

## MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

October 9, 2024

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, Curt Giambruno, Frank Lincoln, Ron Nagy, and George Spurr.

Absent: None.

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

Guests: None.

Citizen's Input: None.

Agenda Additions and/or Deletions: A budget transfer was needed to cover an unanticipated increase to the Reclamation property levee maintenance assessment. Mr. Spurr moved to add the budget transfer to the agenda as Item 9.5. Mr. Bostock seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Approve Minutes of September 11, 2024 Regular Meeting with Corrections to the Check Numbers to Include Checks 22814-22831 Making the Total Expenditures for September 2024. \$117,841.33**

Mr. Lincoln moved to approve the Board Minutes of September 11, 2024 with corrections. Mr. Nagy seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Research Report**

Dr. Scott reported on arbovirus activity. West Nile virus (WNV) activity has been detected in thirteen mosquito samples from Lake County. In addition, three dead birds have tested positive for WNV this year as well as five sentinel chickens.

For the rest of California, thirty-one counties have reported West Nile virus activity. Sixty-three residents from 20 counties have been diagnosed with WNV illness with forty-six of the cases having neuroinvasive disease and 6 fatalities. In addition, 474 dead birds from 20 counties have tested positive

for WNV, 1,835 mosquito samples from 25 counties have tested positive for WNV, and 139 sentinel chickens have seroconverted for WNV in 2024.

Twenty-six SLEV-positive mosquito samples have been reported from five California counties in 2024.

Five cases of locally acquired dengue (DEN) virus infection have been reported from residents of Los Angeles County this year.

In the rest of the nation, 856 human cases of West Nile virus illness have been reported from forty-five states.

Thirteen cases of eastern equine encephalitis virus (EEEV) infections have been reported from residents of seven states. Three of the cases were fatal.

Thirteen human cases of Jamestown Canyon virus (JCV) have been reported from five states in 2024.

Twenty-three human cases of La Crosse encephalitis virus (LACV) have been reported from five states this year.

Forty-five human cases of Powassan virus (POWV), a tick-borne virus, have been reported from nine states this year. Five of the cases were fatal.

There have been 115 chikungunya virus disease cases in travelers returning to the United States from affected areas. No locally acquired cases have been reported this year.

There have been 21 Zika virus disease cases reported this year. Twelve of the cases were in travelers returning from affected areas and nine cases were locally acquired in residents for Puerto Rico.

There have been 11,769,579 suspected cases of dengue reported in the Americas this year. Through October 2, 5,608 dengue cases have been reported in the United States and its territories. Of these cases, 3,617 were locally acquired in California, Florida, and the US Territories of Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Isles. The rest of the cases were in travelers returning from affected areas.

There have been ninety Oropouche Fever cases identified in travelers who recently returned from Cuba, South America, and Central America this year.

Eighty-six of the cases were in Florida, and single cases were reported in California, Colorado, Kentucky, and New York.

Dr. Scott reported on adult biting fly activity. Carbon-dioxide-baited-traps were sent in various locations around the county in September. The most abundant mosquito species was *Culex tarsalis*. Large numbers of *Culicoides* spp. (biting black gnats) were collected as well.

The New Jersey Light Traps set in Clearlake and Upper Lake were sampled in September. The most abundant mosquito species collected were *Anopheles franciscanus*, *Culex tarsalis*, and *Anopheles freeborni*.

Dr. Scott reported on tick testing. Eight *Ixodes pacificus* ticks have been submitted for testing. All the samples were negative for *Borrelia burgdorferi*, the causative agent for Lyme Disease.

Dr. Scott reported on the Clear Lake Gnat, Chironominae, and Tanypodinae Surveillance in Clear Lake. Lake checks were not completed in September due to the employee availability.

### **Operation Report**

No rainfall was recorded at the District in September. The total rainfall for the season is 29.88 inches, which is 14% above the average annual rainfall.

The level of Clear Lake was at 3.06 feet on the Rumsey Gauge on September 1, and declined to 2.23 feet by September 30.

The Vector Control Technicians responded to 63 service requests in September, including 12 yellowjacket requests and 5 technician-initiated larval source treatments. In addition, 13 online service requests were submitted in September.

In September Environmental Health Technician Shanna Parsons updated the District on the County's progress in contacting property owners regarding septic tanks that were exposed during the 2015 Valley Fire. So far, five tanks have been removed from the District's list. Ms. Parsons and Environmental Health Director Craig Weatherbee are working on the next round of letters to be mailed out.

The biennial inspection of the District's Todd Road facility for the Certified Unified Program Agencies (CUPA) compliance was completed on

September 30 by Mr. Dan Goold the Hazardous Materials Specialist for Lake County Environmental Health. The District was found to be in compliance.

Dr. Scott participated in a special meeting of the Employer Risk Management Authority (ERMA) Board of Directors on September 25. Dr. Scott serves as the Vector Control Joint Powers Agency (VCJPA) Alternate Representative.

During September, Office Manager Jacinda Fransich completed compiling documents for destruction in accordance with the District's document retention policy.

Seasonal Field Assistant, Avery Thurman, completed his employment with the District in September.

In September, the goats returned to the District's property in the Reclamation for vegetation abatement. Some of the goats were also brought to the Todd Road facility where they removed vegetation from the perimeter and back of the property.

Three employees complete their forklift certification in September. Vector Control Technician Brad Hayes completed training last year that enables him to certify new employees and recertify existing employees.

On September 20, the District participated in the Lakeport Unified School District's annual Trucks on the Track event. Both lab and vector control staff participated in the event.

On September 5, Dr. Scott and the District's Labor Negotiator, Austris Rungis, met with Jacinda Fransich and the Employee's Union Agent, Carl Carr, and Operating Engineers #3 Director of Benefits, Mike McCall to discuss retirement medical benefits that are available through OE3.

Dr. Scott worked with VC3 on the District's application to the State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP). Dr. Scott submitted the application and received confirmation of its receipt by the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES).

Dr. Scott attended the Society for Vector Ecology (SOVE) Annual Conference from September 15-19 in Fort Collins, CO.

Dr. Scott attended the California Special District Association's (CSDA) Webinar titled "Talent Pipeline: How to Develop and Maintain Your Agency's Succession Plan."

Dr. Scott continues to review and prepare updates to the District's policy handbook.

**Approve Budget Transfer**

Mr. Spurr moved to approve the Budget Transfer from 796.90-01 Contingencies, in the amount of \$2,000, to 796.48-00 Taxes/Assessments. Mr. Nagy seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Board Review and Consideration to Approve LCVCD Certificate/Log of Records to be Destroyed/Disposed**

After some discussion, Mr. Bostock moved to approve the LCVCD Certificate/Log of Records to be Destroyed/Disposed. Mr. Spurr seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Approve Checks for the Month of October 2024**

Mr. Nagy moved to approve checks 22832-22881 for the month of October 2024 in the amount of \$93,073.88. Mr. Bostock seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Other Business**

No other business was discussed.

**Announcement of Next Regular Board Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the Board will be at 1:30 PM on November 13, 2024 at the Lake County Vector Control District Office, 410 Esplanade Lakeport, CA 95453.

Mr. Nagy moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Spurr 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