

## SEPTEMBER 8, 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, September 8, 2022.

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

**ABSENT:** Trustees Ghag and Kirchner

**ALSO PRESENT:** Manager Abshier and Administrative Manager Valencia

**EMERGENCY AGENDA ITEMS:** President Harris inquired if there were any emergency agenda items, to which Manager Abshier responded that there was. Abshier indicated that an AC unit had failed and was not budgeted to replace. This failure occurred after the agenda had gone out, and consideration for fixing it would need to be made expeditiously due to the extreme heat. A motion was made by Schmidl and seconded by Link to create emergency agenda item 8A. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- A. Minutes of August 11, 2022
- B. Bills for August 2022

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

**APPROVAL OF NECESSARY FY2021-2022 BUDGET TRANSFERS: BOARD ACTION IS REQUIRED TO TRANSFER FUNDS BETWEEN SALARIES AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS AND SERVICES AND SUPPLIES.** Back at the March 2022 Board meeting, approval was given to overspend the chemical budget by up to \$100,000. This extra spending was done to combat supply chain issues due to COVID-19. It was taking months to receive product that used to only take weeks, and there was worry that we would not have the product we would need on hand during peak mosquito season. As a result of this extra spending, our Services and Supplies budget was exceeded by \$67,975.52. Abshier requested that the Board approve a budget transfer of \$67,975.52 from the Salaries and Benefits budget to the Services and Supplies budget. A motion was made by Guzman and seconded by Schmidl to transfer \$67,975.52 from the Salaries and Benefits budget to the Services and Supplies budget. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

**APPROVAL TO SET THE DISTRICT FORECASTED RESERVES IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR THE 2022-2023 BUDGET: THIS ACTION WILL BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH GASB 54.** Manager Abshier presented the Board with his recommendation for the reserves budget for the fiscal year 2022-2023. The reserves budget is predominantly the same as the year before, but for a few key differences. A reserve of \$125,000 was created for Budget Stabilization. This line item is largely to prepare the District for any large benefit obligations that might need to be paid out that aren't budgeted for, as well as unexpected revenue decreases. Another new item this year is a reserve in the amount of \$175,000 for an electric vehicle charging stations. This is mostly to begin preparing the District for possible upcoming mandates banning the sale of gas vehicles. If this were to happen, the District would have to set up electric vehicle charging stations for all electric vehicles going forward, which could become a very large expense. The Unassigned general fund increased by \$115,000 to a total of \$890,000.00. By District policy, the Unassigned General Fund cannot be more than 15% of the total reserves budget, and this increase would keep the Unassigned General Fund to 14.6% of the total reserves budget. A motion was made by Sanbrook and seconded by Link approving the District's 2022-2023 Forecasted Reserve Implementation Plan. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

**APPROVAL TO PURCHASE A VIDEO SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM TO COVER OUTSIDE AREAS OF THE DISTRICT YARD:** At last month's Board meeting a comprehensive outdoor video surveillance system with an estimated cost of \$10,744 was brought before

the Board in light of some major theft that had taken place at the District yard. Guzman spoke about his experience with the security cameras at the school where he teaches. He let us know that unless you have the area really lit up well it is very difficult, if not impossible to identify the culprits. That item failed due to lack of motion. This month, Manager Abshier brought a new video surveillance system before the Board that was more focused on our vehicle parking area, that included really lighting up the shed, and installing cameras that work very well in lower light situations. The quote for this new system was \$4,665.00. Guzman suggested that maybe we try a Ring camera and see how well that works for our yard. He had just installed a similar system at his home and was having a lot of success with it. Each camera would cost about \$200 and it would be \$10/month to store the data. The Ring cameras have motion sensing capabilities and will shed a spotlight on the area where it senses movement. The cameras will also begin recording once it senses movement and will record for the amount of time that you select. Guzman believed that you should be able to see clear facial features up to 35 feet with these cameras. Guzman suggested purchasing one Ring camera and seeing if that would fit our needs, if not we could revisit Manager Abshier's proposal. The item failed due to lack of motion.

**APPROVAL FOR DISTRICT STAFF AND TRUSTEES TO ATTEND THE MVCAC FALL QUARTERLY MEETING IN VISALIA, CA, NOVEMBER 2-3, 2022:** The fall quarterly MVCAC meeting will take place in Visalia, CA this year. Manager Abshier presented the draft agenda to the Board to inquire if there was any interest for any of the Board members going to this meeting. The consensus from the Board seemed to be that the topics at this particular meeting didn't substantially concern them, thus there was no interest from Board members to attend this meeting. The hotel cost for District staff members to attend will be \$149.00 per night. A motion was made by Link and seconded by Guzman approving two members of staff, Manager Abshier as well as District Entomologist Erik Blosser, to attend the MVCAC fall quarterly meeting in Visalia, CA on November 2-3, 2022. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

**APPROVAL FOR A BUDGET AMENDMENT TO MOVE \$20,000 FROM UNASSIGNED GENERAL RESERVE TO THE OPERATING BUDGET FIXED ASSET ACCOUNT 54502 TO REPLACE THE AC UNIT FOR THE CREW'S QUARTERS BUILDING.** In the last week the District has had two AC units go out, one for the Bio Building and the other in Crew's Quarters. The AC unit for the Bio Building was able to be repaired with a new capacitor and was done by District staff. Unfortunately, the AC unit for Crew's Quarters needs more work. Manager Abshier had an AC repair company come by and assess the problem and found that the AC unit did not have the capacity to cool and keep up with the higher temperatures we have been experiencing. Abshier inquired if we might be able to do a small repair and make it work until next fiscal year. The AC repairman did not feel like that would be an option. Abshier is planning to get additional quotes for the AC replacement, but is estimating that it will cost no more than \$20,000. Trustee Guzman suggested that because of inflation, \$25,000 actually made more sense to budget for. A motion was made by Schmidl and seconded by link to approve a budget amendment to move \$25,000 from the Unassigned General Reserve to the Operating Budget Fixed Asset Account to replace the AC unit for the Crew's Quarters Building. The motion was approved with a unanimous vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

**MANAGER COMMENTS:** Abshier reported that no West Nile Virus human cases have officially been reported in Sutter County. There was a possible case that turned out to be an old infection. Thus far in Sutter County, 9 chickens, 30 mosquito pools, and 4 dead birds have tested positive for the year. In Yuba County there are two possible human cases that are still under investigation. Thus far in Yuba County, 12 mosquito pools, 9 chickens, and 1 dead bird have tested positive. Statewide, there have been 35 human cases this year compared to 32 human cases at this time last year.

Mosquito abundance in the New Jersey Light Traps is showing that *Culex tarsalis* numbers are well below the ten-year average, as well as below last year's numbers. The

abundance numbers for *tarsalis* look very good, however, more of the *tarsalis* at this time tend to test positive for West Nile Virus. *Culex pipiens*, at this time, seem to be right on track with our numbers from last year, and are slightly below our 10-year average. *Anopheles freeborni* numbers are slightly higher than this time last year, however are well below the 10-year average. Our *freeborni* peak numbers in disease week 34 are also well below the peak we saw last year.

We continue to have no *Aedes aegypti* detections in Yuba County. In Sutter County, we have not had any new detections of *aegypti*. We continue to find them in the same 4 areas-Shanghai, Northgate area, and two areas in Tierra Buena. We will continue our surveillance program in these areas with BG trapping as well as ovi cups. We will also be continuing our wide area adulticide and larvicide mosquito control. The long-term outlook appears that we are slowing their expansion but not eradicating them completely.

Duck clubs have been flooding and we are looking to control mosquito production with more larvicide rather than adulticide. Adulticiding doesn't appear to be as effective at beating the mosquitoes back in these situations. MOU agreements that we have with the duck clubs allow us to better work cooperatively with them. The Duck Clubs keep us informed as to when they will be flooding and in exchange, they pay for the cost of the material we use to treat mosquitoes but face no labor costs. This is a win-win for both parties involved.

We have had the airplane out spraying adulticide over 308,501 acres year-to-date. We expect 1 more cycle over orchards to take place to further reduce *Anopheles* numbers. There will probably be 32,000 to 35,000 more acres flown.

Additionally, the manager reported on the following:

- The annual audit field work will be conducted on Friday September 9<sup>th</sup> here at the District. The audit report should be complete by either the November or December meeting. This will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of their 3-year contract.
- The manager evaluation is coming due. Board members are asked to complete and return a performance evaluation to the office by October 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- The VCJPA member contingency fund balance is \$344,937
- The District received a reimbursement check in the amount \$23,183.10 for the ATV and fogger losses.
- All radio ads have ended.
- We have been taking precautions at our chicken flock locations to prevent the spread of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza by wearing gloves & disposable booties.
- September 23<sup>rd</sup> is set to be the last day for summer employees, with September 30<sup>th</sup> being the final day for the seasonal staff.
- We continue to monitor New Jersey light traps to determine the ending of our fogging programs.
- We will be hiring two new Mosquito Technicians November 1<sup>st</sup>. Five seasonal staff from this year are applying for the position. Hiring from this pool allows us to get a good feel of who they are rather than hiring an unknown person.
- We changed the hours for the Operations crew to 6:30AM-3:00PM during week of the extreme heat wave. We also brought them back to the yard to watch training videos at 2:00PM so they would not be out in the extreme conditions.

#### **TRUSTEE COMMENTS:**

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

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John Sanbrook, Board Secretary