

**GREATER LOS ANGELES COUNTY VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT
MINUTES NO. 2008-06**

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District was held at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 12, 2008, at the District office at 12545 Florence Avenue, Santa Fe Springs, California.

TRUSTEES PRESENT

Harold Williams, *(City of Carson)*
Victor Bello, *(City of Bell)*
Pedro Aceituno, *(City of Bell Gardens)*
Dr. Jeff D. Wassem, *(City of Burbank)*
Nikki Noushkam, *(City of Cerritos)*
Hugo Argumedo, *(City of Commerce)*
Mison Levi, President, *(City of Cudahy)*
Audrey Hamilton, *(City of Diamond Bar)*
Meredith Perkins, *(City of Downey)*
Rachel C. Johnson, *(City of Gardena)*
Victor Farfan, *(City of Hawaiian Gardens)*
Jim Remington, *(City of La Habra Heights)*
Bob Chotiner, *(City of La Mirada)*

Robert Campbell, *(City of Long Beach)*
Jim Morton, *(City of Lynwood)*
Cheri Kelley, Vice President, *(City of Norwalk)*
Henry Harkema, *(City of Paramount)*
Bob Archuleta, *(City of Pico Rivera)*
Dr. James Lawson, *(City of San Fernando)*
Dr. SeYao Hsu, *(City of San Marino)*
Jan Heidt, *(City of Santa Clarita)*
Michael Madrigal, *(City of Santa Fe Springs)*
Dr. Hazel Wallace, *(City of Signal Hill)*
Blanca Figueroa, *(City of South El Monte)*
Maria Davila, *(City of South Gate)*
Owen Newcomer, *(City of Whittier)*

TRUSTEES ABSENT

Sally Flowers, Sec.-Treasurer, *(City of Artesia)*
Ray T. Smith, *(City of Bellflower)*
Armine Perian, *(City of Glendale)*
Elba Romo, *(City of Huntington Park)*
Joseph Esquivel, *(City of Lakewood)*
Alma Martinez, *(City of Los Angeles)*
Vacant, *(County of Los Angeles)*
Thomas Martin, *(City of Maywood)*
Robert Urteaga, *(City of Montebello)*

OTHERS PRESENT

Kenneth L. Bayless, *District Manager*
Mark Hall, *Operations Supervisor*
Minoo Madon, *Director of Sci.-Tech. Services*
Susanne Kluh, *Vector Ecologist*
Truc Dever, *Public Information Officer*
Robert Miller, *Director of Human Resources*
Carolyn Weeks, *Director of Fiscal Operations*
Luke DeNitto, *Maintenance Supervisor*
Gena Stinnett, *Legal Counsel*

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Levi called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

2. QUORUM (ROLL) CALL

Following the roll call, it is recorded that 26 Trustees were present and 9 were absent.

3. INVOCATION

Trustee Perkins gave the invocation.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Trustee Argumedo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

NONE

6. INTRODUCTIONS

President Levi introduced Victor Bello, the new Trustee from the City of Bell.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

Kenneth Bayless provided Trustees with a brief walk-through of the new microphone and lighting system. He recognized Luke DeNitto, Tom Griep, and Victor Perez for a job well done on designing and installing the new system for \$4,000 less than the quoted amount.

8. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES 2008-05 OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING HELD ON MAY 8, 2008 (Exhibit A)

Trustee Kelley made the motion to approve the minutes. Trustee Perkins seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

9. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 2008-11 AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF ATTACHED REQUISITION SCHEDULE FOR MAY 1, 2008 THROUGH MAY 31, 2008. (Exhibit B)

Trustee Kelley made the motion to approve the District's expenditures. Trustee Argumedo seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

10. STAFF PROGRAM REPORTS: MAY 2008

10.1 Manager's Report

Kenneth L. Bayless, General Manager

Ken Bayless reminded the Board that Education Program Specialist Karen Walker and Director of Scientific-Technical Services Minoo Madon would both be retiring this month. He announced that Vector Ecologist Susanne Klueh would be succeeding Minoo as the new Scientific-Technical Services Director.

10.2 Operations: (Staff Report A)

M. Hall, Operations Supervisor

Mark Hall stated that a revised cover sheet for the Operations report was provided to each Trustee. There was an error in the "Pesticide Use" report, saying the use of Vectobac 12AS had been over-reported by \$6,000. The correct figure is \$1,340.

In addition, Mark addressed questions brought forth in the last Board meeting regarding water conservation. Mark researched the issue and found that some of the water companies and power companies have conservation plans while others do not. The City of Burbank has a four stage water conservation system. The first stage is voluntary. Only in the fourth and final stage are there restrictions regarding filling swimming pool. DWP has a five-phase conservation plan. The second through fifth stages change the baseline allocation for water-usage. If a resident or business exceeds that allocation, then the rates go up. There are no specific restrictions, however, on water use for swimming pools. MWD does not service the end-user. They are a wholesaler only; therefore they leave the mandates and restrictions on water usage to the end users. They have the Be Water Wise program but that is available as a voluntary measure only.

10.3 Scientific-Technical: (*Staff Report B*) M. Madon, Scientific-Tech Serv. Dir.

Minoo Madon reported that there was additional West Nile virus activity since the Board report was prepared. The current figure for WNV positive dead birds is 10 within the District. The District has also confirmed 4 WNV positive mosquito samples. He stated that evidence points to a resurgence in West Nile virus this year and cautioned that the District may experience a very busy summer.

Since this was his last Board meeting, Minoo also gave a farewell address highlighting the District's many achievements over the years since he started in August 1998.

10.4 Community Outreach: (*Staff Report C*) T. Dever, Public Information Officer

Truc Dever reported that the District received additional media coverage on green pools and West Nile virus since the board report was printed, including an interview with a National Spanish television news program on MegaTV and a scheduled interview with Fox News Network.

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

Carolyn Weeks reported that she has been busy working on completing the FY 2008-2009 Budget as well as preparing for the auditors.

10.6 Human Resources: (*Staff Report E*) R. Miller, Human Resources Dir.

Robert Miller reported that the Human Resources has commenced with hiring the first wave of seasonals. Interviews for the second wave of seasonals will be held next week. Robert also reported that all safety citation notices have been abated.

10.7 Legal Counsel Report G. Stinnett, Legal Counsel

Gena Stinnett, who was filling in for Bill Rudell announced that their law firm, Richards, Watson, and Gershon will be offering a free webinar for AB1234 Ethics Training. The online training will be available beginning June 26th and will remain accessible for the next 6 months.

Trustee Harold Williams noted that he completed his ethics training through Contract Cities and will provide the District with a certificate of completion.

11. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

11.1 Policy Committee Report O. Newcomer, Chairperson

Trustee Newcomer summarized Resolution 2008-12 amending certain provisions of the District's Articles and Bylaws governing meetings for consideration by the Board. **Trustee Newcomer made the motion to approve Resolution 2008-12. Trustee Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

11.2 Budget & Finance Committee Report M. Perkins, Vice Chairperson

The Committee Chair, Trustee Flowers, could not attend the meeting and asked Ken Bayless and Vice Chair Trustee Perkins to present the FY 2008-2009 Budget to the Board. Ken began his presentation stating the committee unanimously approved the budget, which was created using a very different process than in the past. He pointed out that salaries and a larger West Nile virus reserve accounted for 85% of the increase in budget over last year. He assured the Board that the reserves will not be used without Board approval. He also mentioned his concern over the gasoline budget, given current trends in gas prices nationwide.

Ken proceeded to explain some of the budget highlights, including improving the inter-office computer and telephone capabilities between the Sylmar and Santa Fe Springs facilities. He also stated that a hiring freeze has

been implemented for all new, permanent positions until a second-tier employee benefits system can be approved by the Board for all new hires.

Trustee Perkins followed up with a brief presentation, emphasizing the need to control the cost of health benefits. Trustee Figueroa asked if there would be enough funds set aside for fuel costs. Trustee Perkins explained that every department is now accountable for its own budget, making it easier to channel funds elsewhere if needed. Trustee Figueroa recommended that the District begin looking into programs for hybrid vehicles for the future.

Trustee Noushkam thanked the staff for including a training and development matrix detailing all conferences. She asked why no funds were allotted for the VCJPA conference. Ken explained that cost of attendance for a representative from the District is paid for as part of the VCJPA membership fees.

Trustee Williams recommended that Goals and Objectives should be tied to specific departments in the final budget document.

Trustee Perkins concluded his report by recognizing Trustee Heidt for all of her hard work on the budget in past years. He also gave accolades to the General Manager and his staff. Finally, he thanked the committee members and Trustee Kelley for their work in reviewing the budget.

Trustee Perkins made a motion to approve the FY 2008-2009 Budget. Trustee Newcomer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

12. OTHER

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

Adjustments to the new lighting and microphone system were recommended.

Trustee Kelley thanked Ken Bayless and the District staff for their hard work on the budget and for producing a phenomenal document.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The next scheduled Board of Trustees meeting will be on Thursday, July 10, 2008 at the District Headquarters office at 12545 Florence Avenue, Santa Fe Springs, CA.

The meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.