

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

April 15, 2026

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Lake County Vector Control District was called to order at 1:31 P.M. by President Giambruno.

Board Present: Rob Bostock, Curt Giambruno, Frank Lincoln, and Ron Nagy.

Absent: George Spurr (excused).

District Personnel: Jamesina J. Scott, Ph.D., Manager and Research Director (via Teams), and Ms. Julie Manick, Office Manager.

Guests: Ms. Arcelia Herrera and Ms. Heather Jamison both with the SCI Consulting Group.

Citizen's Input: None.

Agenda Additions/Deletions: None.

Approve the Minutes of the March 11, 2026 Regular Meeting with a Correction to the Check Numbers to Include Checks 23982 - 24050, Making the Total Expenditures for March 2026 \$133,844.45

Mr. Nagy moved to approve the Board Minutes of March 11, 2026 with a correction to the check numbers to include checks 23982-24050 making the total expenditures for March \$133,844.45. Mr. Bostock seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Consultant Services Agreement Renewal with SCI Consulting Group for Benefit Assessment Services

Ms. Arcelia Herrera and Ms. Heather Jamison gave a Power Point Presentation regarding SCI Consulting Group and the services they provide to the District for the ongoing administration of the Benefit Assessment.

After a brief discussion, Mr. Lincoln made the motion to authorize the District Manager to renew the contract with SCI Consulting Group. Mr. Nagy seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 votes in favor and 1 abstention.

Research Report

Dr. Scott reported on arbovirus activity. No West Nile virus (WNV) or other arbovirus activity has been reported in Lake County in 2026.

A sample of mosquitoes near the Salton Sea in eastern Riverside County was positive for St. Louis encephalitis virus. A dead crow collected in March from the city of San Diego was positive for West Nile virus. No other arboviral activity has been reported in California or the rest of the United States in 2026.

Dr. Scott reported on adult biting fly activity. The New Jersey light trap (NJLT) set near Borax Lake in Clearlake collected 31 female *Culex tarsalis* and 36 female *Culiseta inornata*. In addition, the NJLT set in Upper Lake collected 59 female *Culiseta inornata* and 55 female *Culex tarsalis* as well. The CO₂ trap in Clearlake Oaks collected 6,966 female *Culicoides sonorensis*, while there were 35 female *C. sonorensis* in the Upper Lake CO₂ trap. The NJLT set in Clearlake collected 313 female and 138 male *Culicoides occidentalis*.

Dr. Scott reported on tick testing. Eight *Ixodes pacificus* ticks have been submitted to the Sonoma County Public Health Laboratory for testing for *Borrelia burgdorferi* (the causative agent for Lyme disease). Seven of the samples were negative and results are pending for the most recent sample.

Dr. Scott reported on Clear Lake Gnat, Chironominae, and Tanypodinae Surveillance in Clear Lake. In March, the number of *Chaoborus astictopus* (Clear Lake Gnat) increased from 0.11 larvae per dredge in February to 0.14 larvae per dredge in the Upper Arm of Clear Lake. Chironominae numbers decreased from 28.36 larvae per dredge in February to 26.46 larvae per dredge in March. The average number of Tanypodinae collected decreased from 2.79 larvae per dredge in February to 1.71 larvae per dredge in March.

Operation Report

During the month of March, no rainfall was recorded at the District, which is extremely unusual for this month. The cumulative total for this precipitation year remains at 18.72 inches of rain, which is 80% of the average rainfall.

On March 1, the level of Clear Lake was 6.10 feet on the Rumsey Gauge. The lake level rose through March 3, peaking at 8.09 feet; then it declined through March 11 to 7.60 feet and remained nearly level, ending the month at 7.59 feet on March 31.

The District made both airplane and drone treatments for *Aedes increpitus* (snowmelt mosquito) larvae in the lake-associated wetlands. On March 2, the District made an aerial application of VectoBac GS granules to 597.6 acres of marshlands adjacent to the lake between Clear Lake State Park and Lakeport, parts of Anderson Marsh State Park, a small section east of Clearlake Oaks, and a small area near Bridge Arbor South in North Lakeport. On March 5 and 6, the District received a helping hand from the Placer Mosquito and Vector Control District; their technicians used their application drone to apply VectoPrime FG granules across 112 acres of standing water mapped out by LCVCD's techs. This targeted application reduces the spring emergence of *Ae. increpitus* mosquitoes. The drone was specifically used to reach areas inaccessible to the district's plane.

Additional larvicide applications were made by hand and by backpack. Also, due to the warm weather, the technicians began making ultra-low volume (ULV) applications for adult mosquito control in March.

On March 12, Vector Biologist Ms. Michelle Meighan and Entomologist Ms. Jessi Edmiston attended the Tick-borne Disease Working Group Annual Meeting at UC Davis.

On March 2, Entomologist Jessi Edmiston and Research Entomologist Chip Markwardt visited Shade Canyon School in Kelseyville for an outreach and education event. They spoke with approximately 40 students in pre- through 4th grade about mosquitoes, mosquitofish, insects in our collections, and the walking sticks.

On March 4, Vector Biologist Michelle Meighan, Entomologist Jessi Edmiston, joined former District Entomologist Brittany Nelms to give a presentation and activity table event to the Homeschool Group at Grace Church, Kelseyville. This event served about 30 students, mostly between 3rd and 6th grades, and their parents.

On March 20, the District had a booth at the Reach Higher Day in the Marge Alakszay Center (MAC) at the Lakeport Unified School District. Between 600 – 700 students participated in the event, and about 100 spent time talking with our staff.

Four employees, District Manager and Research Director, Jamesina Scott, Vector Biologist Michelle Meighan, Entomologist Jessi Edmiston, and Research Entomologist Chip Markwardt, attended the American Mosquito

Control Association (AMCA) Annual Conference in Portland, Oregon. Chip Markwardt was invited to speak in the Biting Midges—Current Knowledge and Research Needs Symposium, which featured researchers who were awarded funds through the AMCA *Culicoides* Fund.

The District's Conference Room was used by the Lake County Health Department on March 19. They greatly appreciated the use of the space. The District's Seasonal Lab positions were advertised in March; 245 applications were received. We expect to interview the top candidates this month.

Dr. Scott is continuing to meet with the District's Labor Negotiator, Austris Rungis of Industrial Employers Distributors Association (IEDA), as they prepare for the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) negotiations that are expected to begin.

Dr. Scott attended the Employer Risk Management Authority (ERMA) annual workshop and Board of Directors in Napa, California.

Dr. Scott along with Vector Biologist Michelle Meighan plan to attend the Pacific Southwest Center of Excellence in Vector-Borne Diseases (PacVec) and Rockies and High Plains Vector-Borne Diseases Center (RaHP VEC) Joint Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah in April.

Consideration of Nomination for Alternate Trustee Representative on the Vector Control Joint Powers Agency (VCJPA) Board of Directors.

There were no nominations and no other actions were taken on this item.

Approve Budget Transfers

After some discussion, Mr. Nagy moved to approve the budget transfer from 796.62.71 Equipment - Office in the amount of \$30,000.00, to 796.23.80 Professional & Specialized Services. Mr. Bostock seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Checks for April 2026

Mr. Nagy moved to approve Check Nos. 24051-24117 for the month of April 2026 in the amount of \$142,137.87. Mr. Lincoln seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Other Business

None.

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 13, 2026 in the LCVCD Board Room, 410 Esplanade, Lakeport, CA 95453.

Adjourn Regular Meeting

Mr. Nagy moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Lincoln seconded the motion. There being no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned by President Giambruno at 2:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Nagy
Secretary