

SEPTEMBER 10, 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, September 10, 2020.

PRESENT: Sanbrook, Cleveland and Guzman.

BY TELEPHONE: President Harris, Schmidl and Ghag **ABSENT:** None

ALSO PRESENT: Manager Abshier and General Foreman Hunt

EMERGENCY AGENDA ITEMS: None

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Minutes of August 13, 2020
- B. Bills for August 2020

A motion was made by Ghag and seconded by Cleveland approving consent agenda items A and B. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

APPROVAL TO SET DISTRICT'S FORECASTED RESERVES IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR THE 2020-2021 BUDGET: Abshier reported that the DDT Soil Contamination Market Street Property Reserve will increase by \$850,000 to \$2,000,000. The Accumulated Capital Outlay Reserve will include the Fish Farm acquisition at \$700,000, an increase of \$25,000; replacement and releveling of asphalt at 701 Bogue Road will be \$85,000; and replacement and repair of the roof on the welding shop at 701 Bogue Road will be \$10,000. The Invasive *Aedes* Detection Response Reserve will remain unchanged in the amount of \$125,000. The Vehicle Replacement Reserve will increase by \$10,000 to \$70,000. The Adulticide Fogger Reserve will remain unchanged in the amount of \$70,000. The Vector-Borne Disease Emergency Fund will increase by \$133,743 to \$1,500,000. The Research Reserve and the Drone Aircraft Reserve will remain unchanged, at \$45,000 and \$29,311 respectively. The General Reserve will be reduced to \$625,000. The total Committed, Assigned and Unassigned Reserves will increase by \$787,568. A motion was made by Guzman and seconded by Ghag approving the District's Forecasted Reserves Implementation Plan for the 2020-2021 Budget. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

SALARY RANGE ADJUSTMENT: Board consideration of an adjustment to the MCT I and MCT II salary range was tabled at the June 2020 Board meeting. Abshier presented a comparison chart showing the salary ranges for five nearby, similar sized Districts. Our starting salary for MCT I is 7.7% lower than the average of the Districts surveyed. The requirements to move from MCT I to an MCT II are two years working for the District and passing CDPH's categories A&B. Qualifying for MCT III requires five years with the District and passing categories C&D. After lengthy discussion, Board consensus was to leave the salary scales as they are and investigate options where these employees could advance into higher steps more quickly. No motion was made.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

MANAGER COMMENTS: Abshier reported that we had two West Nile Virus human cases reported in Sutter County; one infection was neuro-invasive and one was a mild infection. Thus far in Sutter County, 18 chickens and 20 mosquito pools have tested positive for the year, with no dead birds testing positive. In Yuba County, two mosquito pools have tested positive. No humans, chickens or birds have tested positive for the year. Statewide, there have been 45 human cases this year compared to 62 human cases at this time last year.

Mosquito abundance in the New Jersey Light Traps is showing that *Culex tarsalis* and *Culex pipiens* numbers have dropped significantly. The *Anopheles* hit a historic peak

prior to the Labor Day Holiday, resulting in a huge number of service calls. Calls are now trending lower.

Our first invasive *Aedes* detection was made on August 18th, from a CDC trap collection made on Friday, August 14th. The District invasive *Aedes* response plan has been implemented which includes BG sentinel and oviposition traps being deployed, fogging three mornings per week and door to door inspections of properties near the detection site. The first wide area larvicide (WALS) treatment was made on Tuesday, August 25th. The WALS treatment targets cryptic sources over a wide area. The treatment protocol calls for weekly treatments for four weeks then a treatment every other week, for a total of four additional treatments.

We are currently working on controlling mosquitoes at duck clubs and the Sutter National Wildlife Refuge. We have focused more effort on controlling mosquitoes in the larval stage, in an effort to have a larger, long term impact on mosquito populations. 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:

- We continue to monitor the Shorebird program fields; there are 770 acres in the Robbins area of Sutter County.
- The annual audit was on Monday August 24th. The audit went smoothly, many files were requested, Kayla performed well. The report should be complete by the November meeting.
- The aerial adulticide acreage totals have reached 363,419 acres. The total acres treated by ground applications are 174,585.
- A third party appraiser brought in by VCJPA, appraised all District buildings to insure that coverages are at the proper levels.
- Third party administrator, Albion Actuarial Consulting, Inc. is retiring. We will be seeking bids for new actuarial services.
- The manager evaluation is 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 Monterey, January 31 - February 2, 2021. The conference may be held 100% virtually because of the COVID 19.
- Abshier had radio interviews on 93Q, KUBA and KKCX. All radio ads have ended.
- The aerial swimming pool program has been completed. Sutter County had 293 suspect pools, 28 were treated and one warrant served. Yuba County had 165 suspect pools with 27 requiring treatment. No warrants were used in Yuba County.
- Wildfire smoke caused several days of AQI's over 150. Employees were allowed additional breaks if necessary and N-95 or better respirators are provided. Employees were allowed to use sick leave if they became ill from smoke.
- Most seasonal / summer staff have gone for the year. We anticipate September 30 being the last day for the remaining temporary staff.
- Administrative fees charged to collect District revenues by both counties are based on their employees' actual time to collect and distribute the funds.
- Ken Meyers will present at the October Board meeting

TRUSTEE COMMENTS: Guzman commented that he sometimes informs students who are not necessarily college bound, that many good, career-type jobs are attainable out of high school in our local community, including at the District.

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