

**GREATER LOS ANGELES COUNTY VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT
MINUTES NO. 2021 - 08**

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, August 12, 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*
Pedro Aceituno, *City of Bell Gardens*
Sonny Santa Ines, *City of Bellflower*
Dr. Jeff Wasseem, *City of Burbank*
Elito Santarina, *City of Carson*
Mark Bollman, *City of Cerritos*
Baru Sanchez, *City of Cudahy*
Steve Tye, *City of Diamond Bar*
Robert Kiefer, *City of Downey*
Vrej Agajanian, *City of Glendale*
Catherine Houwen, *City of La Habra Heights*
Luis Roa, *City of Hawaiian Gardens*
Marilyn Sanabria, *Huntington Park *7:18pm*
Leonard Pieroni, *City of La Cañada Flintridge*
Steve Croft, *City of Lakewood*
Emily Holman, Vice President- *City of Long Beach*
Steven Goldsworthy, *Los Angeles County*
Marisela Santana, *City of Lynwood *7:07pm*
Jessica Torres, *City of Maywood *7:10pm*
Avik Cordeiro, *City of Montebello*
Ana Valencia, *City of Norwalk*
Isabel Aguayo, *City of Paramount*
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*
Robert Copeland, *City of Signal Hill*
Hector Delgado, *City of South El Monte*
Denise Diaz, *City of South Gate*
Jessica Martinez, *City of Whittier*

TRUSTEES ABSENT

Leonard Mendoza, *City of Commerce*
John Lewis, *City of La Mirada*
Steve Appleton, *City of Los Angeles*

TRUSTEES ABSENT (EXCUSED)

Dan Medina, *City of Gardena*
Raul Elias, *City of Pico Rivera*

OTHERS PRESENT

Truc Dever, *General Manager*
Mark Daniel, *Director of Operations*
Susanne Klueh, *Director of Scientific-Technical Services*
Mary-Joy Coburn, *Director of Communications*
Carolyn Weeks, *Director of Fiscal Operations*
Allison Bradley, *Director of Human Resources*
Anais Medina Diaz, *Public Information Officer*
Quinn Barrow, *General 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 7:01 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 28 Trustees were present and eight were absent. Three trustees joined the meeting after roll call bringing the total to 31 Trustees present and five absent.

3. **INVOCATION**

The invocation was conducted by Trustee Martinez.

4. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The pledge of allegiance was led by Trustee Kwong.

5. **CORRESPONDENCE**

General Manager Dever notified the Board that the District received the Certificate of Completion for the Annexation of the City of Vernon, effective as of July 19, 2021. The District is working with the City to identify a Trustee to serve on the Board of Trustees.

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 – 8.3)**

(VOTE REQUIRED)

8.1 Consideration of **Minutes 2021-07** of regular Board Meeting held on July 8th, 2021. ***(EXHIBIT A)***

8.2 Consideration of **Resolution 2021-13** Authorizing Payment of Attached Requisition July 1 through July 31, 2021. ***(EXHIBIT B)***

8.3 Consideration of **Resolution 2021-14**, “A Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District adding the federal holiday of Juneteenth to the list of holidays observed by the District. ***(EXHIBIT C)***

Trustee Croft moved to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Trustee Santa Ines. Trustee Tye moved to pull Item 8.3 from the Consent Agenda. Trustee Croft modified his motion, seconded by Trustee Martinez. Consent Agenda Items 8.1 and 8.2 passed unanimously.

Trustee Tye inquired how many holidays the District currently observes and General Manager Dever answered that the District provides 13 paid holidays and a floating holiday; the addition of Juneteenth would bring that number to 15 paid holidays. Trustee Tye inquired how much does each paid holiday cost the District and General Manager Dever referred the question to Finance Director Weeks. Director Weeks calculated that observing Juneteenth would approximately cost the District less than \$4,500.

Trustee Tye shared he was concerned with the expense of observing an additional holiday and would not be in support. Trustee Croft responded that observing an additional holiday would not result in any additional expenses to the District; it just means that staff would not work that day.

Trustee Keifer asked General Manager Dever what holidays the District currently observes. General Manager Dever noted the following holidays: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Lincoln's Birthday, Presidents' Day, Cesar Chavez Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Indigenous People's Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving Day, Admissions Day, and Christmas Day.

Trustee Bollman inquired if the seasonal staff would take a financial loss if the District observed Juneteenth, and General Manager Dever said they would not receive their full 40-hour compensation for that week but those hours could be recuperated by extending their term by an additional day.

Trustee Roa recommended the District employees be provided with the option to use their floating holiday hours to observe Juneteenth instead of granting employees another paid holiday.

Trustee Kiefer asked if other vector control districts have moved to observe Juneteenth and General Manager Dever shared that other vector control districts have adopted Juneteenth and have begun observing it since its passage at the federal level.

President Heinrich asked if the Board could further explore replacing the floating holiday with the new Juneteenth holiday. Trustee Goldsworthy commented that replacing the employees' floating holiday with Juneteenth would limit the employees' flexibility.

Trustee Santana commented that Juneteenth is a widely celebrated holiday and made a motion to approve the resolution adding Juneteenth as a District-observed holiday. Trustee Santa Ines seconded the motion. The motion was approved with 22 votes in favor, three abstentions, and six nays.

Yes Votes: Trustees Aceituno, Agajanian, Aguayo, Avila, Copeland, Cordeiro, Croft, Delgado, Diaz, Holman, Houwen, Martinez, Ramoso, Saleh, Sanchez, Santa Ines, Santana, Santarina, Torres, Valencia, Wassem, and Zamora

No Votes: Trustees Bollman, Goldsworthy, Kiefer, Pieroni, Roa, and Tye

Abstentions: Trustees Heinrich, Kwong, and Sanabria

9. ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEMBERS FOR AD HOC FACILITIES EXPANSION COMMITTEE

President Heinrich announced the Trustees who volunteered for the Ad Hoc Facilities Expansion Committee, which include Trustee Goldsworthy, Trustee Saleh, Trustee Kwong, Trustee Appleton, and Trustee Aceituno.

General Manager Dever shared that the District's Staff Task Force has met a few times and will be meeting once again to provide the Ad Hoc Committee with an update.

10. STAFF PROGRAM REPORTS: July 2021

10.1 Manager's Report

T. Dever, General Manager

General Manager Dever presented a new segment to the Manager's report that aims to highlight staff efforts and commendations received by the public. Additionally, she shared that at this time, the district is not considering a vaccine mandate and will continue to implement safety precautions to protect employees in the workspace. The District is waiting to see if Governor Newsom will extend his Executive Order that would allow the Board to continue meeting virtually due to rising COVID-19 cases. However, at this time the Board is expected to resume meeting in person beginning in October.

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

Director Klueh reported that two new mosquito samples tested positive for West Nile virus in addition to the ones listed in her report. The mosquito samples were collected from Hacienda Heights and South El Monte. Overall, the District is seeing significantly lower virus activity compared to the previous year. Additionally, the mosquito abundance trends are below the five-year average.

Director Klueh added a new segment to her Board Report which will highlight staff members or work that her team is doing each month. This month she wanted to highlight Christopher Ortiz who serves as a Vector Field Assistant and has driven 51,000 miles to set, collect, and monitor mosquito traps throughout the District.

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

Director Daniel reported that staff continue to monitor and control mosquitoes throughout the District and improve workflows to become more efficient. In the following months, Director Daniel plans to share new reports with the Board.

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

Director Coburn thanked the Trustees for their support of the summer campaign, and shared photos of Trustees at events with District staff. She also showed videos of staff from various department working collaboratively on TikTok videos and previewed a new video segment highlighting upcoming community outreach events that the District will be attending. Lastly, Director Coburn introduced Season 2 of the Education Program's Mosquito Questions Answered video podcast series.

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

Director Weeks requested that Trustees deposit their checks before they reach their expiration date. President Heinrich asked Director Weeks to send out reminder emails to Trustees who still have live checks to cash.

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

Director Bradley highlighted the department's Wellness program and newsletter. During the month of August, employees were encouraged to submit titles of their favorite books. Secondly, Director Bradley shared that Employee Appreciation Day would be held virtually later this year and staff are working on organizing the event.

10.7 General Counsel Report Q. Barrow, General Counsel

No 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).

NONE

12. ADJOURNMENT

President Heinrich adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m. The next Board of Trustees meeting will be scheduled on Thursday, September 9, 2021 at 7:00 PM via Zoom Teleconference.