



San Gabriel Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes July 10, 2026

TRUSTEES PRESENT

Henry Aviles (Alhambra)
Sho Tay (Arcadia)
Richard Barakat (Bradbury)
Corey Calaycay (Claremont) – Secretary/Treasurer
Jerry Velasco (El Monte)
Jackie Doornik (Glendora)
Meshal Kashifalghita (La Verne) – President
Anish Saraiya (L.A. County)
Becky Shevlin (Monrovia)
Joseph Leon (Monterey Park)
Rachel Janbek (Pasadena) *Arrived at 7:16 A.M.*
Sandra Armenta (Rosemead)
Robert Joe (South Pasadena)
Cynthia Sternquist (Temple City)
Allen Wu (Walnut)
Rosario Diaz (West Covina)

GUESTS PRESENT

Ravi Dev Anandhan

TRUSTEES ABSENT

Robert Gonzales (Azusa)
Emmanuel Estrada (Baldwin Park)
Patricia Cortez (Covina)
Margaret Finlay (Duarte)
Cory Moss (Industry)
Manuel Garcia (Irwindale)
Charlie Klinakis (La Puente)
Tim Sandoval (Pomona)
Denise Menchaca (San Gabriel) – Vice President
Ryan Vienna (San Dimas)
John Capoccia (Sierra Madre) – Past President

STAFF PRESENT

Jason Farned, District Manager
Pablo Cabrera, Communications Specialist
Cecilia Contreras, Director of Administrative Services
Kriztian Luna Corona, Education Specialist
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 7:05 a.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Clerk of the Board Mireles confirmed a quorum and noted absences.

President Kashifalghita reordered the agenda, moving Item No. 4 (Presentation) to follow Item No. 6.

2. Opportunity for Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

None

3. Consent Calendar

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

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



5. SCI Consulting Group – Proposition 218 Assessment Formation Services

Secretary/Treasurer Calaycay presented the item and reported that the Ad Hoc Committee recommended approval of the Professional Services Agreement with SCI Consulting Group.

Motion by Secretary/Treasurer Calaycay, seconded by Trustee Shevlin and carried by the following vote to 1. Approve a Professional Services Agreement with SCI Consulting Group to provide assessment formation and project management services for the Proposition 218 initiative; and 2. Authorize the District Manager to execute the agreement.

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

6. Strategic Community Outreach, Communications and Public Education Services

Secretary/Treasurer Calaycay presented the item and reported that the Ad Hoc Committee recommended approval of the Professional Services Agreement with VMA Communications.

Motion by Secretary/Treasurer Calaycay, seconded by Trustee Diaz and carried by the following vote to 1. Approve a Professional Services Agreement with VMA Communications for strategic community outreach, communications, and public education services for a twelve-month term in an amount not to exceed \$300,000; and 2. Authorize the District Manager to execute the agreement, subject to minor revisions approved by District Counsel.

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

4. Presentation

4.1 SGV Mosquito Match: Research, Community Engagement, and Program Launch

Director of Communications, Anais Medina Diaz and Director of Surveillance, Tristan Hallum provided a presentation on the District's SGV Mosquito Match Program, highlighting the use of the Sterile Insect Technique (SIT) utilizing Wolbachia bacteria to reduce Aedes aegypti mosquito populations and minimize the risk of disease transmission. Also, provided an overview of the program's development, the upcoming 16-week release program in the Basset community and community outreach efforts.

Trustee Barakat inquired about the number of mosquitoes released as part of the SIT program.



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Ms. Medina Diaz responded that the District conducts two releases per week, with approximately 15,000 male mosquitoes released using 25 tubes containing approximately 600 mosquitoes each.

Secretary/Treasurer Calaycay asked whether the SIT program would remain effective against *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes over time or whether the mosquitoes could develop resistance to the Wolbachia method.

Mr. Hallum explained that only male mosquitoes are released to mate with wild female mosquitoes, resulting in eggs that do not hatch. As no viable offspring are produced, the Wolbachia strain is not passed to future generations, making the program self-limiting and requiring ongoing releases to maintain its effectiveness.

Trustee Doornik asked why the District selected Wolbachia method over other SIT methods.

Mr. Hallum explained that the Wolbachia method utilizes an EPA-registered product provided by MosquitoMate and was selected because it is scientifically supported, readily available and cost-effective.

Trustees Barakat and Shevlin inquired about the cost of the program. Mr. Hallum stated that the approximate cost is \$35,000.

Ms. Medina Diaz recognized Ravi Dev Anandhan of Sierra Madre, who was named the District's Public Health Teacher of the Year two years ago.

7. District Administration

7.1 District Update

District Manager, Jason Farned, provided an update on mosquito abundance, noting that activity is currently in line with the seasonal average. He reported that the District has confirmed its first West Nile virus case of the season, stating that such detections are routine and expected this time of year. Mr. Farned also reported that a truck-mounted treatment was conducted in Monterey Park and that enhanced surveillance activities are underway in the area. He also encouraged Trustees to participate in the tour following the meeting.

Trustee Armenta commended Ms. Medina Diaz for promptly notifying the City regarding the West Nile virus detection and expressed appreciation for the District's timely response.

8. Committee Reports

None

9. Trustee Report

Secretary/Treasurer Calaycay acknowledged the District's efforts to engage with the community and build partnerships and commended Ms. Medina Diaz and Mr. Farned for being recognized by Assemblymember Wong.



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Trustee Doornik commended Education Specialist Carol Anne Hagele for her participation and representation of the District at a community event in the City of Glendora.

10. New Business

None

11. Adjournment

President Kashifalghita honored the memory of former Board of Trustee Lloyd Johnson. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:37 a.m. in memory of Mr. Johnson.