

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

March 11, 2026

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: Curt Giambruno, Ron Nagy, Rob Bostock, Frank Lincoln, and George Spurr.

Absent: None

District Personnel: Jamesina J. Scott, Ph.D., District Manager and Research Director, Chip Markwardt, M.S. Research Entomologist, and Ms. Julie Manick, Office Manager.

Guests: Mr. Zach Pehling, CPA and Ms. Carlie Pehling, CPA.

Citizen's Input: None.

Agenda Additions and/or Deletions: None.

Presentation of *Culicoides* Research Poster by Chip Markwardt, M.S. Research Entomologist

Chip Markwardt presented their poster from the Mosquito and Vector Control Association of California (MVCAC) Annual Conference. The Board enjoyed the presentation and complimented Chip on their work.

Approve Minutes of February 11, 2026 Regular Meeting with a Correction to the Check Numbers to Include Checks 23911-23981, Making the Total Expenditures for February 2026 \$104,237.03

Mr. Spurr moved to approve the minutes of the February 11, 2026 Regular Meeting with a correction to the check numbers to include checks 23911-23981 making the total expenditures for February 2026 \$104,237.03. Mr. Lincoln seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Presentation of Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Audit Report by Zach Pehling, CPA

After the presentation of the 2024/2025 Audit Report by Mr. Pehling and a brief discussion with the Board of Trustees, Mr. Spurr moved to approve the

2024/2025 Audit Report as presented. Mr. Nagy seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Pehling left the meeting at 2:10pm.

Research Report

Dr. Scott reported on West Nile virus (WNV) and other arbovirus activity; no activity has been reported in Lake County in 2026. A sample of mosquitoes collected near the Salton Sea in eastern Riverside County was positive for St. Louis encephalitis virus. No West Nile virus or other arbovirus 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 Traps set near Borax Lake and in the Reclamation near Upper Lake collected *Culiseta inornata*, and *Culex tarsalis* mosquitoes.

Dr. Scott reported on tick testing. Four *Ixodes pacificus* (western black-legged ticks) have been submitted for *Borrelia burgdorferi* (the causative agent of Lyme disease) testing. All were negative for *Borrelia*.

Dr. Scott reported on Clear Lake gnat, Chironominae, and Tanypodinae Surveillance in Clear Lake. In February, the number of *Chaoborus astictopus* (Clear Lake gnat) increased from 0.07 larvae per dredge in January to 0.11 larvae per dredge in the Upper Arm of Clear Lake. This is below the historical average of 2.58 larvae per dredge for the month. Chironominae numbers decreased from 42.14 larvae per dredge in January to 28.36 larvae per dredge in February, which is above the historical average. The number of Tanypodinae collected decreased from 3.14 larvae per dredge in January to 2.79 larvae per dredge in February. This is below the historical average of 6.20 larvae per dredge for the month.

Operation Report

During February 2026, 4.23 inches of rainfall was recorded at the District, which is 93% of the average precipitation for this date. The cumulative total for this precipitation year (October 1, 2025–February 28, 2026) is 18.72 inches of rain, which is 94% of the average rainfall for this date.

On February 1, the level of Clear Lake was 6.10 feet on the Rumsey Gauge, reaching “full lake” (7.56 feet) on February 24, and ended the month at 8.07 feet.

The rainfall has filled treeholes and raised the lake level. In addition, some lake-associated wetlands and low-lying areas have flooded and hatched *Aedes increpitus* larvae. These areas are being monitored and treated as needed. We anticipate making larvicide applications in the first week of March to reduce the number of biting adult mosquitoes; applications will be made by hand, backpack blower, drone, and airplane.

On February 12, the District's phone system changed from a land-line based system to a Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) using Microsoft Teams Phone. The new system is working well.

The Vector Control Technicians completed annual servicing of their ultra-low volume (ULV) sprayers. They fabricated frames to mount the ULV sprayers in the new trucks and made mounts for the controller box inside the cab using both welded and 3D printed parts. Mr. Julian Chavez and Mr. Bray Hayes built a rolling tool rack for the larger tools.

Mr. Brad Hayes has been studying to take the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Part 107 exam this year. Mr. Julian Chavez is studying for his FAA Part 137 Certificate, which will allow him to use a drone to apply mosquito control products.

The District's Conference Room was used by the Lake County Health Department on February 9 and 23. They greatly appreciated the use of the space.

Two District employees are leaving for jobs with other agencies. Lab Technician Kara Gaylor accepted a Vector Control Technician position with the Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District. Reed Yattaw, who was hired as a Seasonal Lab Assistant in spring 2025, accepted a seasonal position with the lab at the Marin/Sonoma Mosquito and Vector District. We will miss them both and wish them well in their new positions. The vacant positions will be advertised on the District's website, the Mosquito and Vector Control Association of California (MVCAC) website, and on Indeed, with notifications sent to local community colleges and UC Davis.

The District received its Cooperative Agreement renewal. The Cooperative Agreement between the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and the local vector control agencies provides critical flexibility to the local vector control agencies to perform their legally mandated role to control public

health vectors while ensuring that all state and federal requirements regarding the application of pesticides are met.

Four employees attended the Mosquito and Vector Control Association of California (MVCAC) Annual Conference in Rancho Mirage. Chip Markwardt presented a poster about *Culicoides* control work. The group also toured the Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District's facility in Indio.

The District issued a news release on February 25, 2026 to let the community know that airplane treatment was scheduled for Monday, March 2 and drone applications were scheduled for March 5 and 6.

Dr. Scott has been working on a variety of projects to catch up from the time off due to health reasons, including aerial applications for *Aedes increpitus* control, personnel issues, preparing job advertisements, studies for the upcoming field season, compliance updates, policy manual review and updates, and zoning and general plan amendments for the District's Esplanade facility.

Dr. Scott submitted the District's updated Certified Unified Program Agencies (CUPA) documents for Todd Road, to the California Environmental Reporting System (CERS). These documents provide local responders with the location and quantity of pesticides in case of fire or other emergency.

Dr. Scott continues to meet with the District's Labor Negotiator, Mr. Austris Rungis of Industrial Employers Distributors Association (IEDA) to prepare for the upcoming Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) negotiations.

Dr. Scott and Office Manager Julie Manick attended the Vector Control Joint Powers Agency (VCJPA) annual workshop and board of directors meeting in Santa Cruz, CA on February 25-27th.

Board Consideration of Changing the April 8, 2026 Regular Meeting Date to April 15, 2026

Dr. Scott is hoping 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 which is being held April 8–10 and asked the Board to consider moving the regular Board Meeting from April 8 to April 15, 2026. President Giambruno motioned to move the Board Meeting from April 8, 2026 to April 15, 2026. Mr. Spurr seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Approve Checks for the Month of March 2026

Mr. Nagy moved to approve Checks No. 23982-24029 for the month of March 2026 in the amount of \$96,214.24. Mr. Spurr seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Other Business

Office Manager Julie Manick and Dr. Scott reminded the Board that their Annual Statement of Economic Interest–Form 700 needs to be completed and submitted to the Lake County Auditor–Controller’s Office by April 1, 2026.

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 15, 2026, in the LCVCD Board Room, 410 Esplanade, Lakeport, CA 95453.

Mr. Nagy moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Bostock seconded the motion. There being no other business to discuss the meeting was adjourned by President Giamb Bruno at 2:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Nagy
Secretary