

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

November 10, 2010

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Lake County Vector Control District was called to order at 1:30 P.M. by President Giambruno.

Board Present: Melford Gatton, Curt Giambruno, and Ronald Nagy.

Absent: Lowell Grant and Philip Murphy.

District Personnel: Jamesina J. Scott, Ph.D., Manager and Research Director, and Ms. Jacinda Franusich, Office Manager, and Mr. Randall Williams, Vector Control Technician.

Guests: None.

Citizens' Input: None.

Agenda Additions and/or Deletions: None.

The approval of the October 13, 2010 Regular Meeting minutes was carried over to the December 8, 2010 meeting, as Mr. Nagy had been unable to attend the October meeting.

Research Report

Dr. Scott reported on arbovirus activity. Three mosquito samples from Lake County have tested positive for West Nile virus (WNV) this year. The first sample was collected near Upper Lake on August 10, the second sample was collected near Highway 175 on August 24, and the third was a combined sample collected on September 29 and October 6 southeast of Kelseysville.

So far this year seventy-one dead birds from Lake County have been reported to the WNV Dead Bird Hotline. Sixteen birds were submitted, and eleven were suitable for testing. None of the birds had acute WNV infections.

For the rest of California, ninety-two human cases of WNV illness have been reported from eleven counties. Nineteen horses from eleven counties have tested positive for WNV. Four-hundred eight WNV-positive dead birds have been reported from 27 counties, and one-thousand two-hundred ninety-four mosquito samples from 24 counties have tested positive for West Nile virus. In addition, two-hundred seventy-seven sentinel chickens from 24 counties have seroconverted for WNV.

In the rest of the United States, eight-hundred forty-seven symptomatic human WNV infections have been reported from 38 states. Six-hundred eighty-one West Nile virus positive dead birds have been reported, nine-thousand six-hundred ninety-three mosquito samples have tested positive for WNV, and seven-hundred sixty-four sentinel chickens have seroconverted for West Nile virus.

Forty-six new cases of locally acquired dengue virus/fever have been confirmed this year in Florida. Additionally, three-hundred thirty-six imported human cases of dengue fever have been reported from 32 states.

As of October 31, ten human cases of Eastern Equine Encephalitis virus infection have been confirmed from five states.

Fifty-five human cases of LaCrosse Encephalitis virus infection were reported from nine states.

Four human cases of St. Louis Encephalitis virus infection have been confirmed in three states. Additionally, forty-four mosquito samples have tested positive for the virus, and five sentinel chickens have tested positive as well.

There have been five cases of Powassan virus confirmed from two states. This virus is a tick-borne flavivirus.

Dr. Scott reported on local adult biting fly activity. During October eight mosquito species were collected from the two Large Red Boxes at the Woodward site. The Kelseyville Large Red Box was sampled on eight dates and three mosquito species were collected. The two Large Red Boxes at the Tule Lake wild rice fields were sampled on nine dates and six mosquito species were collected.

The New Jersey light trap set near Big Borax Lake collected numerous female and male black biting gnats as well as four mosquito species during October. The New Jersey Light Trap near Upper Lake collected mosquito species as well as biting black gnats during October,

Carbon dioxide-baited traps were set at Anderson Marsh, Big Borax Lake, Kelseyville, and Lakeport. Various mosquito species were collected as well as biting black gnats and ceratopogonids.

Dr. Scott reported on tick surveillance and testing. The District received seventeen ticks from Lake County residents who removed them from themselves and requested testing. Sixteen of these ticks were suitable for testing and were sent to the Sonoma County Public Health Laboratory for *Borrelia* testing. All the ticks were negative.

Dr. Scott reported on Chaoboridae gnats. The Clear Lake gnat larvae numbers in the Upper Arm of Clear Lake increased from 1.83 larvae per dredge in August to 6.82 per dredge in September to 17.11 per dredge in October. The Chironominae numbers increased from 10.93 larvae per dredge in September to 41.21 larvae per dredge in October. Tanypodinae numbers increased slightly from 2.11 larvae per dredge in September to 2.46 larvae per dredge in October.

Operation Report

During October, 4.75 inches of rainfall was recorded at the District's rain gauge. On October 1, the level of Clear Lake was at 2.26 feet on the Rumsey Gauge, but the lake level decreased to 1.99 feet by October 22. However, rainfall increased the lake level to 2.28 feet by October 31.

Routine surveillance during October showed that the rainfall had flooded many treeholes and triggered the first hatch of *Aedes sierrensis*. Adult treehole mosquitoes usually begin to emerge in late March to mid-April.

After the detection of a third sample of WNV-positive mosquitoes last month, an article appeared in the Lake County News. A media release was not issued as mosquito populations are now below levels at which virus transmission is likely to occur. However, later in November the District will issue an end-of-season release summarizing the year's vector-borne disease activity.

Dr. Scott has been working with Marin/Sonoma MVCD and Placer MVCD on a protocol to evaluate the effectiveness of ultralow volume and low volume larviciding for *Aedes sierrensis* control.

Dr. Scott attended the MVCAC Sacramento Valley Regional Meeting on October 21. Much of the discussion centered on the draft National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit (NPDES).

Dr. Scott has been working with members of the Integrated Vector Management and *Ad hoc* National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Committees to develop the Pesticide Application Plan and Statement of Best Management Practices for review by the State and regional water boards. This document reviews the products used for mosquito control in California, defines best management practices, and sets thresholds for action as part of the requirement for the NPDES permit. MVCDs must have the NPDES permit in place by April 2011.

Dr. Scott organized a symposium on other flies for the 2011 American Mosquito Control Association Annual Conference. District entomologist Dave Woodward, Vector Biologist Bonnie Ryan, and Dr. Scott are also working on a presentation on the work the LCVCD has done on *Aedes sierrensis* for the conference.

Approve Checks for the Month of November 2010

Mr. Gatton moved to approve Check Nos. 11108-11163 for the month of November 2010 in the amount of \$80,448.71. Mr. Nagy seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Other Business

Mr. Nagy mentioned that it might be a good idea to look into the District's maintenance contract with Avaya that covers the District's phone system hardware. Mr. Nagy said that paying for repairs on an as-needed basis is often economical than paying for an annual service contract.

The Board had a brief discussion of the District's Todd Road property and the possibility of moving District operations to that property. Mr. Nagy mention that he talked with an acquaintance of his who is experienced in the process of filling and compacting land, and installing septic systems. Mr. Nagy's acquaintance said that to bring a property the size of the

District's Todd Road property up above the flood plain and install a proper septic system could quite possibly cost \$500,000.

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 P.M. on December 8, 2010 in the LCVCD Board Room, 410 Esplanade, Lakeport, CA 95453.

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 2:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Melford Gatton
Secretary