

Marin/Sonoma Mosquito & Vector Control District

Board of Trustees
595 Helman Lane
Cotati, CA 94931

February 11, 2015

MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

President Van Dyke called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **ROLL CALL**

Members present:

Ayala, Steve	Holland, William
Barnard, Nancy	Libeu, Paul
Bouey, Charles	McCaffery, Shaun
Braun, Lee	Paisley, Phil
Castro, Martin	Ross, Sandra
Davis, Tamara	Schulze, Ed
Egger, Frank	Stabler, Richard
Glass, Una	Van Dyke, Yvonne

Members absent:

Bradner, Tom
Pitcher, Bill
Rowland Jr., Herb
Trusendi, Judith

Open seats: Cloverdale, Marin Co. at Large, Sausalito, Tiburon

Others present:

Phil Smith, District Manager
Erik Hawk, Assistant Manager
Janet Coleson, General Counsel
Vicki Hausknecht, Financial/Benefits Manager
Nizza Sequeira, PR Director
Kristen Holt, Biologist
Chris Mohrman, Field Technician
Nick Picinich, Rodent Control Specialist

A quorum was present, and a due notice had been published.

4. **PUBLIC TIME**
No public present.

5. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

A. **Changes to Agenda/Approval of Agenda**

B. **Minutes** – Minutes for Board Meeting held January 11, 2015.

C. **Financial**

Warrants – January 2015

January Payroll: \$160,489.85

January Expenditures: \$391,461.12

Total: \$551,950.97

D. **ENDING ACCOUNT BALANCES:**

Operating Fund: \$4,937,970.54

It was M/S Trustee Davis/Trustee Schulze to accept the Consent Calendar.

Motion passed with:

Ayes: Trustee Ayala, Trustee Barnard, Trustee Bouey, Trustee Braun, Trustee Castro, Trustee Davis, Trustee Egger, Trustee Glass, Trustee Holland, Trustee Libeu, Trustee McCaffery, Trustee Paisley, Trustee Ross, Trustee Schulze, Trustee Stabler, and Trustee Van Dyke

No: (none)

Abstain: (none)

Absent: Trustee Bradner, Trustee Pitcher, Trustee Rowland, Trustee Trusendi

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **Public Relations Department Report**

Nizza Sequeira, the District's PR Director, explained that she has recently been working with Assistant Manager Hawk, Manager Smith and SCI Consulting on the forthcoming Benefit Assessment to provide outreach and information. She also attended a seminar with Manager Smith which trained attendees on how to produce video recordings with a cell phone. This could be a good tool to show the public what our technicians do on a daily basis e.g. as treating catch basins, going out on service requests and working in the marshes. These videos will be posted on our Twitter, Facebook and YouTube pages. Currently there are Lyme disease awareness ads running in the Marin Independent Journal and Press Democrat. On the radio we chose to talk specifically about flipping, dumping and draining containers that hold water because we are noticing heavier mosquito production many weeks earlier than usual. Also, with the drought more people are trying to conserve water so we want to be sure they are using mosquito-proof containers. We will be celebrating the District's "100" year Open House this May 30, 2015. Looking back, we had our very first Open House in 2007, which brought in about 250 people. Since then the attendance has more than doubled. The main purpose of the Open House event is to raise awareness and educate the

public about mosquitoes, vector-borne disease and the services our District provides. We also want to give the public a hands-on experience when they attend the event, so our staff always works hard to create educational games and interactive booths.

7. CLOSED SESSION

- A. Closed Session pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2) and (e)(1): One Matter**
- B. Reconvene to Open Session. Report from closed sessions (if any).**
Nothing to report from closed session.

8. CONTINUED BUSINESS

- A. Overlay Assessment Project (District Three): Report and Recommendations by Benefit Assessment Changes/Long-Term Strategy Committee, District staff and SCI Consulting.**

Trustee Libeu gave a short presentation to explain a spreadsheet that he had produced for the District's use entitled "Marin/Sonoma Mosquito & Vector Control District: Estimated Costs and Income, Fiscal Year 2015-16." The spreadsheet was notable in that it clearly presented at a glance the distribution of income and costs between the two existing assessment districts and the third, proposed new benefit assessment district.

Several Trustees and Manager Smith expressed their appreciation for Trustee Libeu's efforts and work product.

Manager Smith explained that the proposed actions before the Board in connection with the proposed new assessment is a continuation of what the board has been working on for several months. At the prior meeting in January, the board approved the preparation of the documentation, finalization of the preliminary Engineer's report, and preparation of the two resolutions now before the Board. Manager Smith pointed out that if the resolutions are passed by the Board, they would enact the next phase of balloting, ordering the mailing of the ballots and accompanying legal notice.

Mary Schilts from SCI explained that the Engineer's report for District 3 is similar to that for District 2, with a few differences. The annual change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) calculation for the San Francisco Bay Area applies up to a maximum of 5%. This mirrors what we have in District 2. The services section is significantly different from the Engineer's report for District 2. Manager Smith and Assistant Manager Hawk reviewed and edited this section in depth to be sure that it reflects the most recent understanding of the services that are being provided currently throughout the entire district. There are 3 zones that are reflected in District 3, and District 2 only has two zones. This is because the legal landscape changes over time. The general benefits calculations for District 3 are similar to those for District 2; however they will not be exactly the same. Each district

has a slightly different methodology and this reflects our changing understanding of the requirements under Proposition 218. Another factor that SCI looks at is census data, and the census data that was used for District 2 was from the year 2000. For District 3 the more recent data from the census in 2010 was used.

Trustee Holland asked if the CPI was for all consumers or a segment of consumers.

Maria Garcia-Adarve explained that it is the CPI for San Francisco and Oakland Bay Area, so it is for all consumers, and the period used is the change in the CPI from December to December.

Manager Smith explained that the District has gone to great lengths to ensure the public is informed about how the CPI escalating clause will work. The information in multiple places such as the ballot legal notice and web site.

Maria Garcia-Adarve thanked Trustee Libeu for all his work and help that he has provided in preparing the preliminary budget for FY 2015-16. After collaborating with Manager Smith, Financial Benefits Manager Vicki Hausknecht and herself they decided that the best way to allocate the budget among the three districts is to provide a single budget that is divided into three sections. Each district is responsible for its portion of the expenses.

It was M/S Trustee Schulze/Trustee Holland to accept Resolution 2014/15-05 adopting Proposition 218 Assessment Ballot Proceedings Procedures.

Trustee Egger stated that the District sent out a mail survey to make residents aware that the District is looking at options to fund its increased costs. When reading it, it wasn't clear that it was going to be a new tax over and above the existing tax. He went on to state that in his opinion the driving force behind the new assessment tonight is the unfunded Marin County Employee Retirement Association (MCERA) unfunded pension liabilities and the post-employment benefit liabilities. He explained that MCERA is about \$800 million in the hole. Mr. Egger encouraged the board to look at some other alternatives to fund some of these expenses. Mr. Egger stressed that he will be voting "No" on the two resolutions tonight.

Trustee Paisley added that he agreed with Trustee Egger and his concern about people understanding what they are voting for. This is not a total tax of \$12; it is in addition to their existing tax.

Trustee Braun stated that both comments are well considered but these also have been considered a number of times at our board meetings and various committee meetings. He appreciates the perspective from both Trustee Egger and Trustee Paisley but would like to move forward.

Motion passed with:

Ayes: Trustee Ayala, Trustee Barnard, Trustee Bouey, Trustee Braun, Trustee Castro, Trustee Davis, Trustee Glass, Trustee Holland, Trustee Libeu, Trustee McCaffery, Trustee Ross, Trustee Schulze, Trustee Stabler, and Trustee Van Dyke

No: Trustee Egger, Trustee Paisley

Abstain: (none)

Absent: *Trustee Bradner, Trustee Pitcher, Trustee Rowland, Trustee Trusendi*

It was M/S Trustee Davis/Trustee Holland to accept Resolution 2014/15-04 initiating proceedings, providing intention to levy assessments, preliminarily approving engineer's report, and providing for notice of hearing, and the mailing of assessment ballots for the Marin/Sonoma Mosquito and Vector Control District, Mosquito, Vector and Disease Control Assessment (Assessment No. 3).

Motion passed with:

Ayes: *Trustee Ayala, Trustee Barnard, Trustee Bouey, Trustee Braun, Trustee Castro, Trustee Davis, Trustee Glass, Trustee Holland, Trustee Libeu, Trustee McCaffery, Trustee Ross, Trustee Schulze, Trustee Stabler, and Trustee Van Dyke*

No: *Trustee Egger, Trustee Paisley*

Abstain: (none)

Absent: *Trustee Bradner, Trustee Pitcher, Trustee Rowland, Trustee Trusendi*

9. COMMITTEE & STAFF REPORTS

A. Legislative & Regulatory Committee

Trustee Davis mentioned that she will be meeting with MVCAC Legislative Committee on March 1st. They will go through all the bills that are being followed for Mosquito Districts throughout the state. The Committee will be meeting with our legislators in our two counties. There are new legislators and therefore they feel it is important to meet with them to update them on what the Districts are doing.

10. MANAGER'S REPORT

Assistant Manager Hawk explained that in the interest of time he would limit his verbal report to update the Board on the winter salt marsh mosquito *Aedes squamiger*, which is maturing much faster this year as well as the pale salt marsh mosquito *Aedes dorsalis*. Since Operations has observed significant populations, the unusual situation has required staff to apply larvicide treatments already. (Assistant Manager's entire report is included in the February Board packet)

Trustee Libeu asked how the District is doing relative to last year in terms of mosquito problems.

Assistant Manager Hawk explained that our summer species *Aedes dorsalis* is showing up even earlier than last year, which was in late February.

Manager Smith reported that the Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) is now under review by General Counsel. Once the review is complete, staff will bring the PEIR to the Board for review and consideration for public release for the 45-day comment period. Following the comment period, staff will bring the draft final PEIR to the Board for consideration for certification. Trustees have a choice of receiving a printed summary version of the draft PEIR accompanied by a CD of the entire document with appendices and references, or the entire document in paper form in a large binder (each copy costs about \$350) - or just to receive only the CD. The document will be available on the District's web site and paper copies

will also be available in certain public libraries. *(Manager's entire report is included in the February Board packet)*

11. **WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

No written communications.

12. **OPEN TIME FOR BOARD OR STAFF**

Trustee Barnard expressed her concern about an email which included her name in an email thread regarding Trustee Braun attending the Town of Fairfax Council meeting, which she felt was to **provide clarification, as well as rebut several unfortunate errors** in Trustee Egger's report that he was giving that night.

Trustee Braun responded to Trustee Barnard stating that he introduced himself as an appointee to the Board from the City of Belvedere and currently serving as the Vice President of Marin/Sonoma Mosquito & Vector Control District (MSMVCD), along with introducing the current Board President. Mr. Braun apologized to Trustee Barnard if he caused her any embarrassment. A discussion ensued.

Trustee Barnard felt that she does not wish to be associated with activity which searches for other Trustees whereabouts and sends representatives to their town council meetings as a surprise to the trustee who is reporting that night. Trustee Barnard attempted to find out how and why her email appeared on this email thread. Manager Smith suggested that the fact that Trustee Egger was reporting at the Fairfax Town Council was found as the result of a Google search by SCI and that sending someone to rebut Trustee Egger was discussed at an Executive Committee meeting. Trustee Barnard stated that she was not at this Executive Committee meeting, nor was she contacted before her name was included on a group email arranging for MSMVCD trustees to be present at the Fairfax Town Council. This issue was not resolved to trustee Barnard's satisfaction.

Trustee Davis explained that Trustee Barnard's point has been made.

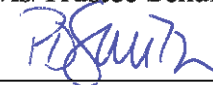
Trustee Egger reported about a couple vendors he felt whose products were worth looking at after seeing them at the Mosquito & Vector Control Association of California Conference in Monterey. Clarke has a product called Merus, which is an adulticide that MSMVCD is going to try in West Marin locations. Another company called Application Dynamics also has an adulticide product that they are waiting for certification from the Organics Materials Review Institute (OMRI). He feels that these products that are OMRI approved should be used at our District more.

Trustee Holland apologized to the board for not being able to attend a lot of the meetings lately. He has not been feeling well.

13.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, it was M/S Trustee Davis/Trustee Schulze to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 p.m.



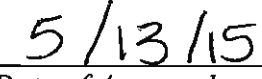
District Representative
MSMVCD



Date of Approval



Trustee
MSMVCD Board of Trustees



Date of Approval