



TRUSTEES PRESENT

Henry Aviles (Alhambra)
Robert Gonzales (Azusa)
Richard Barakat (Bradbury)
Corey Calaycay (Claremont)
Margaret Finlay (Duarte)
Jerry Velasco (El Monte)
Jackie Doornik (Glendora)
Cory Moss (Industry)
Manuel Garcia (Irwindale)
Anish Saraiya (L.A. County)
Meshal Kashifalghita (La Verne)
Becky Shevlin (Monrovia)
Joseph Leon (Monterey Park)
Rachel Janbek (Pasadena)
Tim Sandoval (Pomona)
Sandra Armenta (Rosemead)
Denise Menchaca (San Gabriel)
John Capoccia (Sierra Madre)
Robert Joe (South Pasadena)
Cynthia Sternquist (Temple City)
Allen Wu (Walnut)
Lloyd Johnson (West Covina)

TRUSTEES ABSENT

Sho Tay (Arcadia)
Emmanuel Estrada (Baldwin Park)
Patricia Cortez (Covina)
Charlie Klinakis (La Puente)
Ryan Vienna (San Dimas)

STAFF PRESENT

Jason Farned
Cecilia Contreras
Tristan Hallum
Anais Medina Diaz
Jerry Mireles

GUESTS PRESENT

District Counsel, Kelly Alhadef-Black

1. Call to Order

Board President Capoccia called the meeting to order at 7:00 a.m. Trustee Garcia led the Pledge of Allegiance. Clerk of the Board Mireles confirmed a quorum and noted absences.

2. Opportunity for Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

None

3. Consent Calendar

Motion by Trustee Velasco, seconded by Trustee Calaycay and carried by the following vote to approve Items 3.1- 3.7 of the Consent Calendar.

AYES: Aviles, Gonzales, Barakat, Calaycay, Finlay, Velasco, Doornik, Moss, Garcia, Saraiya, Kashifalghita, Shevlin, Leon, Janbek, Sandoval, Armenta, Menchaca, Capoccia, Joe, Sternquist, Wu, Johnson

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Tay, Estrada, Cortez, Klinakis, Vienna



4. Presentation

4.1 SIT Updates

Director of Scientific Programs, Tristan Hallum, provided an overview of Sterile Insect Techniques (SIT). He described three primary SIT methods: self-limiting, Wolbachia, and irradiation. He discussed ongoing SIT programs in West Valley, Orange County, and Greater Los Angeles. Mr. Hallum covered various program aspects including costs, scalability, public awareness, initial releases, product development, and requirements. He also highlighted that the California Department of Pesticide Regulation and the EPA have fully approved the use of Mosquitomate Wolbachia WB1 Strain. Lastly, he outlined the next steps for the District and proposed a timeline for a SIT Pilot Program.

Trustee Barakat inquired about the cost per tube. Mr. Hallum estimated the cost to be \$15 per tube.

Trustee Shevlin asked about the effectiveness of Mosquitomate and the SIT techniques. Mr. Hallum noted that Mosquitomate is estimated to reduce invasive Aedes mosquito populations by 65-93%, based on a project conducted in Fresno. He also confirmed that all three SIT techniques are effective.

Trustee Doornik asked if Wolbachia technology is more cost-effective compared to irradiation. Mr. Hallum stated that this has not yet been determined, as both technologies are still in early development. District Manager Farned added that Wolbachia is less expensive in the short term, but its long-term cost-effectiveness is still uncertain.

President Capoccia inquired about the need for the District to conduct the trial when other districts are currently exploring these techniques. Mr. Hallum explained that it is crucial to understand the trial protocols and internal procedures to be prepared for implementation and potential expansion. Mr. Farned added that, even if the District does not end up using this technology, learning how to use it is essential. It serves as an additional tool for mosquito population control, and if the District is not prepared to use it when needed, it will be too late to act.



5. Consider Amendments to Employment Agreement between the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District and Employee, Jason Farned

District Counsel, Kelly Black, provided the recommendation of the Closed Sessions that occurred over the past couple of months. Board President Capoccia opened the item for discussion. There was consensus from the Board for action and requested a motion.

Motion by Trustee Wu, seconded by Vice President Kashifalghita and carried by the following vote to approve Amendment No. 2 of contract for District Manager, Jason Farned to annual base salary of \$17,121.87 per month.

AYES: Aviles, Gonzales, Calaycay, Velasco, Doornik, Moss, Garcia, Saraiya, Kashifalghita, Shevlin, Leon, Janbek, Sandoval, Armenta, Menchaca, Capoccia, Joe, Sternquist, Wu, Johnson

NOES: Barakat, Finlay

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Tay, Estrada, Cortez, Klinakis, Vienna

6. Closed Session

A. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation

Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to paragraph (2) of Subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9 – One Potential Case

Members of the Board of Trustees, District Counsel, and Executive Staff entered closed session. The Board recessed at 7:37 a.m. and reconvened at 7:49 a.m. At the conclusion of the closed session, President Capoccia requested District Counsel Black report out any required public disclosure action. District Counsel Black indicated that there was no reportable action.

7. District Administration

7.1 Committee Meeting Notification: Public Information Committee

Trustee Gonzales mentioned the Public Information Committee would commence after the adjournment of the Board meeting.

7.2 District Update

Mr. Farned reported that mosquito populations are currently low compared to the 5-year average. There are 10 positive West Nile Virus pools identified in 8 cities. Notifications have been sent to trustees and city staff. The district has addressed 3 dengue travel-related cases over the past month with no evidence of local transmission. The LA County Department of Public Health is hosting a virtual town hall on mosquito-borne diseases on Tuesday, August 16th, at 6 PM.

Mr. Farned introduced the new program, Building Infrastructure to Eliminate Mosquitoes (B.I.T.E). Trustees should have received a letter about this program, which assists cities in identifying and repairing infrastructure that retains standing water.



Trustee Menchaca found the list of faulty infrastructure helpful and inquired about the system used by the District to prioritize repairs. Mr. Farned explained that the District uses the GIS layer along with various County resources for this assessment.

Trustee Armenta asked whether the District shares information on potential State grants for infrastructure improvements with cities. Mr. Farned confirmed that the District will inform cities of any relevant grant opportunities to assist cities.

8. Committee Reports

Mr. Farned reported on the Prop 218 Ballot Initiative Ad Hoc Committee and stated the next steps and recommendation from the Committee.

9. Trustee Reports

Trustee Doornik reported attending the education program and encouraged all Trustees to participate.

Trustee Janbek announced that the City of Pasadena has detected its first rabid bat of the year. Additionally, LA County is reporting a high season for bats.

Trustee Armenta noted that the City of Rosemead will be hosting its National Night Out later that evening and encouraged Trustees to attend.

10. New Business

None

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 a.m.