

San Gabriel Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District
1145 N. Azusa Canyon Road
West Covina, California 91790

Board of Trustees Meeting

Friday, November 9, 2007

7:00 AM

Minutes

Trustees Attending

- 1 Stephen Sham (Alhambra)
- 2 Roger Chandler (Arcadia)
- 3 Joseph Rocha (Azusa)
- 4 Rick Barakat (Bradbury)
- 5 Jacquelin McHenry (Claremont)
- 6 Margaret Finlay (Duarte)
- 7 Ernest Gutierrez (El Monte)
- 8 George Vangel (Glendora)
- 9 Jeff Parriott (Industry)
- 10 Robert Neher (La Verne)
- 11 Dan Kirby (Monrovia)
- 12 David Barron (Monterey Park)
- 13 Elliott Rothman (Pomona)
- 14 Robert Bruesch (Rosemead)
- 15 Janice Nelson (Sierra Madre)
- 16 Fernando L. Vizcarra (Temple City)
- 17 Tom Sykes (Walnut)
- 18 Frank Hall (L.A. County)

Trustees Absent

- 1 Henry Morgan (Covina)
- 2 Mark A. Breceda (Irwindale)
- 3 Louie Lujan (La Puente)
- 4 Albert Huang (San Gabriel)
- 5 Jeffrey Templeman (San Dimas)
- 6 Roger Hernandez (West Covina)

Staff Attending

Steve West
 Kenn Fujioka
 Rose Alba
 Kelly Middleton
 Melvin Cook
 Ramona Deacon
 Carol Anne Hagele
 Esther Elliott

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Hall at 7:01 AM.

2. Pledge of Allegiance and Silent Roll Call

President Hall led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance

3. Opportunity for Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

District Manager Steve West announced the Nominating Committee met after the October Board meeting and has selected a slate of officers to present at the December Board of

Trustees meeting on December 14, 2007.

4. Consent Calendar

- A. List of Claims for October, 2007
- B. Budget Status Report for October, 2007
- C. Minutes of Board of Trustees Meeting October, 2007
- D. Surveillance and Vector Report
- E. Abatement Report
- F. Education Program

A motion by Trustee Neher to accept the Consent Calendar as presented was seconded and unanimously approved.

5. Monthly Treasurer Report / District Working Balance

A motion by Trustee Gutierrez to accept the Monthly Treasurer's Report and District Working Balance as presented was seconded and unanimously approved.

6. Consider Cooperative Agreement Between the California Department of Public Health and the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District for Calendar Year 2008

A motion by Trustee Bruesch to approve the 2008 Cooperative Agreement between the California Department of Public Health and the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District was seconded and unanimously approved.

7. Report of Action from Policy Committee Meeting of September 14, 2007

Trustee Hall, Chairman of the Policy Committee, reported discussion of the issue to change the time of Board meetings to a "day time". Trustee Barron had proposed the possibility of better public attendance if the meeting was held in that time frame.

The recommendation of the Policy Committee was to keep the Board meeting on the second Friday of the month beginning at 7:00 am.

Trustee Barron had further asked that if the Board needs to review an issue such as an increase in the assessment that they consider a daytime Board meeting so that increased public participation could be expected.

The Committee also discussed the request by Trustee Kirby to reconsider the District's Tri-Annual Salary Survey. The Committee agreed the issue needs further study and requested staff research and report back to the Board comparisons of a merit based and performance based pay system.

District Manager Steve West commented that staff will prepare as part of the budget a long range plan of the financial effects of one system over another.

8. Report of Action from Public Information Committee Meeting on September 14, 2007

Public Information Officer Kelly Middleton reported the Committee discussed several projects underway by the District. As part of a \$10 million emergency allocation by the State agencies for WNV outreach and control, nine agencies in Southern California applied cooperatively for money to buy two weeks of WNV radio ads in English and Spanish which aired on six top radio stations. Total cost was \$125,000.

The in-house classroom is still in the planning stages. The staff is researching various grant funding options, including a partnership with the San Gabriel Regional Mountains Conservatory to apply for Prop. 84 grant money.

Finally, the Committee reviewed all outreach events attended this last quarter.

Trustee Bruesch suggested working with the Whittier Narrows centers to provide programs.

Trustee Neher commended the Education Program staff, technicians, and staff for their outstanding work.

President Hall asked if cities are allowed to apply for Prop. 84 grants.

Kelly reported that cities are allowed to apply and although outreach is a legitimate expenditure, the primary emphasis is acquiring public or open space.

President Hall reported a correction to the date of the Public Information Committee meetings as listed on the agenda. The meeting was held on October 12th and not September 14, 2007.

Trustee Gutierrez asked if the Committee has considered Public Service Announcements (PSA) on television or radio.

Kelly informed the Board that we applied for both television and radio funds from the State but only the radio ads were approved. We do distribute PSAs and while they are free there is no guarantee that ads get on the air in a high public listeners time frame.

The Public Relations Committee for the MVCAC is working to increase public awareness of vector control Districts throughout the State.

In response to Trustee McHenry's comments, Kelly reported the Districts have used local cable / TV by Time Warner for free promotionals in the past and will continue to work with them.

Trustee Bruesch suggested taking our message to talk stations that typically have a more active audience.

Trustee Chandler recommended using the Community Forum.

Trustee Gutierrez asked if a recording of the District's mission could be put on cable and made available in libraries.

Trustee Finlay offered to bring Kelly a tape entitled "Jo-Jo the Mosquito" which is suitable for grade school children. Kelly reported the District has an interactive video game available in the loan boxes District provides schools.

District Manager Steve West will have Public Information look into the ideas presented by the Trustees and prepare a cost estimate for the Board's review as part of the next fiscal year budget.

Trustee Bruesch reported the California School Board Association is having a major

teleconference on *School's Response to Pandemic* and suggested this would be a good way to bring vector's message to the public.

Trustee Barron recommended that Trustees make sure their cities web site's have a link to the mosquito district website; to make sure city publications have occasional articles on vector control, and to alert their city cable station of the District's resources.

9. San Gabriel River Master Plan River and Mountains Conservancy*

At the request of Trustee Bruesch, Public Information Officer Kelly Middleton provided a summary of the Watershed Planning Projects of interest to the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District.

10. District Administration

A. Request of the Finance Committee to Meet and Review the District's Investment Policies after the December 14, 2007 Board of Trustees Meeting.
District Manager Steve West asked the Finance Committee to meet after the December meeting to discuss the District's investment policy.

B. District Holiday Schedule (Thanksgiving and Christmas)
District Manager Steve West reported that the District will be closed on Nov. 22nd and 23rd and Dec. 24th & 25th.

C. Report on MVCAC Activities
District Manager Steve West reported the MVCAC Board of Directors voted 8 to 2 to hire the firm of Smith Moore and Associates to provide administrative services to the Association. The Smith Moore and Associates' contract is for three years at a cost of \$86,000 per year and includes a 60 day cancellation clause. Negotiations will be handled by the Incoming President, Dave Brown.

That Board also voted 6 to 4 to hire Ralph Heim, Public Policy Advocates LLC, a legislative company in Sacramento for those services. Their contract will cost \$60,000 annually.

Trustee Sykes congratulated Steve for his part in orchestrating a change in management of the Association. All Trustees agreed.

11. Honey Bee, Avian Flu and West Nile Virus Update

Assistant Manager Kenn Fujioka reported Avian flu cases have only occurred in endemic areas and to date has not spread any further.

WNV has slowed down in United States. In California there are 370 cases reported to date. The District has had five cases this year with no new cases reported since last month. Infected mosquitoes were collected in Whittier last week and a positive chicken was reported in Beverly Hills which illustrates that WNV is still out there and precautions should still be observed. The media has drawn Southland's foreclosures and abandoned unkempt swimming pools. This has helped the District tremendously and made lending companies more aware that they must maintain vacant properties.

In answer to Trustee Gutierrez's question, Kenn commented there are two trains of

thought on the disappearance of bee colonies; one is the effects of pesticide being used and the other is a virus that originated in Israel that has been identified in colonies with colony collapse disorder.

Kenn continued by informing the Board it would be hard for a resident to find a beekeeper to take a hive because beekeepers are reluctant to contaminate their own hives with an AHB gene.

Since this district is one of the few that continues to have a bee program, District Manager Steve West asked Kenn to develop a new policy for handling bees and bring it to the Board for consideration and guidance. Steve informed the Board that because of the current bee colony issue the District limits eradicating bee swarms only if they are a nuisance.

12. Trustee Reports

Trustee McHenry reported she attended three sessions and the MVCAC Board meeting at the MVCAC Fall Meeting. The Finance Committee discussed the existing management company of Blanning and Baker's increase in annual fees and how that would affect member's dues. The MVCAC Trustee Board does not want to raise dues. They also discussed whether there were enough reserves. The Committee plans to come up with a recommendation for needed reserves based on a percentage value related to the budget rather than a set dollar amount.

At the Trustee Committee meeting they discussed the Conference in Palm Springs being held on January 13 – 16, 2008 and ways to get more Trustees involved.

Two issues under review by the Association's Legislative Committee are an Assembly Bill requiring 24 hour notice to all school sites where the District would be spraying for mosquitoes. Also discussed was an amendment to the Brown Act requiring the public have access to all agenda information. This District already makes the agenda packet available to the public so no effect on us is expected.

A report was presented outlining how government money was distributed among counties and a discussion on the possible reorganization of the Southern Region.

Trustee McHenry mentioned that half the Trustees on the MVCAC Trustee Advisory Council were not present. In that context, Trustee McHenry requested a report on the authority of the Board to react to extended absences. The District Manager commented that the Health and Safety Code governs that issue, and he can give the Board a description at the next meeting.

13. New Business

None.

14. Adjournment

A motion by Trustee Finlay to adjourn the meeting was seconded and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 A.M.