

San Gabriel Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District
Board of Trustees Meeting
October 10, 2008

Minutes

Trustees Attending

- 1 Roger Chandler (Arcadia)
- 2 Joseph Rocha (Azusa)
- 3 Rick Barakat (Bradbury)
- 4 Linda Elderkin (Claremont)
- 5 Henry Morgan (Covina)
- 6 Ernest Gutierrez (El Monte)
- 7 Margaret Finlay (Duarte)
- 8 Jeff Parriott (Industry)
- 9 Mark Breceda (Irwindale)
- 10 Dan Holloway (La Puente)
- 11 Charles Myers (Glendora)
- 12 Dan Kirby (Monrovia)
- 13 Robert Bruesch (Rosemead)
- 14 Jeffrey Templeman (San Dimas)
- 15 Janice Nelson (Sierra Madre)
- 16 Kenneth G. Gillanders (Temple City)
- 17 Tom Sykes (Walnut)

Trustees Absent

- 1 Stephen Sham (Alhambra)
- 2 Robert Neher (La Verne)
- 3 Dave Barron (Monterey Park)
- 4 Elliott Rothman (Pomona)
- 5 Albert Huang (San Gabriel)
- 6 Roger Hernandez (West Covina)
- 7 Frank Hall (Co. of Los Angeles)

Staff Attending

- Steve West
- Kenn Fujioka
- Kelly Middleton
- Rose Alba
- Esther Elliott
- Carol Anne Hagele
- Mel Cook

Staff Absent

- Ramona Deacon

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Roger Chandler at 7:01 a.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance and Silent Roll Call

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Trustee Gillanders.

3. Opportunity for Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

4. Consent Calendar

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

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

5. A. July 2008 Treasurer Report/District Working Balance for September 2008

A motion by Trustee Gutierrez to approve the July 2008 Treasurer's Report and District Working Balance for September 2008 was seconded and unanimously approved.

B. August 2008 Treasurer Report / District Working Balance for October 2008

A motion by Trustee Gutierrez to approve the August 2008 Treasurer's Report and District Working Balance for October 2008 was seconded and unanimously approved.

6. Consider Staff Recommendation on the District's Bee Control Program

Assistant Manager Kenn Fujioka explained that at the April 2008 meeting the Board of Trustees voted to retain the Bee Program and requested staff provide a subsequent assessment. He further reported the District has prioritized West Nile virus during the summer months since 2004, and bee calls are handled as time permits except for large public areas. The District is thus able to implement both programs without increasing field staff, although the FY 2008-2009 Budget included funding for temporary office staff to help with the approximately one hundred calls a week for bee removal service. In order to maintain the program as it exists, the District will need to continue this budget of \$14,000 during the months of March through July for each fiscal year the bee program continues.

The Assistant Manager continued that residents are reluctant to spend money for pest control operators (PCO) to needlessly remove bees. This allows 2 to 4 months for swarms to disperse. With 10% to 20% of the original calls left by that time, they are nests and will be destroyed. Beekeepers normally kill 70% to 80% of the swarms they remove because the Africanized gene manifests itself once they become hives, and the bees cannot be managed like normal European stock.

President Chandler felt that \$14,000 was justified to allow swarms of bees a chance to disperse.

Trustee Templeman remarked that residents need someone to call to minimize their fears. He supported the recommendation to continue the program and also to provide the residents with other cost effective educational information.

In response to Trustee Bruesch's question, Assistant Manager Fujioka stated that commercial beekeepers do not use wild stock in their commercial hives because the Africanized honey bees are very difficult to manage. Beekeepers would need to make special accommodations meaning they would lose time and money.

District Manager Steve West stated that the District is a vector control entity but by the Board's determination we conduct a bee program. In previous Board discussions, there were many comments about various ways to deal with bees and specifically not to destroy them. The staff's role will be to do everything it can to encourage the public not to request destruction of the bees, and this process places the burden of the bee program principally on the front office.

A motion by Trustee Templeman to continue the current bee program and fund \$14,000 necessary for seasonal help for the front office was seconded and unanimously approved.

7. Consider Cooperative Agreement Between the California Department of Public Health and the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District for Calendar Year 2009.

A motion by Trustee Charles Myers to approve the Cooperative Agreement between the California Department of Public Health and the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito & Vector

Control District for Calendar Year 2009 and authorize the appropriate signature was seconded and unanimously approved.

8. President's Call for the Nominations' Committee Members (Calendar 2009 Officers)

Trustee Morgan proposed to retain the same officers, Roger Chandler, President, Stephen Sham, Vice President, Henry Morgan, Secretary and Margaret Finlay, Treasurer, for the 2009 slate of officers.

District Manager Steve West reported this proposed motion must appear as an agenda item at the next Board of Trustees meeting in November 2008.

9. District Administration

A. New Innovative Vector Control Instrumentation

District Manager Steve West displayed a new dipper designed by Maintenance Mechanic Mike Niffenegger.

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

Assistant Manager Fujioka reported that this is the worst year for WNV cases in Los Angeles County since 2004. Currently there are 309 cases in the State of California; of those 131 are in Los Angeles County, and 50 of those cases are in this District. Roughly 25% of the cases are asymptomatic blood donors. There have been three fatalities this year.

11. Trustee Reports

Trustee Nelson encouraged everyone to get their flu shot.

12. New Business

There will be a Public Information Committee meeting immediately following the Board meeting.

13. Adjournment

A motion by Trustee Myers to adjourn the meeting was seconded and unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:36 am