the year are at record highs. Butte County has had ten human cases and many virus detections. Last year, we began our spray program well ahead of the traditional *Culex tarsalis* peak. Hopefully by reducing mosquito numbers early, we have also reduced infection potential. The *Anopheles* numbers are a fraction of what they were last year at this time and well below the 10 year average. The numbers of calls for service are down about 45% compared with August and September of last year.

Our first invasive *Aedes* detection was made on August 11th, 2021, responding to a report from a Tierra Buena resident. Since the initial detection, six additional detections have been made in the Tierra Buena area. On September 3rd, mosquito tech Zach Samay discovered invasive mosquitoes at a residence in the Shanghai Bend area. An additional detection was made today in the Northridge Drive and Gray Avenue area of Yuba City. The District Invasive *Aedes* Response Plan has been implemented which includes BG Sentinel traps, In2Care traps and oviposition cups deployment, fogging two mornings per week, wide area larvicide applications and door to door inspections of properties near the

detection sites. The first wide area larvicide (WALS) treatment was made on Tuesday, August 17th. The WALS treatment targets small hidden sources, often referred to as cryptic sources, over a wide area. The WALS treatment protocol is for weekly treatments for four weeks, then a treatment every other week, for a total of two additional treatments. There have not been any invasive detections from Helen Avenue this year. Helen Avenue was our first and only detection area from 2020.

We are currently working on controlling mosquitoes at duck clubs in North and West Sutter and North Yuba areas. The Sutter National Wildlife Refuge is slated to receive no water for flood up this fall. The Butte Sink is another area of concern and is capable of producing a horrendous number of mosquitoes that spill into the District.

Additionally, the manager reported on the following:

- The annual audit field work was conducted on Tuesday September 7th here at the District. Two areas that need attention were noted. One was the need to update the fixed asset depreciation schedule. Secondly, a surplus sales deposit had been placed in an expense account rather than a revenue account. The audit report should be complete by either the November or December meeting.
- The aerial adulticide acreage totals have reached 321,857 acres. This year we made one less application over rice areas and plan to make two aerial orchard treatments this fall in an effort to knock back overwintering *Anopheles* populations. One application was made over orchard areas in 2020.
- The manager evaluation is coming due. Board members are asked to complete and return a performance evaluation to the office by October 1st.
- The MVCAC conference will be held in Sacramento, Ca February 7-9, 2022. The conference will be held in person.
- All radio ads have ended.
- September 24th is set to be the last day for summer employees, with September 30th being the final day for the seasonal staff.
- We continue to monitor New Jersey light traps to determine the ending of our fogging programs.
- We will be hiring a new Mosquito Technician October 1st. Five seasonal staff from this year are applying for the position. Hiring from this pool allows us to get a good feel of who they are rather than hiring an unknown person.
- Ken Meyers advised he will be selling 100% of the Alpha Centric Bond Fund, which is up 6.2% over the last two years. He will be purchasing Rational Special Situations Income Fund senior mortgage bonds. They have a low debt to equity ratio and are very secure. Overall our portfolio is up 14.6% YTD. Meyers is authorized to take action and engage in advantageous or time sensitive transactions without Board approval.
- MVCAC is webcasting a Zoom meeting for Trustees on Cultivating Relationships with State Legislators on Thursday, September 23rd 2021 from 10-1.
- The District has been impacted by COVID quarantines and one work related transmission. We continue to follow State protocols and District rules that we have put in place to reduce or limit risk of quarantine or infection.

TRUSTEE COMMENTS: Guzman posed a question; assuming weekly testing became required for unvaccinated employees, could we administer testing in house or could we work with other local Mosquito Districts to have a service provider administer such a program.

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

John Sanbrook, Board Secretary