

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

Board of Trustees Meeting
Friday, July 11, 2008

Minutes

Trustees Attending

- 1 Roger Chandler (Arcadia)
- 2 Joseph Rocha (Azusa)
- 3 Rick Barakat (Bradbury)
- 4 Henry Morgan (Covina)
- 5 Margaret Finlay (Duarte)
- 6 Ernest Gutierrez (El Monte)
- 7 Charles Myers (Glendora)
- 8 Jeff Parriott (Industry)
- 9 Dan Holloway (La Puente)
- 10 Frank Hall (County of Los Angeles)
- 11 Elliott Rothman (Pomona)
- 12 Robert Bruesch (Rosemead)
- 13 Albert Huang (San Gabriel)
- 14 Janice Nelson (Sierra Madre)
- 15 Kenneth G. Gillanders
- 16 Tom Sykes (Walnut)
- 17 Roger Hernandez (West Covina)

Trustees Absent

- 1 Stephen Sham (Alhambra)
- 2 Linda Elderkin (Claremont)
- 3 Mark Breceda (Irwindale)
- 4 Robert Neher (La Verne)
- 5 Dan Kirby (Monrovia)
- 6 Dave Barron (Monterey Park)
- 7 Jeffrey Templeman (San Dimas)

Guest

Camille Diaz, City of Irwindale

Staff Attending

Steve West
Kenn Fujioka
Kelly Middleton
Rose Alba
Esther Elliott
Ramona Deacon
Carol Anne Hagele
Lupe Granillo

Staff Absent

Melvin Cook

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Chandler at 7:02 AM

2. Pledge of Allegiance and Silent Roll Call

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Trustee Nelson

3. Opportunity for Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

None

4. Consent Calendar

President Chandler reminder the Board that the Policy Committee and the Public Information Committee will meet immediately after the Board adjourns.

- A. List of Claims for June, 2008
- B. Budget Status Report for June, 2008
- C. Minutes of Board of Trustees Meeting June, 2008
- D. Surveillance and Vector Report
- E. Abatement Report
- F. Education Program

A motion by Trustee Finlay to approve the Consent Calendar was seconded and unanimously approved.

5. Monthly Treasurer Report / District Working Balance

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

6. District Administration

A. Responses to Various Trustee Budget Questions

District Manager Steve West addressed questions asked by Trustees during their discussion of the FY 2009 Budget at their June meeting.

Trustee Gutierrez had asked if the District could negotiate a fixed price for gasoline. Staff found that since gasoline prices are changing so quickly, no one is getting a fixed price. The District Manager also mentioned that the District does not pay federal excise tax so our price is 20% less than pump price.

To Trustee Baron's question about possible revenue from Baldwin Park and South Pasadena, District Manager West stated that we had received approximately \$89,000 from Baldwin Park and \$45,000 from South Pasadena for a total of \$134,500 which would reduce our assessment by 47 cents.

Trustee Bruesch had asked about political sensitivity to doing anything to raise an assessment. The District Manager said that public response to taxation issues in California are difficult to predict, but that some things that actually make sense were recently approved.

Trustee Finlay asked about an alternate to the County's charges for collecting our assessment. The District Manager stated that the County's charges are directed into two categories, and he is seeking an alternative where we might find a savings.

District Manager West informed Trustee Finlay that the Auditor has asked for a 38% fee increase for a total of \$14,000. \$500 was also been added to that budget item in case a separate Auditor is necessary to comply with new GASB regulations.

Trustee Finlay had also asked if we would receive an additional service for this 38% increase. The District Manager said the increase was due to increased work

complying with the new GASB regulations.

In response to another question by Trustee Finlay, the District Manager reported we have had the same Auditor since at least 2001 when he was selected as the District Manager. We could solicit for a Request for Proposals next year if the Board desires staff to do so.

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

Assistant Manager Kenn Fujioka reported that in the last month West Nile virus positive activity has been found in Alhambra, Arcadia, Covina, La Puente, Monrovia, Monterey Park, Rosemead, San Dimas, San Gabriel, Temple City, and West Covina. There has been wide spread activity and above normal temperatures this month. Most of this activity is related to warm weather in the third week in June. Whenever this happens there is a two week lag and then a spike in activity.

Our recent press release described increased risk in the San Gabriel Valley because of the number of dead birds reported. On Thursday, June 10th District technicians flew by helicopter over the largest effected areas and found 20 green swimming pools in 10 square mile area.

Trustee Nelson commented that in about another week we will probably see human cases exposed during the 4th of July outdoor activities.

Assistant Manager Fujioka commented that one positive aspect of this activity is that the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors will propose a motion to direct Public Health and Public Works to cooperate with vector control agencies. They are looking for problems they have and are more than willing to work with us.

8. Trustee Reports

Trustee Rocha from the city of Azusa presented a certificate of appreciation to Kelly Middleton for her June 16th presentation on West Nile virus.

9. New Business

Trustee Myers brought an immature kissing bug and passed it around. He reported that they are present in the foothills of the San Gabriel Valley where the adults breed in wood rats nests. Adults fly into houses and lay their eggs. There are five stages of nymphs; every stage needs a blood meal to get to the next. Kissing bugs are in the same family as bed bugs but they are much more serious pests because their bite can produce a life-threatening allergic reaction.

Very few people recognize kissing bugs because they have not captured the media's attention. They are extremely secretive but the public should be made aware of them.

Large numbers of people who live by foothills are exposed to these bugs. Prior studies by the California Department of Health found about 2% of the people were

extremely allergic to their bite. The anaphylactic reaction is life threatening; people. People are bitten at night and never know because there is no welt.

Kenn said they are vectors of Chagas' disease, a protozoan disease that occurs in Mexico, Central, and South America.

A similar protozoan exists in wood rats and bugs in California at high levels.

Trustee Myers discussed how the parasite that causes Chagas' disease is transmitted from bugs to humans and possible differences between the strains in California and South America.

There is no effective pesticide treatment for kissing bugs, so public health agencies walk a tight rope between informing the public and not having a constructive solution. It's because they bite around the face and mouth while their host is sleeping.

Trustee Nelson said that for over a year now they have tested blood donors in this area for Chagas' disease and people with positive results have histories of travel to Central America and Mexico. It is not that prevalent in the United States, but could change with global warming.

Trustee Myers asked whether the current test detected both North and South American strains. Trustee Nelson replied that since it is a broad screen for antibodies it is detecting both.

Trustee Bruesch asked if there is any precautionary information available. Trustees Myers said the only thing is awareness of what it looks like and what the symptoms are.

10. Adjournment

President Chandler reminded the two committees that they will meet directly after the meeting adjourns.

A motion by Trustee Gutierrez to adjourn the meeting was seconded and unanimously adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 AM.