

**GREATER LOS ANGELES COUNTY VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT
MINUTES NO. 2021 - 05**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District held at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 13, 2021, via teleconference at the District office at 12545 Florence Avenue, Santa Fe Springs, California.

TRUSTEES PRESENT

Melissa Ramoso, *City of Artesia*
Ali Saleh, *City of Bell* *7:08pm
Pedro Aceituno, *City of Bell Gardens*
Sonny Santa Ines, *City of Bellflower*
Dr. Jeff Wassem, *City of Burbank*
Elito Santarina, *City of Carson*
Mark Bollman, *City of Cerritos*
Leonard Mendoza, *City of Commerce* *7:11pm
Baru Sanchez, *City of Cudahy*
Steve Tye, *City of Diamond Bar*
Robert Kiefer, *City of Downey*
Dan Medina, *City of Gardena*
Vrej Agajanian, *City of Glendale*
Catherine Houwen, *City of La Habra Heights*
Steve Croft, *City of Lakewood*
John Lewis, *City of La Mirada*
Emily Holman, Vice President- *City of Long Beach*
Steve Appleton, *City of Los Angeles*
Steven Goldsworthy, *Los Angeles County*
Marisela Santana, *City of Lynwood*
Jessica Torres, *City of Maywood*
Avik Cordeiro, *City of Montebello*
Ana Valencia, *City of Norwalk*
Isabel Aguayo, *City of Paramount*
Raul Elias, *City of Pico Rivera*
Scott Kwong, Sec-Treasurer - *City of San Marino*
Heidi Heinrich, President - *City of Santa Clarita*
Jesse H. Avila, *City of San Fernando*
Joe Angel Zamora, *City of Santa Fe Springs* *7:09pm
Robert Copeland, *City of Signal Hill*
Hector Delgado, *City of South El Monte*
Jessica Martinez, *City of Whittier*

TRUSTEES ABSENT

Luis Roa, *City of Hawaiian Gardens*
Leonard Pieroni, *City of La Cañada Flintridge*
Denise Diaz, *City of South Gate*

TRUSTEES ABSENT (EXCUSED)

Marilyn Sanabria, *Huntington Park*

OTHERS PRESENT

Truc Dever, *General Manager*
Mark Daniel, *Director of Operations*
Susanne Klueh, *Director of Scientific-Technical Services*
Mary-Joy Coburn, *Director of Community Affairs*
Carolyn Weeks, *Director of Fiscal Operations*
Allison Bradley, *Director of Human Resources*
Anais Medina Diaz, *Public Information Officer*
Quinn Barrow, *Legal Counsel*

* Denotes time of late arrival (vote tallies on agenda items reflect actual Trustees present at time of vote)

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Heinrich called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm. The meeting was held via teleconference pursuant to Governor Newsom's Executive Orders in the interest of maintaining appropriate social distancing.

2. **QUORUM (ROLL) CALL**

Following roll call, it was recorded that 29 Trustees were present and seven were absent. Three Trustees joined the meeting after roll call bringing the total to 32 Trustees present and four absent.

3. **INVOCATION**

The invocation was conducted by Trustee Martinez.

4. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The pledge of allegiance was led by Trustee Copeland.

5. **CORRESPONDENCE**

General Manager Dever shared that the District received correspondence from LAFCO notifying the Board of Trustee Appleton's appointment as the new representative for the Los Angeles County Supervisorial District 2 on the Redevelopment Oversight Board.

6. **INTRODUCTIONS**

(Introductions requested by staff or Trustees of persons attending the meeting are made at this time).

NONE

7. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

(This time is reserved for members of the public to address the Board relative to matters of business on and off the agenda. Comments will be limited to three minutes per person).

NONE

8. **CONSENT AGENDA (8.1 – 8.2)**

(VOTE REQUIRED)

8.1 Consideration of **Minutes 2021-04** of regular Board Meeting held on April 8, 2021. ***(EXHIBIT A)***

8.2 Consideration of **Resolution 2021-05** Authorizing Payment of Attached Requisition April 1 through April 30, 2021. ***(EXHIBIT B)***

Trustee Croft made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Trustee Saleh and approved unanimously.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

9.1 Personnel Committee

Steve Croft, Chair

9.1.a. Report on Committee meeting to discuss process for General Manager's annual evaluation.

Trustee Croft reported that a blank evaluation form for the General Manager's annual evaluation will be sent to all Trustees this month to allow input from all members. He will compile the comments and the evaluation will be conducted in closed session during the June Board meeting.

9.2 SIT Ad Hoc Committee

Emily Holman, Chair

9.2.a Report on Committee meeting to discuss available Sterile Insect Technique options.

9.2.b. Presentation by Scientific-Technical Services Director Susanne Klueh.

Trustee Holman shared the SIT Ad Hoc Committee met earlier in the month to discuss Sterile Insect Technique (SIT) opportunities that may become available to the District in the near future. Director Klueh gave a presentation that provided background information on the invasive *Aedes* mosquito within the District's boundaries and some of the challenges this mosquito poses to the District's control efforts. The presentation also provided information on Sterile Insect Techniques and the three different methods available to help control the invasive species, which include the release of Wolbachia-infected male mosquitoes, use of self-limiting gene technology, and irradiation.

General Manager Dever added that the District recently signed on as an interested party to Oxitech's EPA registration filing in California. Because of this, the District's name will be listed on the registry when the matter opens for public comment in the coming weeks. GM Dever explained that the District has not committed to any one SIT technology but is in support of exploring innovative techniques for combatting *Aedes* mosquitoes.

Trustee Santa Ines inquired about the cost difference between the irradiation techniques that were proposed for Lee County in Florida and San Gabriel Valley Vector Control District. Director Klueh explained that the difference was due to the abundance of mosquitoes in each of the areas; Lee County's *Aedes aegypti* counts are much higher than San Gabriel Valley VCD's *Aedes albopictus* counts.

Additionally, Director Klueh shared that regional districts are exploring options to collaborate and cost-share on a centralized irradiation program and facility.

Trustee Martinez inquired about the effectiveness of the Wolbachia technology compared to the other approaches. Director Klueh shared that the Wolbachia technique has been

studied the most and, therefore, has more data to support the effectiveness of the approach. Director Klueh added that none of these technologies would have any effect on other insects besides the targeted mosquitoes.

Trustee Holman inquired what the next steps are and General Manager Dever shared that the District is still in the research phase and will keep the SIT Ad Hoc committee informed. Additionally, neither company, Verily/Mosquito Mate nor Oxitech, have provided the District with a price point for their control solutions.

10. STAFF PROGRAM REPORTS: April 2021

10.1 Manager's Report T. Dever, General Manager

General Manager Dever updated the Board regarding the FY 2021/22 budget approval timeline. She also shared that the District is planning on fully repopulating the District and reopening it to the public by June 15th.

10.2 Scientific-Technical: (Staff Report A) S. Klueh, Sci.-Tech Services Dir.

Director Klueh did not have anything to add to her report.

10.3 Operations (Staff Report B) M. Daniel, Operations Dir.

Director Daniel shared that his staff is planning for the upcoming mosquito season and implementing new strategies to get ahead of the potential high volume of service requests.

10.4 Community Affairs (Staff Report C) M.J. Coburn, Community Affairs Dir.

Director Coburn thanked the Trustees and cities for participating in California Mosquito Awareness Week. She also shared that the District and its latest music video, "Tip Toss Boss" was featured in local and national news.

Trustee Santarina thanked Director Coburn for the release of "Tip Toss Boss" because he has heard wonderful comments from residents in his city. Trustee Martinez also thanked Director Coburn for presenting at the last Whittier City Council meeting.

10.5 Fiscal (Staff Report D) C. Weeks, Finance Director

Director Weeks did not have anything to add to her report.

10.6 Human Resources (Staff Report E) A. Bradley, Human Resources Dir.

Director Bradley highlighted the District's work and collaboration to hire 42 seasonal employees during the last month.

10.7 Legal Counsel Report

Q. Barrow, Legal Counsel

Quinn Barrow did not have a report.

11. OTHER

The Board may consider items not on the agenda provided that the Board complies with the Government Code (Brown Act) §54954.2(b).

Trustee Aguayo shared that former Trustee Hansen is experiencing health complications and asks that the board members keep him in their thoughts and prayers.

12. ADJOURNMENT

President Heinrich adjourned the meeting at 7:53 pm. The next Board of Trustees meeting will be scheduled on Thursday, June 10, 2021 at 7:00 PM via Zoom Teleconference.