



San Gabriel Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

September 11, 2026

TRUSTEES PRESENT

Henry Aviles (Alhambra)
Robert Gonzales (Azusa)
Emmanuel Estrada (Baldwin Park)
Corey Calaycay (Claremont) – Secretary/Treasurer
Patricia Cortez (Covina) *Arrived at 7:10 A.M.*
Margaret Finlay (Duarte)
Jerry Velasco (El Monte)
Manuel Garcia (Irwindale)
Meshal Kashifalghita (La Verne) – President
Anish Saraiya (L.A. County)
Becky Shevlin (Monrovia)
Joseph Leon (Monterey Park)
Rachel Janbek (Pasadena) *Arrived at 7:09 A.M.*
Sandra Armenta (Rosemead) *Arrived at 7:06 A.M.*
John Capoccia (Sierra Madre) – Past President
Robert Joe (South Pasadena)
Rosario Diaz (West Covina)

GUESTS PRESENT

Chris Palmer, California Special Districts Association
Andrew Jared, District Counsel

TRUSTEES ABSENT

Sho Tay (Arcadia)
Richard Barakat (Bradbury)
Jackie Doornik (Glendora)
Cory Moss (Industry)
Charlie Klinakis (La Puente)
Tim Sandoval (Pomona)
Ryan Vienna (San Dimas)
Denise Menchaca (San Gabriel) – Vice President
Cynthia Sternquist (Temple City)
Allen Wu (Walnut)

STAFF PRESENT

Jason Farned, District Manager
Cecilia Contreras, Director of Administrative Services
Anais Medina Diaz, Director of Communications
Tristan Hallum, Director of Scientific Programs
Gilbert Holguin, Director of Operations
Jerry Mireles, Clerk of the Board

1. Call to Order

President Kashifalghita called the meeting to order at 7:03 a.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance in recognition of the 25th anniversary of September 11, 2001, dedicating the pledge to those who lost their lives. Clerk of the Board Mireles confirmed a quorum and noted absences.

2. Opportunity for Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

None

3. Consent Calendar

Motion by Trustee Finlay, seconded by Secretary/Treasurer Calaycay and carried by the following vote to approve Items 3.1- 3.8 of the Consent Calendar.

AYES: Aviles, Gonzales, Estrada, Calaycay, Finlay, Velasco, Garcia, Kashifalghita, Saraiya, Shevlin, Leon, Capoccia, Joe, Diaz
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Tay, Barakat, Cortez, Doornik, Moss, Klinakis, Janbek, Sandoval, Armenta, Vienna, Menchaca, Sternquist, Wu



4. Presentation

4.1 District of Distinction Award and Exceptional Public Outreach and Advocacy – Small District Award

California Special Districts Association, representative Chris Palmer presented two awards to the District. Mr. Palmer first presented the District of Distinction Award, recognizing the District's commitment to implementing best practices, including financial audit, policies and procedures, and comprehensive governance training.

Mr. Palmer then presented the District with the 2026 Exceptional Public Outreach and Advocacy Award for its response to the Eaton Fire, recognizing the District's efforts to safeguard public health through mosquito control, clear communication during an environmental disaster, community partnerships, and advocacy. He concluded the presentation with a video created by CSDA highlighting the District's efforts and providing an overview of the award. The Board commended District staff on this achievement.

4.2 Aerial Surveillance Update

Director of Operations, Gilbert Holguin provided an update on the District's 2026 aerial surveillance program for non-functional swimming pools. He reported that Nearmap imagery identified 4,217 non-functional pools, including 751 unmaintained pools and reviewed the District's notification and inspection process, including the use of first, second and final notices. Mr. Holguin noted that 685 properties were confirmed maintained following the notice process, with remaining properties subject to additional outreach, investigation and potential inspection warrants.

5. Notification of Trustee Term Expirations

District Manager, Jason Farned reported that the terms of Trustees Aviles, Gonzales, Moss, Kashifalghita, Shevlin, Sandoval, Menchaca, Capoccia, Sternquist, Wu, and Diaz are scheduled to expire at the end of the calendar year. Clerk of the Board Jerry Mireles notified the respective cities by email of their representatives' upcoming term expirations.

6. District Administration

6.1 District Update

District Manager, Jason Farned provided an update to the Board and acknowledged District staff for their efforts during his recent absence. He specifically thanked Director of Administrative Services, Cecilia Contreras for assuming responsibility for the District's day-to-day operations.

Mr. Farned reported that overall mosquito populations are currently well above the five-year average, attributing the increase to recent weather conditions, including record-setting heat, unusually warm overnight temperatures, high humidity, and early September rainfall. He noted that these conditions are expected to contribute to elevated late-season mosquito populations through October.



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Mr. Farned also reported increased West Nile virus activity compared with the same period last year. To date, 104 positive mosquito samples have been detected within the District's service area, compared with two at the same time last year. No human cases have been reported within the District's service area to date.

7. Committee Reports

None

8. Trustee Report

Trustee Armenta commended Clerk of the Board, Jerry Mireles for attending the Irwindale Chamber of Commerce event and representing the District.

9. New Business

None

10. Adjournment

President Kashifalghita adjourned the meeting at 7:46 a.m. in memory of the victims of September 11, 2001.