

## MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

April 14, 2011

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Lake County Vector Control District was called to order at 1:40 P.M. by President Giambruno.

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

Absent: None.

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

Guests: Anita Grant, Lake County Counsel.

Mr. Grant moved to approve the Board Minutes of March 9, 2011. Mr. Nagy seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Citizen's Input: None.

Agenda Additions/Deletions: None.

### **Presentation by District Legal Counsel Regarding CalPERS Pension Options**

Ms. Anita Grant gave a presentation on the options the District may have with regards to its CalPERS Pension benefits. Ms. Grant explained that what the District's ability to change pension benefits may lie with the original pension plan documents signed by the District Board when it decided to enter into a contract with CalPERS. If the District's original pension contract with CalPERS contains language that the District Board retains the right to add, change, or in any way modify pension benefits the Board would have more leeway in making those changes.

In addition, Ms. Grant mentioned that another way to reduce or make changes to pension benefits is to negotiate with District employees. The Board can choose to offer the current employees another benefit in exchange for a reduction in pension benefits. Also, it is permissible to have a tiered benefit plan, in which new employees would be hired under a lower pension contribution formula than the existing employees.

Ms. Grant encouraged the Board to examine its plan documents carefully as the first step in deciding on changes to CalPERS pension benefits. Ms. Grant offered the services of her office in translating the legal language of the plan documents in order for the Board to be adequately prepared to make decisions.

Mr. Grant asked if the District could use benefit assessment funds to pay off the District's CalPERS side fund obligation ahead of schedule. Dr. Scott mentioned that the District had adequate reserve funds prior to the implementation of the benefit

assessment to pay off the side fund, but that would have required the District to use interim (“dry period”) financing. Ms. Grant cautioned that it is very important to leave a transparent paper trail when making high dollar payments in order for the public to feel secure that funds are not being misused. Ms. Grant recommended that the Board review the original benefit assessment to determine if the benefit assessment revenues could be used to pay off the District’s side fund balance ahead of schedule.

The Board directed District staff to provide the Lake County Counsel’s Office with benefit assessment documents and CalPERS documents so that accurate advice may be provided to the Board as to pension options and expenditure of benefit assessment funds.

### **Research Report**

Dr. Scott reported on arbovirus activity. No West Nile virus (WNV) or other arbovirus activity has been detected in Lake County in 2011. In California, a sample of *Culex tarsalis* mosquitoes collected in Riverside County and a dead crow collected in Sacramento County tested positive for WNV. No other arbovirus activity has been reported in the US this year.

Dr. Scott reported on treehole mosquito surveillance. The majority of treehole mosquito larvae are now in the fourth instars, and the first pupae were detected in March. The first male mosquitoes will begin emerging in early April with the females emerging a few weeks later.

Dr. Scott reported on adult biting fly activity. One mosquito species was collected from carbon dioxide-baited traps set at the Woodward site. Three mosquito species were collected from the New Jersey Light Trap set in Reclamation, and two mosquito species were collected near Borax Lake.

Five mosquito species were collected from the Large Resting Boxes at the Woodward site. The Large Resting Box near Kelseyville was sampled on one date in March and no mosquitoes were collected.

Dr. Scott reported tick surveillance and testing. Since October the District has received five ticks from Lake County residents who requested testing. The ticks were submitted to the Sonoma County Public Health Laboratory for *Borrelia burgdorferi* testing. Four ticks were negative, with the results pending on the fifth.

Dr. Scott reported on Chaoboridae gnats. The Clear Lake gnat larvae numbers increased from 17.89 per dredge in February to 15.61 per dredge in March. Chironominae numbers decreased from 29.61 per dredge in February to 27.54 per dredge in March and the Tanypodinae numbers increased from 13.68 per dredge in February to 14.39 per dredge in March.

### **Operation Report**

During the month of March 8.55 inches of precipitation were recorded at the District’s rain gauge. The total rainfall recorded this season is 30.10 inches of precipitation.

On March 1, the level of Clear Lake was 7.29 on the Rumsey Gauge. The lake reached 7.56 feet (full lake) on March 7 and dropped to 7.49 feet on March 14. Subsequent rainfall increased the lake level to flood stage (9.0) on March 25, with the lake level peaking at 9.37 feet on March 28. By March 31, the lake had receded to 9.19 feet.

An aerial application between Clear Lake State Park and south Lakeport was made on March 9. The application was for the control of *Aedes increpitus* larval mosquitoes in order to reduce the number of adults that will emerge from these sites during March and April.

The District's laboratory and administrative buildings sustained roof damage from storms over the weekend of March 19-20. Approximately a quarter of the southeastern-corner of the lab roof, and several shingles on the administrative building were blown off. Repairs are estimated at \$4,500. The VCJPA has been contacted and a claim initiated.

The District budgeted for the purchase of a new pickup truck in the Fiscal Year 2010/2011. Eight dealerships were contacted for bids, with five dealerships responding (Holder Ford, Lakeport - \$21,644.56, Future Ford, Roseville - \$21,285.69, Ukiah Ford, Ukiah - 20,557.69, Corning Ford, Corning - \$20,517.69, and Hansel Ford, Santa Rosa - \$20,339.56). As the local vendor, Holder Ford was given the opportunity to modify its bid, and submitted a revised bid of \$20,665.81. The District order the truck from Holder Ford, and it is due to be delivered in April.

The District has received seven applications in response to its advertisement for an internship position. The District's website was effective for increasing accessibility to the internship information. Interviews will be conducted in mid-April.

Dr. Scott gave a presentation to the Lakeport Rotary Club on March 16. Included in the presentation was information on the upcoming mosquito season, treehole mosquitoes, and ways to reduce mosquito and tick nuisances in your own yard.

Vector Biologist Bonnie Ryan and Lab Assistant Michelle Koschik represented the District on March 31 at the Lower Lake Elementary School's Family Science Night. The District's insect collections were displayed, and informational handouts about WNV, Lyme disease, and canine heartworm were made available.

Dr. Scott will be speaking on April 7, to the Park Study Club in Clearlake about the District's services and the upcoming mosquito season.

On April 15, Vector Biologist Bonnie Ryan and Dr. Scott will make a presentation to the Lakeport Library Story Hour. Dr. Scott and Ms. Ryan made this presentation last year and it was extremely well attended.

The District will have a booth at Calpine's Earth Day Event on April 16. The Event will be held at the Calpine Visitor Center in Middletown.

Dr. Scott gave an NPDES and legislative update. On March 25 the 6<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals granted the US Environmental Protection Agency a stay of its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) mandate until October 31, 2011. As a result of the stay the District will not be required to have an NPDES permit to apply public health pesticides on, near, or above waters of the United States until that date. The State of California could elect to institute its own permitting systems despite the stay, but no announcements have been made to that effect.

The stay is only a temporary reprieve, and a legislative fix through a statutory amendment is needed to resolve the conflict between the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act and the Clean Water Act.

On March 31, the US House of Representatives approved HR 872, the “Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act of 2011.” On April 4, a senate version of the bill, S. 718 “A bill to amend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act to improve the use of certain registered pesticides”, was introduced. The bill was read and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

The Office Manager Jacinda Franusich and District Manager Dr. Scott attended the Vector Control Joint Powers Agency Annual Workshop and Board Meeting. The workshop and meeting were held in Seaside, CA on March 3-4. Coverage and rate changes were discussed, and an Employment Practice Liability Training workshop was provided.

On March 7, Dr. Scott attended a special meeting of the MVCAC Board of Directors in Sacramento. The meeting was held to select the MVCAC’s NPDES Coalition Monitoring Program Manager. Three companies submitted proposals and made presentations. The MVCAC Board selected URS to run the Coalition’s NPDES monitoring program.

District Entomologist Dave Woodward, Vector Biologist Bonnie Ryan, Lab Assistant Michelle Koschik, and Dr. Scott attended the Annual Conference of the American Mosquito Control Association. The conference was held March 20-24 in Anaheim, CA. Mr. Woodward, Ms. Ryan, Dr. Scott and former LCVCD Lab Assistant Brittany Nelms presented a poster summarizing nearly 25 years of work on the Western Treehole Mosquito. Mr. Woodward, Ms. Nelms, and Dr. Scott also co-authored a poster with Tara Thiemann, Yin Fang, and Bill Reisen of UC Davis. That poster, titled “Bloodfeeding patterns of *Culex stigmatosoma* and *Aedes sierrensis* in Lake County, CA” discussed the identification of the bloodmeal hosts of more than 600 mosquitoes collected from the Woodward site in 2008 and 2009. Dr. Scott organized and moderated a half-day symposium for AMCA titled “The Other Flies: There are more than Just Mosquitoes Out There”, which provided a forum for researchers from universities and other MVCDs to present their findings and for control agencies to highlight their programs for the control of biting and nuisance flies, including *Culicoides*, Tabanidae, Chironomidae, Muscids, Simuliidae, *Stomoxys*, and other flies.

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

Dr. Scott presented three new draft policies for the Boards consideration: 2205 – HIPAA Compliance, 2230 – Nepotism, and 4080 – Associations. After discussion, Mr. Nagy moved to accept the policies as written. Mr. Grant seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Discussion and Consideration of Proposal to Reduce CalPERS Contribution Rate through Early Payoff of Side Fund Balance**

Dr. Scott presented the option of the early payoff of the CalPERS Side Fund Balance. Early payoff of the obligation would greatly reduce the District's Employer Contribution Rate. After discussion, the Board decided to carry this item over to a future meeting for further consideration.

**Adopt a Proposed Lake County Vector Control District Budget for FY 2011/2012.**

Dr. Scott presented the District's Proposed Budget for the coming fiscal year to the Board. After discussion, Mr. Grant moved to approve the 2011/2012 Proposed Budget as presented. Mr. Nagy seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Checks for April 2011**

Mr. Nagy moved to approve Check Nos. 11447-11518 for the month of April 2011 in the amount of \$106,373.24. Mr. Bostock seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Other Business**

Dr. Scott discussed the Tire Amnesty Program. The Lake County Public Services Department in conjunction with CalRecycle will be continuing its Tire Amnesty Program, which allows Lake County residents to dispose of used tires at no cost.

Dr. Scott gave an update on the Benefit Assessment timeline. Staff members of SCI Consulting will be attending the LCVCD regular meeting on May 11, 2011.

**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 May 11, 2011 in the LCVCD Board Room, 410 Esplanade, Lakeport, CA 95453.

**Closed Session**

No closed session was held.

Mr. Gatton moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Nagy seconded the motion. There being no other business the meeting was adjourned by President Giambruno at 4:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Nagy  
Secretary