

DELTA MOSQUITO & VECTOR
CONTROL DISTRICT

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Minutes of the Board of Trustees – Wednesday, May 12, 2021

1. Roll Call:

Present: Greg Gomez, President; Belen Gomez, Secretary, Michael Cavanagh, Larry Roberts, Linda Gutierrez, Rosemary Hellwig, and Kevin Caskey.

Staff: Dr. Mustapha Debboun, General Manager; Mir Bear-Johnson, Assistant Manager; Sheri Davis, Administrative Assistant.

Guest: Ms. Sonia Ortega, SCI Consulting Group.

2. New Employee Introduction:

General Manager, Dr. Mustapha Debboun introduced Vector Control Technician III/Mechanic, Mr. Mario Sanchez. Mr. Sanchez gave a brief biography and was welcomed by the Board of Trustees.

3. SCI Survey Presentation to Board of Trustees:

The General Manager introduced Ms. Sonia Ortega from SCI Consulting Group to present the results of the Benefit Assessment Survey. The survey tested two proposed annual rates representing two service levels: \$8.24 per single family home, and \$12.50 per single family home. The survey was mailed to 16,000 random property owners resulting in 1,972 respondents with the following overall survey results:

65.9% in support of an annual rate at \$8.24
59.6% in support of an annual rate at \$12.50

Ms. Ortega provided a timeline, and recommended implementing an informal outreach approach and proceeding with a funding measure.

Public Comment: In an email to the Assistant Manager, a member of the public opposed the findings of the survey.

4. Resolution 2021-01:

The General Manager presented Resolution 2021-01, Initiating Proceedings For The Formation Of A Benefit Assessment For Mosquito Abatement And Disease Prevention Services For The Delta Vector Control District.

Public Comment: In an email to the Assistant Manager, a member of the public opposed Resolution 2021-01.

Following discussion, it was moved by Michael Cavanagh, seconded by Larry Roberts, and the Board members unanimously approved Resolution 2021-01. Vote by roll call; all ayes.

5. Consent Calendar:

The Administrative Assistant provided information on the following items:

Board Order #28 – 35224 Carvalho Construction; Final payment on Fish Hatchery; retention amount.

Following discussion, it was moved by Kevin Caskey, seconded by Belen Gomez, and the Board members unanimously approved the consent calendar as presented.

6. Public Forum:

No members of the public were present. The Assistant Manager received an email from a member of the public on agenda item numbers 3, 4, 8, and 9. It was also requested, by that member of the public, to have options to attend meetings aside from in person.

7. Staff Report:

The General Manager reported that all seasonal employees have been hired and trained except for two employees to be hired later in the season to help with high trap count and urban areas.

Aerial Services provided photos of green pools in Visalia, Dinuba, Exeter, and Farmersville. Staff will be inspecting the targeted green pools.

8. Resolution 2021-02:

The General Manager presented the new logo and Resolution 2021-02 to change the district name to Delta Mosquito and Vector Control District.

Public Comment: In an email to the Assistant Manager, a member of the public opposed Resolution 2021-02.

Following discussion, it was moved by Kevin Caskey, seconded by Rosemary Hellwig, and the Board members unanimously approved Resolution 2021-02.

9. Oxitec Sterile Insect Technique (SIT) Pilot Program in California:

The General Manager provided information, awareness, and a heads up on Oxitec’s future SIT pilot projects in California after the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the California Department of Pesticides Regulation (DPR) approve Oxitec’s application for Experimental Use Permit (EUP).

Public Comment: In an email to the Assistant Manager, a member of the public opposed the use of SIT.

10. Adjournment:

It was moved by Kevin Caskey, seconded by Michael Cavanagh, and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting of the District Board of Trustees. The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Dr. Mustapha Debboun, Recording Secretary