

## **APRIL 14, 2022 MINUTES**

The regular meeting of the Sutter-Yuba Mosquito & Vector Control District Board of Trustees was called to order by Board President Harris at 4:30 P.M., Thursday, April 14, 2022.

**PRESENT:** Board President Harris, Secretary Sanbrook, Trustees Guzman, Schmidl and Kirchner

**ABSENT:** Trustees Link and Ghag

**ALSO PRESENT:** Manager Abshier, General Foreman Hunt, Ken Meyers of Meyers Investment Group

**EMERGENCY AGENDA ITEMS:** None

### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

- A. Minutes of March 10, 2022
- B. Bills for March 2022
- C. Merit Increase for Erik Blosser, Entomologist: Mr. Blosser is being recommended for a salary increase to be effective April 1, 2022. The salary increase will be from step 4 to step 5 of the salary range schedule for Entomologist.
- D. Merit Increase for Mervin Hunt, General Foreman: Mr. Hunt is being recommended for a salary increase to be effective April 1, 2022. The salary increase will be from step 10 to step 11 of the salary range schedule for General Foreman.
- E. Merit increase for Devin Lake, Mosquito Control Technician I: Mr. Lake has completed his one year probationary period and is being recommended for a salary increase to be effective April 1, 2022. The salary increase will be from step 1 to step 2 in the salary range schedule for Mosquito Control Technician I.

A motion was made by Guzman and seconded by Schmidl approving the consent agenda. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

**QUARTERLY REVIEW OF THE DISTRICT'S DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN INVESTMENTS AS OF MARCH 31, 2022:** Ken Meyers of Meyers Investment Group provided a snapshot of the plan as of April 13, 2022. The plan is down 7.75% year to date. The new investments, Millennium Group and Partners Group, are still in positive territory. Meyers noted, even when stocks are down early in the year, they have a history of finishing the year in positive territory. He also noted there is a significant amount of cash in our portfolio that should be invested. Meyers recommended investing in Ares Management Corporation, in the Alternative Asset Category. Ares invests in commercial warehouse properties and has a current leased rate of 99.2%. The investment would be within our asset allocation and in accordance with the District's Investment Policy Statement. A motion was made by Guzman and seconded by Sanbrook to invest portfolio cash in Ares Management Corporation. The motion was approved with Guzman, Sanbrook, Harris and Kirchner voting in favor of and Schmidl voting against.

**APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT TO REGRADE AND REPAVE DRIVING AND PARKING AREAS WITHIN THE DISTRICT YARD:** The contract with Big S Asphalt was reviewed by District council, Bordsen. He was uncomfortable with the AIA contract, which tends to be more favorable to the contractor. The original plan called for Big S Asphalt to obtain permits and produce a work plan. The plan moving forward, is for the District to have MHM Engineering produce plans, obtain permits and provide the contract. Big S will delete the charges itemized on their bid sheet for these services. The contract should be ready for approval at the next Board meeting. The original timeline for work to be completed in June/July will remain in place. The item was tabled until the May Board meeting.

**APPROVAL TO RENEW THE CONTRACT FOR THE AERIAL APPLICATION OF ADULTICIDES AND LARVICIDES WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE SUTTER YUBA MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT:** Abshier stated that Russ Stocker of Arena Pest Management has provided a letter detailing rates for 2022. Both larvicide and adulticide application rates increased over 2021. The larviciding rate would be \$1,375 per hour, an increase of 7.8%. The adulticiding rate would be \$2,480 per hour, a 7.8% increase. Stocker has three aircraft that will be available for adulticide work, including a twin-engine Skymaster that could be used over congested areas. Stocker has the hardware and software required to apply these materials. In 2021 the Placer, Sac/Yolo and San Joaquin Districts entered into a combined contract with VDCI at the cost of \$0.60 per acre for adulticide work. We paid \$0.41 per acre with Arena Pest Management in 2021. Our 2021 larviciding rate with Arena Pest averaged \$1.59 per acre. Sac/Yolo is paying \$1,450 per hour plus a fuel surcharge for larviciding with Farm Air. The San Joaquin District is paying up to \$5 per acre for larviciding. Another local aerial applicator expressed interest in the contract for this year, but failed to bid. An aerial contractor must possess a DPR Pest Control Aircraft Pilot Certificate and Category K (public health). A motion was made by Schmidl and seconded by Sanbrook approving applications by Arena Pest Management at the rates of \$2,480 per hour for adulticide application services and \$1,375 per hour for larvicide application services. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

**MANAGER COMMENTS:**

- The MVCAC Spring meeting will be held April 26-27, 2022 in Sacramento. Topics will include the 22-23 budget and the dead bird hotline.
- MVCAC Legislative days were held remotely March 29-30, 2022. The meeting was with Gallagher Aide Joe Zanze. Three main topics discussed were; the success of Calsurv, whose funding will be part of the regular State budget, invasive *Aedes* control strategies, and the funding of BMP projects on CDFW lands.
- The CDPH inspection of our facility was conducted on March 15. The inspection is required to remain in compliance with our cooperative agreement.
- Seasonal employees will begin work on May 2, 2022.
- CDPH testing for five staff members has been scheduled for May 19, 2022.
- The annual green pool surveillance flight is scheduled for late May.
- Mosquitofish are available for pickup at the District yard beginning April 1, 2022.
- DWR announced on April 11<sup>th</sup> water cuts for 2022. Sutter Extension water users will receive 50% of their water allocation while water users in Yuba County and South Sutter areas will receive near 100% of their allocated amount.
- Sentinel Chickens pick up day will be April 21, 2022.
- The annual meeting with the USFWS is still TBD. Topics to be discussed include planned irrigations, fall flood up schedule, water availability and the previous year's treatments.
- The Dead Bird Hotline begins on April 11, 2022.
- The Polaris SXS and miscellaneous equipment have been delivered to BidCal in Chico for the April 16<sup>th</sup> equipment auction.
- New Jersey light traps have been deployed, reports will be presented at the May meeting.
- Staff continues monitoring spring sources, catch basins, waste tires, green pools, and responding to service calls.

**TRUSTEE COMMENTS:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, a motion was made by Sanbrook and seconded by Guzman to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote. Board President Harris adjourned the meeting.

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John Sanbrook, Board Secretary