

## MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

September 14, 2011

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Lake County Vector Control District was called to order at 1:34 P.M. by President Giambruno.

Board Present: Rob Bostock, Melford R. Gatton, Curt Giambruno, Lowell Grant, and Ron Nagy.

Absent: None.

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

Guests: None.

Citizen's Input: None.

Agenda Additions and/or Deletions: None.

Mr. Bostock moved to approve the Board Minutes of August 10, 2011. Mr. Gatton seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Research Report**

Dr. Scott reported on vector-borne disease activity. One sample of *Cx. stigmatosoma* mosquitoes collected near Kelseyville on September 2 was positive for West Nile virus (WNV). This is the only WNV activity detected in Lake County during 2011. Twenty-four counties in California have detected WNV activity in 2011. In the rest of the United States thirty-nine states have reported WNV activity in 2011.

There have been six locally acquired cases of dengue reported in the United States this year. Four cases were in Hawaii, and two cases were in Florida.

Twelve cases of Powassan virus infection have been reported this year. Powassan virus is a tick-borne flavivirus that occurs in the Great Lakes and eastern states.

Thirty-two human cases of La Crosse encephalitis virus infection have been reported in 2011. The eastern treehole mosquito is the primary vector of La Crosse encephalitis, and most of the infections occur in children.

Two human cases of eastern equine encephalitis infection have been reported in New York and Massachusetts.

One human case of St. Louis encephalitis has been reported in Arkansas.

Dr. Scott reported adult biting fly activity. The District set one hundred three carbon dioxide-baited traps during August. The traps were set at various locations throughout the county, including Anderson Marsh State Historic Park and Big Borax Lake in Clearlake. Among the mosquito species collected were *Aedes increpitus*, *Culex tarsalis*, and *Anopheles freeborni*.

New Jersey Light Traps were set in the Reclamation and near Big Borax Lake. The Reclamation traps collected 3,280 female and 704 male *Anopheles freeborni*, and 272 female and 72 male *Culex tarsalis*. The Borax Lake traps collected four species of mosquitoes as well as *Culicoides occidentalis*.

Large Resting Boxes were set at three locations in the county and collected several different mosquito species, including *Aedes sierrensis*, *Culex tarsalis*, and *Culex stigmatosoma*.

Dr. Scott reported tick surveillance and testing. Four sites were sampled for ticks in August. Three *Dermacentor occidentalis* nymphs were collected and submitted to the California Department of Public Health's Viral and Rickettsial Disease Lab to be tested for *Rickettsia* 364D.

Dr. Scott reported on Chaoboridae gnats. In the Upper Arm of Clear Lake the Clear Lake gnat larval counts decreased from 7.11 per dredge in July to 1.18 per dredge in August. Chironominae numbers increased from 10.61

per dredge in July to 14.36 per dredge in August. Tanypodinae numbers increased from 4.54 per dredge in July to 8.14 per dredge in August.

### **Operation Report**

On August 1, the level of Clear Lake was at 4.85 feet on the Rumsey Gauge. The lake level decreased to 3.59 feet by August 31.

The wild rice was harvested in late August, and is largely drained so no additional larvicide applications have been made. Adulticide applications have increased in areas near the wild rice in Upper Lake due to an increase in *Anopheles freeborni* activity.

The Vector Control Technicians completed their inspections of neglected swimming pools in August. Approximately three hundred new mosquito sources have been identified because of the aerial surveillance program.

A water leak originating in the urinal in the men's restroom in the District's Administrative building occurred over the weekend of August 6-7. The flooring and underlay in the restroom and the carpeting in the hallway as well as a portion of the restroom wall were damaged by the water. A claim has been filed with the VCJPA. Flooring repair for the restroom and hallway is estimated at \$3,650.55. The carpeting in the rest of the building, which is now 14 years old, will be replaced at the same time.

On August 12, Vector Control Technician Terry Sanderson and Dr. Scott met with Teale Love, a Hazardous Materials Specialist with the Lake County Environmental Health Department, to complete a Hazardous Materials Business Plan (HMBP) compliance inspection of the Todd Road site. The site was found to be in compliance, and Mr. Love conducted a review of the District's Esplanade facility to confirm that it no longer required an HMBP.

Mr. Jacob Jones, the District's Intern, has accepted a position as a Vector Control Specialist with the County of Santa Cruz. Mr. Jones's last day with the District was September 2. He was a valuable addition to the District, and expressed his appreciation for the skills he acquired while employed here.

Two long-term District employees have announced their plans to retire in December 2011. Mr. Randall Williams, a Vector Control Technician II, will

retire with 36 years of service, and Mr. David Woodward, the District's Entomologist will retire with 32 years of service. Both Mr. Williams and Mr. Woodward will be missed.

The Entomologist position will be advertised on the District's website, as well as the MVCAC, AMCA, ESA, and SOVE websites. The Vector Control Technician position will be advertised on the MVCAC website, as well as in local newspapers, and the District's website.

Dr. Scott spoke to a group of children and their parents on August 11 about how to recognize mosquitoes and remove mosquito habitats in their yards.

The District has added a new handout, a Mosquito Flexagon, to help educate children about the mosquito life cycle. The handout will be available for download on the District's website, and as a hard copy to be passed out at outreach events.

Dr. Scott participated in a webinar about Personal Protective Equipment on August 10. The webinar was provided at no cost as part of the District's VCJPA membership.

Dr. Scott gave an NPDES update. The stay of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System will likely expire on October 31, 2011. The District is prepared to comply with the permit if no legislative fix is in place by October 31. The District submitted its NPDES Permit application to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) in June. The application is posted on the District's website as well as the SWRCB's website.

Dr. Scott will be attending the Society for Vector Ecology annual conference from September 25-29. The conference will be held in Flagstaff, Arizona. Dr. Scott has been invited to give a presentation about the introduction of *Aedes japonicus* into the United States.

### **Discussion and Consideration of Draft LCVCD General Policies**

Dr. Scott presented draft job descriptions for the Board's consideration. After some discussion, Mr. Grant moved to accept the draft job descriptions: 2305 Office Manager, 2320 Vector Control Technician II, and 2330 Vector Control Technician III, as written. Mr. Nagy seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Review and Discussion of the District's CalPERS Benefit**

Dr. Scott provided the Board with an overview of CalPERS and review of the District's retirement benefits as well as retirement benefits offered by other vector control districts in the state. Mr. Grant mentioned that he believes that the District's retirement benefits need to be changed to reflect a second, lower tier of benefits for new hires, possibly 2%@55. Dr. Scott mentioned that adding a lower retirement formula for new hires would make recruiting and retaining quality employees difficult, as it would make the District a less competitive employer. In addition, Dr. Scott mentioned that reducing benefits for new hires could increase employee attrition, which is hard on morale and very expensive. Dr. Scott also reminded the Board that the CalPERS pension is the only retirement benefit the District offers, and—unlike the County and many other MVCDs—the District does not provide health insurance for its retirees.

Dr. Scott reminded the Board that there are several bills before the State legislature, and several voter initiatives that may change pension benefits for all public agencies and employees. She suggested that it may be prudent to see how the new legislation plays out before the Board makes any decisions about changing the District's retirement benefit.

The Board directed the Manager to gather additional information regarding benefits being offered by other vector control districts, and when that information is complete this item can be carried over to a future agenda.

### **Approve Budget Transfer in the amount of \$500 from Contingencies (90.91) to Assessments (48.00)**

Mr. Grant moved to approve the budget transfer in the amount of \$500 90.91 Contingencies to 48.00 Assessments. Mr. Nagy seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Approve Checks for the Month of September 2011**

Mr. Nagy moved to approve Check Nos. 11824–11898 for the month of September 2011 in the amount of \$109,072.89. Mr. Gatton seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Other Business**

Dr. Scott informed the Board that the property on C Street has been posted with a nuisance abatement notice by the City of Lakeport. In addition,

Chase Bank has given the owners of the property an eighteen-day notice to gather their belongings from the property.

**Announcement of Next Regular Board Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the Board will be at 1:30 PM on October 12, 2011 at the Lake County Vector Control District Office, 410 Esplanade Lakeport, CA 95453.

**Closed Session**

No Closed Session was held.

Mr. Nagy moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Gatton seconded the motion. There being no other business the meeting was adjourned by President Giambruno at 4:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Nagy  
Secretary