

# GREATER LOS ANGELES COUNTY VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT MINUTES NO. 2009-11

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, November 12, 2009, at the District office at 12545 Florence Avenue, Santa Fe Springs, California.

## TRUSTEES PRESENT

Sally Flowers, Vice President, *(City of Artesia)*  
Victor Bello, *(City of Bell)*  
Ray T. Smith, *(City of Bellflower)*  
Pedro Aceituno, *(City of Bell Gardens)*  
Dr. Jeff D. Wassem, *(City of Burbank)*  
Harold Williams, *(City of Carson)*  
Nikki Noushkam, *(City of Cerritos)*  
Hugo Argumedo, *(City of Commerce)*  
Mison Levi, *(City of Cudahy)*  
Audrey Hamilton, *(City of Diamond Bar)*  
Meredith Perkins, *(City of Downey)*  
Victor Farfan, *(City of Hawaiian Gardens)*

Jim Remington, *(City of La Habra Heights)*  
Gabe Garcia, *(City of La Mirada)*  
Robert Campbell, *(City of Long Beach)*  
Dr. James Lawson, *(County of Los Angeles)*  
Jim Morton, *(City of Lynwood)*  
Robert Urteaga, *(City of Montebello)*  
Tom Hansen, *(City of Paramount)*  
Dr. SeYao Hsu, *(City of San Marino)*  
Michael Madrigal, *(City of Santa Fe Springs)*  
Dr. Hazel Wallace, *(City of Signal Hill)*  
Blanca Figueroa, *(City of South El Monte)*  
Owen Newcomer, Sec.-Treasurer *(City of Whittier)*

## TRUSTEES ABSENT

Armine Perian, *(City of Glendale)*  
Elba Romo, *(City of Huntington Park)*  
Joseph Esquivel, *(City of Lakewood)*  
Ana Rosa Rizo, *(City of Maywood)*  
Cheri Kelley, President, *(City of Norwalk)*  
Bob Archuleta, *(City of Pico Rivera)*  
Vacant, *(City of San Fernando)*

## TRUSTEES ABSENT (EXCUSED)

Rachel C. Johnson, *(City of Gardena)*  
Alma Martinez, *(City of Los Angeles)*  
Robert Newman, *(City of Santa Clarita)*  
Maria Davila, *(City of South Gate)*

## OTHERS PRESENT

Kenneth L. Bayless, *General Manager*  
Mark Daniel, *Operations Director*  
Susanne Kluh, *Sci-Tech Services Director*  
Truc Dever, *Director of Community Affairs*  
Carolyn Weeks, *Director of Finance*  
Robert Miller, *Director of Human Resources*  
Luke DeNitto, *Maintenance Supervisor*  
Quinn M. Barrow, *Legal Counsel*

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

In the absence of the Board President, Vice President Sally Flowers chaired the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm.

### 2. QUORUM (ROLL) CALL

Following the roll call, it is recorded that 24 Trustees were present and 11 were absent.

### 3. INVOCATION

Trustee Flowers gave the invocation.

**4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Trustee Hamilton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**5. CORRESPONDENCE**

NONE

**6. INTRODUCTIONS**

The General Manager introduced Jonathan Kwan, an employee from the California Department of Public Health, who was in the audience visiting following a certification exam review session which he conducted for the Southern California region.

**7. PUBLIC COMMENT**

NONE

**8. CONSENT AGENDA (8.1-8.4)**

- 8.1 Consideration of **Minutes 2009-10** of regular Board Meeting held on October 8, 2009 (*Exhibit A*)
- 8.2 Consideration of **Resolution 2009-17** Authorizing Payment of Attached Requisition Schedule for October 1, 2009 through October 31, 2009. (*Exhibit B*)
- 8.3 Consideration of one (1) County of Los Angeles Joint Property Tax Resolution *L 067-2003*. (*Exhibit C*)
- 8.4 Consideration of the City of Los Angeles Community Redevelopment Agency Subordination Notification Re: Subordination of Payments for Tax Allocation Subordinate Bonds. (*Exhibit D*)

**Trustee Smith made the motion to approve items 8.1 through 8.4 of the Consent Agenda. Trustee Figueroa seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

**9. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

9.1 Personnel Committee

Dr. J. Lawson, Chairperson

Trustee Lawson reported to the Board that the Committee met to review the General Manager's contract and was ready to make its recommendation in closed session. The General Manager was asked to give a brief summary highlighting his performance and accomplishments at the District during the past year.

Ken Bayless stated it has been an honor to serve the Board over the past two years. When he was hired on, Ken was asked by the Board to work with an organization that had ongoing issues that needed to be addressed. He feels that in that time, he and the new management team have been able to bring stability and uniformity to the organization and improve employee morale. There has been an increase in communication and training. The management has enhanced the budgeting process, developed risk management and accountability processes, and enhanced new technology. The District has also done well resolving the legal issues that the District recently faced. Managerially, administratively, operationally, and fiscally, Ken believes the District is sound. In the past year, the District has implemented its Tier II Benefits program to reduce future costs to the District and has completed a total compensation review which will impact how the organization will run in the future. There have been a number of administrative and operational changes in policies and procedures that have allowed a more efficient and cost-effective operation.

**Legal Counsel Quinn Barrow prepared the Board for closed session and stated that pursuant to Government Code Section 54957(b)(1) and 54957.6, the Board of Trustees will go into closed session to**

discuss the evaluation of performance of the General Manager and to provide direction to the Personnel Committee with respect to the General Manager's compensation and benefits.

10. **CLOSED SESSION PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION; CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS**

Following the closed session, Legal Counsel Barrow announced that the two items identified on the agenda were discussed in closed session. The Board approved a three year contract with Kenneth Bayless. The contract was approved with no objections. The employment agreement is a public record and will be available at the District for public review.

11. **STAFF PROGRAM REPORTS: OCTOBER 2009**

11.1 Manager's Report

K. Bayless, General Manager

Ken Bayless thanked the Board for their support. He added that the District has an outstanding management team and any credit as to how the District runs can be attributed directly to them. Ken also announced that during the quarterly MVCAC meeting in Tahoe, California, he was elected Vice President of MVCAC with his term commencing in 2010. In the following year, he will move to the position of President-Elect and will become President of MVCAC in the year 2012. He believes his new responsibilities will serve the District well. He added that several members of the management team also serve leadership roles in the organization. Truc Dever is Chair of the Public Relations Committee, Susanne Klueh is Chair of the Vector and Vector-Borne Disease Committee, and Mark Daniel serves as a member on two MVCAC committees. This District is re-emerging in its leadership role with quality staff whom have been recognized statewide and placed in leadership positions by their peers.

11.2 Scientific- Technical: (Staff Report A)

S. Klueh, Scientific-Technical Services Director

Susanne Klueh reported that the District is still in the "Emergency Planning" phase, although the season is coming to an end. In comparing 2009 West Nile virus activity to the previous year, it is apparent that there has been less activity this year. Susanne referred to some additional graphs that were not included in the staff report this month. Mosquito abundance in the San Fernando region was controlled this year. In the Los Angeles Basin area, mosquito numbers were high compared to the five year average. Most of the activity was along the Orange County border. Despite the high mosquito numbers in the Basin, all human cases reported this year came from the San Fernando Valley area. A total of 25 human cases have been reported in the County. Of the 25 cases, 9 were within the District. Most of the cases for the County were from the high desert. It was noted that the onset of human cases began earlier this year and seems to be ending earlier than previous years.

Trustee Noushkam referred to the WNV mosquito pool activity on the map and asked for an explanation as to why more activity has been found near the City of Cerritos. She asked if any of the pools associated with green pools or foreclosed homes. Susanne stated that many mosquito samples were submitted for testing from this area because it is along Coyote Creek. Operations did conduct a fly-over of the area and identified several additional green pools which were treated. This effort, however, did not appear to considerably reduce the mosquito populations. It is often difficult to fully control the mosquito populations along border cities because it requires intensive collaboration with neighboring districts. Trustee Noushkam encouraged further development of communication and coordination with neighboring districts in dealing with border cities. Susanne noted that the District is fortunate to be a part of the UC Davis research study on West Nile virus which allows the Scientific-Technical Services Department to test a large number of mosquito samples while other districts may face financial constraints for testing. The District is definitely continuing to work with OCVCD on increasing cooperation.

Trustee Wassem asked whether the predicted increased rainfall this winter will impact mosquito populations next year. Susanne replied that much of the mosquito breeding seen in Los Angeles is the result of urban runoff. Therefore, the rain may actually help to flush out the storm drains and gutters and reduce debris and litter that may cause water to stagnate.

11.3 Operations: (Staff Report B)

M. Daniel, Operations Director

Mark Daniel expanded on the Scientific-Technical Services report, explaining that along the Coyote Creek corridor, aerial surveillance was conducted and a number of neglected swimming pools were identified. Operations hoped that the issue would be resolved by treating these sources; however, that was not the case. In the past, a water truck was used along the corridor to flush out the catch basins, but because of the chlorine in the water system, restrictions were placed on its use. Operations is looking to resurrect the water truck for these situations and will look into a system to remove the chlorine or to tap into the existing water system along Coyote Creek. Hopefully, with considerable rainfall this winter, much of the debris that is in those catch basins and undergrounds will be flushed out and cleaned.

Mark also segued to a brief video presentation on the Underground Storm Drain Cover Removal Tool which was developed by District staff and is coveted by other agencies. The tool is safer and is able to pull heavy storm drain covers more effectively.

**Following the video presentation, several Trustees suggested the District patent the tool. Vice President Flowers and the Board agreed that the patent should be explored and added as a goal to the Personnel Committee.**

11.4 Community Affairs: (Staff Report C)

T. Dever, Community Affairs Dir.

Truc Dever reported on the success of the regional radio advertisement campaign that ran over the summer. Approximately \$58,000 was used in pooled funds to purchase radio and website banner advertisements in Southern California. Website banner ads ran from April 13 to August 15. The radio ads ran from April 13 to September 27. The region had originally purchased 837 radio ads but received an over-delivery of 70% with 1,428 ads actually airing. WNV messages ran on 41 AM and FM affiliate stations covering all formats and multiple languages in the four-county region. Radio ads reached 6,017,030 residents an average of 3.2 times resulting in over 19 million impressions. Website banner ads on the affiliate stations reached 218,750 viewers. It was a successful effort and districts in the region will likely continue this effort for the years to come.

11.5 Fiscal: (Staff Report D)

Carolyn Weeks referred to her staff report and had nothing further to add.

11.6 Human Resources: (Staff Report E)

R. Miller, Human Resources Dir.

Robert Miller reported that he, along with several other managers, attended a management training session today. The District also recently completed open enrollment for healthcare benefits. He added that he attended a CalPERS conference and was glad to report that the District is handling its retirement structure well. Implementing a second tier benefits structure is what many other public agencies are working towards.

11.7 Legal Counsel Report

Quinn Barrow, Legal Counsel

Legal Counsel Quinn Barrow had nothing further to report.


**12. OTHER**

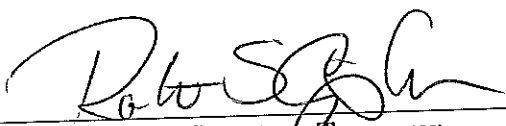
The Board may consider items not on the agenda providing it complies with the Government Code (*Brown Act*) §54954.2 (b).

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

The next scheduled Board of Trustees meeting will be on Thursday, December 10, 2009. The meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. at the District's headquarters office at 12545 Florence Avenue, Santa Fe Springs, CA.

**Trustee Flowers wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary-Treasurer