

## MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

February 14, 2024

The 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, Ron Nagy, and George Spurr.

Absent: Curt Giambruno and Frank Lincoln (excused).

District Personnel: Jamesina J. Scott, Ph.D., District Manager and Research Director, Ms. Jacinda Franusich, Office Manager, and Ms. Kara Gaylor, Laboratory Technician.

Guests: Mr. Austris Rungis of Industrial Employers Distributors Association (IEDA, attending the Closed Session remotely via Zoom).

Dr. Scott introduced Laboratory Technician Kara Gaylor to the trustees. Ms. Gaylor was present before the meeting demonstrating the District's new Leica microscope and camera. Ms. Gaylor answered a few questions from the trustees about the scope and camera. Dr. Scott let the trustees know that she would return at next month's meeting to repeat the demonstration for the absent trustees.

Ms. Gaylor left the meeting at 1:40 P.M.

Citizen's Input: None.

Agenda Additions and/or Deletions: None.

**Approve Minutes of January 10, 2024 Regular Meeting with a Correction to the Check Numbers to Include Checks 22293-22308 Making the Total Expenditures for January 2024 \$120,573.32**

Mr. Spurr moved to approve the Board Minutes of the January 10, 2024 regular meeting with a correction to the check numbers to include checks

22293-22308 making the total expenditures for January 2024 \$120,573.32. Mr. Bostock seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Adjourn to Closed Session at 1:45 P.M.**

#### **Closed Session**

Conference with Labor Negotiators, pursuant to Government Code 54957.6 for the purpose of reviewing its position and instructing the LCVCD's designated representatives: Jamesina J. Scott (District Manager), and Austris Rungis (IEDA).

### **Convene to Open Session at 2:21 P.M.**

#### **Report from Closed Session**

No reportable actions were taken.

Mr. Rungis left the meeting at 2:21 P.M.

#### **Research Report**

Dr. Scott reported on arbovirus activity. No West Nile virus (WNV) or other arbovirus activity has been detected in Lake County in 2024.

No arboviral activity has been reported for California and the rest of the nation in 2024.

In 2023, 402 human cases of WNV were reported in California residents, including seventeen fatalities. Additionally, WNV was detected in 4,522 mosquito samples, 855 dead birds, 186 sentinel chickens, and 31 horses.

For the rest of the nation in 2023, there were 2,406 human cases of WNV, with an additional 532 presumptive viremic blood donors.

Seven human cases of Eastern equine encephalitis virus (EEEV) were reported in 2023 from four states. All the cases were neuroinvasive, with one case being fatal.

Twenty-one human cases of Jamestown Canyon virus (JCV) were reported from residents of seven states in 2023. Two of the cases were fatal.

Thirty-one human cases of La Crosse encephalitis virus (LACV) were reported in residents of ten states in 2023. All but one case was neuroinvasive.

Forty-four human cases of Powassan virus (POWV) have been reported in residents of eleven states in 2023. All but one case was neuroinvasive, with eight of the cases being fatal. Powassan virus is a tick-borne virus.

Twenty human cases of St. Louis encephalitis virus (SLEV) have been reported in residents of three states in 2023. Thirteen of the cases were neuroinvasive, with two of the cases being fatal.

There have been 108 cases of travel-related chikungunya virus, 4 cases of travel-related Zika virus, and 1,867 cases of travel-related dengue virus reported in the United States in 2023. In addition, 171 locally acquired dengue virus (DENV) cases were reported from Florida, California, and Texas, as well as 933 locally acquired cases of dengue virus and 27 locally acquired cases of Zika virus were reported from Puerto Rico.

There have been ten locally acquired cases of malaria reported in Florida, Arkansas, Maryland, and Texas. Before this, the last locally acquired malaria cases were in 2003, in Palm Beach County, FL.

Dr. Scott reported on adult biting fly activity. In January, *Culiseta inornata* and *Culex tarsalis* were collected from the New Jersey Light Trap (NJLT) near Borax Lake and the NJLT in the Reclamation near Upper Lake.

Dr. Scott reported on tick testing. Three *Ixodes pacificus* ticks have been submitted to the Sonoma County Public Health Laboratory for testing for *Borrelia burgdorferi* (the causative agent for Lyme Disease). All the samples were negative.

Dr. Scott reported on Clear Lake gnat, Chironominae, and Tanypodinae surveillance in Clear Lake. Lake checks were not completed in January due to previously scheduled training, weather, and employee availability.

## **Operation Report**

The rain gauge at the LCVCD office in Lakeport received 7.6 inches of precipitation in January 2024. The cumulative rainfall for this season is 15.33 inches.

On January 1, the level of Clear Lake was at 3.03 feet on the Rumsey Gauge, and reached 5.56 feet by January 31.

The January rainfall raised the lake level by 5.56 feet and filled all the treeholes. In addition, some low-lying areas have flooded and hatched *Aedes increpitus* larvae. The lake-associated wetlands have not yet flooded, and the District is continuing to monitor those areas.

No service requests were received in January, which is typical for this time of year.

The District purchased a new Leica microscope with a video camera in December 2023. The video camera displays what is in the microscope's field of view on a monitor, and will aid in training new employees in mosquito identification, and is an excellent outreach tool.

The District vector control technicians installed a third solar-powered pond aeration unit at Todd Road. The aerators improve pond health by increasing dissolved oxygen in the water and reducing undesirable algal growth.

The vector control technicians have been working on a variety of maintenance projects, including installing the ultra-low volume (ULV) fogging machine in the new Toyota Tacoma, and fabrication and organization projects.

Office Manager Jacinda Fransich attended the California Special District Association's virtual workshop for records management on January 17-18.

All the certified employees attended the Mosquito and Vector Control Association of California (MVCAC) Annual Conference and Board Meeting on January 21-24 in Monterey, California.

The certified staff attended the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Webinar title “Encountering Bed Bugs while Traveling” on January 30.

In January, Dr. Scott sent out the District’s annual letter notifying potentially affected agencies of the District’s intent to apply public health pesticides for vector control. The letter is required by the terms of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit.

Dr. Scott attended several webinars offered through the California Special Districts Association (CSDA) and other professional sources. The webinars covered employment law updates, board member best practices, and Chat GPT.

Dr. Scott is continuing to prepare updates to the District’s policy handbook, and expects to present updates at future meetings.

Dr. Scott continues to meet with the District’s Labor Negotiator, Mr. Austris Rungis of Industrial Employers Distributors Association (IEDA). Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) negotiations will begin in the coming months.

On February 1-2, Dr. Scott attended the Employer Risk Management Authority (ERMA) Annual Workshop and Board of Directors Meeting in Napa, CA.

On February 29-March 1, Dr. Scott and Office Manager Jacinda Fransich will be attending the Vector Control Joint Powers Agency (VCJPA) Annual Workshop and Board of Directors Meeting in Santa Cruz, CA.

Dr. Scott will be attending the American Mosquito Control Association (AMCA) Annual Conference the week of March 4-8 in Dallas, TX.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Nagy  
Secretary