

Documents & materials relating to an open session agenda item that are provided to the SYMVCD Board less than 72 hours prior to a regular meeting will be available for public inspection. Please contact the District Office at 530 674-5456 or [kvalencia@sutter-yubamvcd.org](mailto:kvalencia@sutter-yubamvcd.org)

## SUTTER-YUBA MOSQUITO & VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT AGENDA

701 Bogue Road, Yuba City, CA. (530) 674-5456

Thursday, April 13, 2023, 4:30 P.M.

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
- motion 3. Emergency Agenda Items
- motion 4. Consent Agenda:  
The Consent Calendar groups together those items which are considered non-controversial or for which prior policy direction has been given to staff and that requires only routine action by the Board. The Chair will advise the audience that the matters may be adopted in total by one motion; however, the Board may, at its option or upon request of a member of the public, consider any matter separately.
  - A. Minutes of March 9, 2023
  - B. Bills for March 2023
  - C. Merit Increase for Erik Blosser, Entomologist: Mr. Blosser is being recommended for a salary increase to be effective April 1, 2023. The salary increase will be from step 5 to step 6 of the salary range schedule for Entomologist.
  - D. Merit increase for Devin Lake, Mosquito Control Technician I: Mr. Lake is being recommended for a salary increase and promotion, to be effective April 1, 2023. The salary increase will be from step 2 Mosquito Control Technician I to step 2 of the salary range schedule for Mosquito Control Technician II.
- motion 5. Quarterly Review of the District's Defined Benefit Plan Investments as of March 31, 2023: Mr. Ken Meyers, of Meyers Investment Group, will provide a review of the District's investments and possible recommendations for Board consideration.
- motion 6. Resolution 04-13-23: Approval of a new District signature policy for claims to the Sutter County Auditor-Controller's office. The policy would require two signatures, where Board members could sign digitally.
- motion 7. Approval of a contract for the aerial application of adulticides and larvicides within the boundaries of the Sutter-Yuba Mosquito & Vector Control District: Informal bids will be presented to the Board for consideration.
- motion 8. Approval of an updated nepotism policy
9. Public Comments
10. Manager Comments: The manager will report on the following:
  - a) MVCAC Legislative Advocacy Day/Spring Quarter meeting, March 21, 2023
  - b) District activities
12. Trustee Comments
- motion 13. Adjournment

*If you are a disabled person and need a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in this meeting, please contact the District at (530) 674-5456 or by fax at (530) 674-5534. Requests must be made as early as possible and at least 72 hours prior to the meeting to enable the District to make reasonable arrangements and ensure accessibility.*

RESOLUTION 04-13-23

SIGNATURE POLICY OF THE SUTTER YUBA MOSQUITO & VECTOR  
CONTROL DISTRICT FOR CLAIMS WITH THE SUTTER COUNTY  
AUDITOR-CONTROLLER'S OFFICE

WHEREAS, the County of Sutter receives and holds revenue for the Sutter-Yuba Mosquito & Vector Control District,

WHEREAS, claims from the Sutter-Yuba Mosquito & Vector Control District for disbursement of said revenue for payment of bills and payroll is made on a claim form provided by the Sutter County Auditor-Controller's Office,

WHEREAS, the Sutter-Yuba Mosquito & Vector Control District desires a system to prevent fraudulent claims for disbursement,

WHEREAS, the Sutter County Auditor-Controller's office is entitled to validation of disbursement claims,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sutter-Yuba Mosquito & Vector Control District policy shall require two signatures on any claim form presented to the Auditor-Controller's Office. Signatures of two members of the Board of Trustees, OR one signature of a member of the Board of Trustees and one signature from either the District Manager or the Administrative Manager shall be required to validate the claim. Signatures provided by a member of the Sutter-Yuba Mosquito & Vector Control District Board of Trustees may be either a wet or electronic signature. A wet signature must be made by the District Manager or Administrative Manager.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 13th day of April, 2023

Ayes:

Nays:

Abstain:

Signed by:

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David Schmidl, Board President

Aerial Application Cost History

Year	Larvicide	% Increase/Hour	Adulticide	% Increase/Hour
2023	\$1,450/hour	5.5%	\$2,600/hour	4.8%
2022	\$1,375/hour	7.8%	\$2,480/hour	7.8%
2021	\$1,275/hour	2%	\$2,300/hour	4.5%
2020	\$1,250/hour	0%	\$2,200/hour	0%
2019	\$1,250/hour	4.2%	\$2,200/hour	4.75%
2018	\$1,200/hour		\$2,100/hour	

## Nepotism

The employment of relatives, persons who have entered into dating relationships, or persons that, between one another, engage in significant business relationships or transactions can raise serious concerns including but not limited to charges of favoritism, partisan hiring or promotion practices, poor morale, and conflicts of interest that may work to the disadvantage of both the District and its employees. It is the goal of the District to avoid creating or maintaining circumstances in which the possibility of, or real favoritism, conflicts or management disruptions exist.

To prevent any of these issues, no person in a dating relationship with any permanent employee or member of the Board of Trustees, nor any "relative", as defined in this policy, of any permanent employee or member of the Board of Trustees shall be hired or recommended for hire to any position at the District.

For the purposes of the Nepotism Policy the following terms are defined:

The term "relative" shall include the following relationships: the employee's mother, father, child, sister, brother, aunt, uncle, nephew, niece, grandparent, grandchild, cousin; or current or former of any of the following: spouse, mother-in-law, father-in-law, sister-in-law, brother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepparent, stepsister, stepbrother, or stepchild. In addition, the term "relative" shall also include a co-habitant (a person with whom the employee's life is interdependent, allied or reciprocal, and who shares a common residence) and, a child of an employee's domestic partner.

The term "spouse" for this policy applies to an individual to whom the employee is legally married or holds a registered domestic partnership with.

A "parent" means a biological, foster or adoptive parent, a stepparent or legal guardian.

A "child" means a biological, adopted or foster child, a stepchild, a child by law (in-law), a legal ward or a child for whom an employee has accepted the legal duties and responsibilities.

It is the responsibility of every employee to make known to the District any potential or existing personal relationships which fall under the definition(s) provided in this policy regarding persons seeking employment or currently employed with the District. Employees who fail to disclose personal

relationships covered by this policy may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including the termination of employment.

Should relationships addressed within this policy be identified, either in applicants for employment or with current employees; the matter should be immediately reported to the Manager and the following policies and procedures will be followed:

- A determination will be made whether the relationship is subject to the District's Nepotism policy.
- Where an applicant for employment of any temporary or permanent position with the District is a "relative" of a permanent employee or member of the Board of Trustees, or in a dating relationship with a permanent employee or member of the Board of Trustees, that applicant will be disqualified from consideration.
- For current employees, who later become related (for example by marriage), or enter into a dating relationship, they may be permitted to continue employment for as long as one employee does not directly supervise, or have seniority in the chain of command over, the other. An employee in this scenario shall not be promoted to, or considered for a position where they would have direct supervision or seniority in the chain of command over the other.
- For current employees who become "relatives" (for example where an employee marries the daughter of another employee) or enter into a dating relationship, and where one employee directly supervises or has seniority in the chain of command over the other, and a transfer or demotion to an open position, where supervisory authority does not exist, is unfeasible, or unavailable or unacceptable to the employee, the employee that forms or enters the relationship should resign from the District. In the case that the employee does not resign, the District may choose one of the employees for termination based on factors such as, but not limited to, seniority and which employee's action or behavior formed the "relative" relationship.

The District is under no obligation to create a new position or open a position solely to provide relief from a consequence of the nepotism policy. The District reserves the right to exercise appropriate managerial judgment to take such actions as may be necessary to achieve the intent of this policy. As all possible scenarios cannot be foreseen, the District reserves the right to vary from the guidelines outlined in this policy to address unusual circumstances on a case by case basis.

## Temporary Employees

The District may hire and employ an individual in any temporary employee position (Seasonal or Summer Employee or Intern) who is a "relative" of another temporary employee under the following circumstances:

- "Relatives" in temporary positions may not work under the same direct supervisor.
- Neither "relative" in a temporary employment position may supervise, assign work to, review or evaluate the other.
- The relationship shall not create an adverse impact on work productivity or performance.
- The relationship shall not create a conflict-of-interest.

## Business Relationships and Transactions among Employees

The District discourages significant or regular business dealings among or between employees. An appearance of, or a real conflict of interest and favoritism can become intertwined in decisions regarding hiring, performance evaluations, merit increases, and promotions. This policy's intent is to protect a senior employee from such an appearance. Where an employee does engage in significant or regular business dealings with another employee, the senior employee must recuse and remove him or herself from participation in these types of recommendations and evaluations of the other. Where there is uncertainty, final determination of a significant or regular business dealing and/or when an employee must recuse him or herself will be at the judgement/discretion of the manager.

# NEW TECHNOLOGIES URGENTLY NEEDED

Mosquito districts need new innovative technologies to support control efforts but they cost hundreds of thousands of dollars. In the past 10 years, no new tools have been approved in our state to assist mosquito control districts in fighting the spread of invasive *Aedes* mosquitoes.

The timeframe it takes for disease-spreading mosquitoes to invade new regions is not in line with current regulatory standards for approval and such delays put our state very far behind.



**Self-limiting mosquitoes**



**Wolbachia**



**Irradiation**

Scan here to see videos explaining how these technologies work



## INVASIVE AEADES HAVE COMPLETELY ALTERED THE WAY WE DO MOSQUITO CONTROL

"We've had to divert labor and equipment resources to address this emerging issue to the detriment of our existing public health mosquito control efforts engaged in West Nile virus protection."

**Peter Bonkrude, District Manager, Shasta Mosquito & Vector Control District**



"When, not if, a tropical disease is locally transmitted by an invasive *Aedes* species, every mosquito and vector control district in the state will be impacted."

**Michelle Brown, District Manager, West Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District**



"An increase in funds available for staffing, equipment, public outreach, and pesticide budgeting is necessary to maintain our level of service to our community and protect public health. "

**Cary Svoboda, Vector Ecologist, Ventura County Vector Control Program**