

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

March 17, 2010

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Lake County Vector Control District was called to order at 1:35 P.M. by President Giambruno.

Board Present: Curt Giambruno, Lowell Grant, Ron Nagy, and Philip Murphy.

Absent: Melford Gatton.

District Personnel: Jamesina J. Scott, Ph.D., Manager and Research Director and Ms. Jacinda Franusich, Office Manager.

Guests: None.

Mr. Grant moved to approve the Board Minutes of February 17, 2010 with a correction to add his questions regarding the amount of the District's costs for CalPers and the differences between Employer Contribution amounts and Employer-paid Employee Contribution amounts. Mr. Nagy seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Citizen's Input: None.

Agenda Additions and/or Deletions: None.

Research Report

Dr. Scott reported on arbovirus activity. No West Nile virus has been detected in Lake County in 2010. The total number of West Nile virus activity indicators in Lake County for 2009 was the lowest since the virus was first detected here in 2004.

Dr. Scott reported on adult biting fly activity. The New Jersey light trap at Reclamation Road collected 72 female and four male *Culiseta inornata*. The New Jersey light trap located near Borax Lake did not collect any mosquitoes during the same time period.

Dr. Scott reported on treehole mosquito surveillance. Routine monitoring of treeholes has shown that most treeholes are full and that most of the larvae are in the fourth instar, with most of the remaining larvae in the third instar.

Dr. Scott reported on tick surveillance and tick testing. Four sites were sampled for ticks during February. *Ixodes pacificus* and *Dermacentor occidentalis* were collected from all sites. The ticks will be sent to the California Department of Public Health Vector-borne Disease Division for testing.

Dr. Scott reported on Chaoboridae gnats. Clear Lake gnat larvae numbers declined from 2.29 per dredge in January to 0.93 per dredge in February. Chironominae numbers decreased from 48.82 per dredge in January to 47.79 per dredge in February. Tanypodinae numbers decreased from 5.50 per dredge in January to 3.04 per dredge in February.

Operation Report

The rain gauge at the LCVCD office in Lakeport received 3.40 inches of precipitation during February. The cumulative rainfall total for this season is 19.45 inches of precipitation.

Rainfall in the last two months has flooded many larval mosquito habitats. Routine larval surveillance has detected larger populations of *Aedes increpitus* and *Aedes bicristatus* than seen in recent years. These mosquitoes are aggressive human biters and generate significant discomfort for residents and visitors. The District's Vector Control Technicians have been larviciding to reduce the populations and numbers of adult mosquitoes emerging from these sources.

Ms. Natalie Muñoz has been hired to fill the District's open intern position. Ms. Muñoz will assist with identification and surveillance of mosquitoes, ticks and other vectors.

Vector Biologist Bonnie Ryan and District Manager Jamie Scott spoke to 28 children and 20 adults on February 26 at the Lakeport Library Story Hour. The theme of story hour was insects, and Dr. Scott and Ms. Ryan made a brief presentation regarding mosquitoes in backyards. Live adult

and immature mosquitoes, mosquitofish, and other local insects were presented.

The LCVCD will participate in Calpine's community Earth Day Event on April 17. The event will be held at the Calpine Visitor Center in Middletown.

Dr. Scott gave an NPDES update. The U.S. Supreme Court denied the petition for certiorari to review the Sixth Circuit's National Cotton Council decision. This denial means that the Sixth Circuit decision will stand as the applicable law, the stay will remain in effect until April 9, 2011, and after this date the EPA regulation that provides the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit exception for aquatic pesticides will be void and all applications of larvicides and adulticides to waters of the U.S. will be subject to NPDES permit requirements.

Dr. Scott attended the MVCAC Sacramento Valley Regional Meeting on February 28. Options for distributing the cost of the monitoring program required by the NPDES permit were discussed.

Dr. Scott attended the Vector Control Joint Powers Agency Annual Workshop and Board Meeting on March 4th and 5th. Dr. Scott serves as the Sacramento Valley Regional Representative and Treasurer-Auditor for the VCJPA. In addition, Dr. Scott sits on the Risk Management Committee. No significant changes in coverage were proposed.

On March 10-12 Dr. Scott attended the New Jersey Mosquito Control Association Conference. Dr. Scott was invited to present the results of the District's VectoMax CG trial.

The Board discussed the draft LCVCD General Policies. Mr. Grant stated that he is concerned about the amount of the CalPers contributions. He mentioned that he talked to the Lake County Human Resources Office regarding the Counties CalPers contributions. At this time the County of Lake pays the seven percent employee contribution of the miscellaneous employees' modified gross wages. Dr. Scott and Ms. Franusich explained that the seven percent is only the employee's contribution and is in addition to the employer's required contribution. California public employers are required to pay an employer's contribution, which is a percentage of the gross wages of all eligible employees and is determined by CalPers. Dr. Scott reminded the Board that since this issue was not an agenda item

no action can be taken, and that if the Board wanted to discuss this further that the CalPers contribution issue could be included on next month's agenda.

Mr. Grant asked if the draft policies that the Board is considering are new policies or hard copies of existing policies. Dr. Scott stated that the draft policies represent current policies except for a change to Holidays Policy with the addition of a floating holiday, a change to the Vacation Policy capping vacation accruals at 320 hours, and the proposed new Educational Assistance policy.

Mr. Nagy and Mr. Murphy asked if there is a specific account code for vacation accruals. Ms. Fransich and Dr. Scott explained that regular vacation hours are paid for out of the standard salaries and wages account, and that the only time a specific account is used for vacation hours is when a payout of those hours is necessary due to retirement or other severance of service with the District.

Mr. Murphy asked for clarification of the uniform allowance that is provided by the District to the Vector Control Technicians. Mr. Murphy inquired if the Technicians ever wore protective Tyvek over-suits. Dr. Scott replied that the District does provide Tyvek over-suits for the Technicians, but that they aren't always practical for all of the pesticide applications the Technicians perform.

Mr. Giamb Bruno mentioned that in addition to sick leave paid for by the employer there exists the federal Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA), the California Family Rights Act, and the California Paid Family Leave Insurance Program. Dr. Scott said that FMLA and other related programs will be addressed in separate policies that will be presented to this Board in the future.

Mr. Grant made the motion to accept the draft LCVCD General Policies as written, pending review of the District's legal counsel. Mr. Murphy seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote as follows: the vote was four in favor (Mr. Giamb Bruno, Mr. Grant, Mr. Nagy, and Mr. Murphy), one absent (Mr. Gatton).

The Board discussed developing a mission statement for the District. Mr. Murphy mentioned that he had read over the California Health and Safety

Code, the governing legislation for mosquito and vector control districts, and had found it a “little vague” in some of its language. Mr. Murphy thought that possibly a charter would benefit the District. Dr. Scott replied that the previous Board, who had discussed the issue of a charter due to a recommendation by the Lake County Grand Jury, had decided that as it was not legally required, and could possibly conflict with state law a charter was not in the best interest of the District.

Dr. Scott stated that she believes that a mission statement would have some value for the District. There are many other vector control districts in the state that have adopted mission statements, and these statements provide a useful outreach tool for those districts.

The Board decided to put the mission statement discussion on the next regular meeting agenda, and Dr. Scott will compile examples of mission statements from other vector control districts and a draft proposed mission statement specific to the LCVCD for consideration.

Mr. Nagy moved to approve Check Nos. 10512 – 10587 for the month of March 2010 in the amount of \$80,393.37. Mr. Grant seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Other Business

Mr. Nagy mentioned that he had attended the Board of Supervisors meeting on March 2, and that it appears that Lake County LAFCO may be increasing the amount that the special districts contribute to the LAFCO budget from ten percent to thirty-three and one third percent. The Board of Supervisors will send a letter to the LAFCO Board requesting that the increase be deferred for a year or more or make gradual increases each year until the thirty-three and one third percent is reached.

Mr. Nagy mentioned that he spoke with Ms. Tamara Davis, a trustee on the board of Marin/Sonoma Mosquito and Vector Control District, regarding winter season projects and hours of their Vector Control Technicians. Mr. Nagy stated that Marin/Sonoma MVCD keeps its Technicians working all winter; however it does a very different program from the LCVCD.

Dr. Scott advised the Board that the District's May 12, 2010 regular meeting will likely be a lengthy meeting. Representatives from SCI Consulting Group will be attending to discuss the benefit assessment. In addition, the District's proposed budget will be addressed and adopted at the May 12 meeting.

Announcement of the Next Board Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Lake County Vector Control District will be at 1:30 PM on April 14, 2010 in the LCVCD Board Room, 410 Esplanade, Lakeport, CA 95453.

Mr. Nagy moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Grant seconded the motion. There being no other business the meeting was adjourned by President Giambruno at 3:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Melford R. Gatton
Secretary