

GREATER LOS ANGELES COUNTY VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT MINUTES NO. 2012-09

The 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, September 13, 2012, at the District office at 12545 Florence Avenue, Santa Fe Springs, California.

TRUSTEES PRESENT

Sally Flowers, (*City of Artesia*)
Danny Harber, (*City of Bell*)
Ray T. Smith, (*City of Bellflower*)
Pedro Aceituno, Sec.-Treas. (*City of Bell Gardens*)
Dr. Jeff Wassem, Vice Pres. (*City of Burbank*)
Harold Williams, (*City of Carson*)
Mark Bollman, (*City of Cerritos*)
Mison Levi, (*City of Cudahy*)
Steve Tye, (*City of Diamond Bar*)
Roger C. Brossmer, (*City of Downey*)
Rachel C. Johnson, (*City of Gardena*)
Armine Perian, (*City of Glendale*)
Barry Bruce, (*City of Hawaiian Gardens*)
Elba Romo, (*City of Huntington Park*)
Christina Cortez, (*City of Montebello*)
Jim Remington, (*City of La Habra Heights*)
Steve Croft, (*City of Lakewood*)
Pauline Deal, (*City of La Mirada*)
Robert Campbell, President (*City of Long Beach*)
Steven Appleton, (*City of Los Angeles*)
Jim Morton, (*City of Lynwood*)
Edward Varela, (*City of Maywood*)
Cheri Kelley, (*City of Norwalk*)
Tom Hansen, (*City of Paramount*)
David Armenta, (*City of Pico Rivera*)

Jeff Groseth (*City of San Marino*)
Michael Madrigal, (*City of Santa Fe Springs*)
Hector Delgado, (*City of South El Monte*)
Maria Davila, (*City of South Gate*)
Owen Newcomer (*City of Whittier*)

TRUSTEES ABSENT

Tina Baca Del Rio, (*City of Commerce*)
Robert Newman, (*City of Santa Clarita*)
Dr. Hazel Wallace, (*City of Signal Hill*)

TRUSTEES ABSENT (EXCUSED)

Dr. James Lawson, (*County of Los Angeles*)
Sylvia Ballin, (*City of San Fernando*)

OTHERS PRESENT

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. QUORUM (ROLL) CALL

Following roll call, it was recorded that 30 Trustees were present and 5 were absent.

3. INVOCATION

Trustee Bruce gave the invocation.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Trustee Tye led the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

NONE

6. INTRODUCTIONS

The district's new Public Information Officer Cynthia Miller was introduced by Director of Community Affairs Truc Dever. Cynthia spoke briefly about her professional background and thanked Trustees for their kindness in welcoming her.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

NONE

8. CONSENT AGENDA (8.1-8.3)

8.1 Consideration of **Minutes 2012-08** of regular Board Meeting held on August 9, 2012. (*EXHIBIT A*)

8.2 Consideration of **Resolution 2012-14** Authorizing Payment of Attached Requisition Schedule for August 1, 2012 through August 31, 2012 (*EXHIBIT B*)

8.3 Consideration of two Joint Tax Transfer Resolutions between the District, Los Angeles County, and affected taxing agencies (Annexation 2011-22 and Annexation 2011-26) (*EXHIBIT C*)

Summary: This resolution authorizes the exchange of property tax revenue resulting in the annexation of unincorporated territory into the City of Santa Clarita. As a condition of the annexation, the territory is also being annexed into the District's service area.

Trustee Armenta made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Trustee Morton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

9.1 Budget Committee P. Aceituno, Chair

- Review of the GASB 45 actuary report

Trustee Aceituno reported that the committee met to review the GASB 45 actuary report. The Board received and filed the report and made a request to staff to provide further information to the Board.

9.2 Policy Committee T. Hansen, Chair

- Report on committee review of District's FY 2012-2013 Investment Policy.
- Consideration of **Resolution 2012-15** "A Resolution of the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District Board of Trustees Adopting an Investment Policy for Fiscal Year 2012-2013." (*EXHIBIT D*)

Trustee Hansen reported that the committee met to review the District Investment Policy and Resolution 2012-15. The policy remains the same as last year and the committee recommended Board approval. **Trustee Groseth made a motion to adopt the investment policy and Resolution 2012-15. The motion was seconded by Trustee Levi. The motion passed unanimously.**

10. STAFF PROGRAM REPORTS: AUGUST 2012

10.1 Manager's Report

Kenneth L. Bayless, General Manager

General Manager Ken Bayless reported that mosquito activity is picking up considerably with warmer weather. Ken also spoke to the number of media interviews and follow-up reports that resulted from an incident regarding a green pool in Studio City. It began when an employee of KTLA, who resides next to a bank-owned property, noticed the property's pool was green. She contacted numerous agencies including the bank in hopes of getting the pool cleaned. She later discovered that she had been infected with WNV and believed the pool to be the source. Meanwhile, a teenager in the same neighborhood contracted West Nile virus. Ken reported that the District was noticed of the pool in May by the LA County Environmental Health department and began monthly mosquito control treatment promptly. The district believes that the pool was not likely the source of the infected mosquitoes.

Directors Mark Daniel, Truc Dever, and Susanne Klueh met with the West Nile virus victims and provided information and treatment documents for the pool in question. Ken read a portion of an email the district received from the father of the sick teenager following their meeting with staff. The resident was truly appreciative of the lengths the district went to in order to meet with him and his wife to discuss their concerns. Ken summed up by saying that our district and employees' responsiveness stood in marked contrast to the response from the other entities involved.

Trustee Campbell mentioned he saw one of Truc Dever's interviews with the media and thanked her for doing a great job. He also asked if staff were planning to canvass the neighborhood with some educational materials about ways to protect against WNV. Ken mentioned that this is part of the District's community response plan and that he believes the families involved will also be instrumental in educating their community.

Trustee Bruce mentioned he read an article recently about OC Vector Control and their warnings about fleas and typhus. He wanted to know if the District had any concerns for typhus in LA County. Susanne Klueh indicated that Long Beach usually has most of the flea-borne typhus cases. Susanne referred Trustees to the LA County Health Department's website for the Acute Communicable Diseases Division, which shows the distribution of typhus cases in LA County. She mentioned that Orange County is experiencing a particularly bad set of years with flea-borne typhus cases. Although Los Angeles does tend to have a higher incidence of typhus than Orange County, surveillance is not handled by the District but rather by LA County Acute Communicable Diseases.

10.2 Scientific-Technical: (Staff Report A)

S. Klueh, Sci.-Tech Services Dir.

Scientific-Technical Services Director Susanne Klueh presented her report explaining conditions for epidemic risk and also highlighted a new graph that showed risk-assessment in comparison to a few epidemic years in the past. While this is a very bad WNV year nationwide, and a bad year for the state of California overall, Susanne explained that the District is behind those past

epidemic years in terms of infection rates. Susanne explained that this year, the district currently has an infection rate of 7.9 positive mosquito samples per 1,000. In 2011 it was 14 at this point in the year, and in 2008, it was 20. So far this year, the District has been notified of eight human cases that were reported within District boundaries. In 2011 at this time, the district knew about seven and ended up having 27 cases due to the delay in reporting. In 2011, there were a total of 44 human cases reported within District boundaries. 2008 numbers were considerably higher. For 2008, the district had 98 human cases by the end of the year.

Trustee Bollman asked Susanne whether certain district actions are triggered when there is a disease epidemic. Susanne explained that according to the state risk management plan, there is the option of aerial adulticiding because the adult mosquitoes pose the most disease risk. The District has considered and decided that, at this point, the district does not deem it necessary.

10.3 Operations: *(Staff Report B)*

M. Daniel, Operations Dir.

Operations Director Mark Daniel reported that the district is receiving a lot of service requests in response to recent media attention surrounding both the Studio City incident and the WNV epidemic in Texas. Mark indicated the District is running service requests with a one-day turn around time. Mark also mentioned that staff are getting a lot of reports on pools, which enables the District to identify and deal with them. Mark indicated that the District is still dealing with the Asian tiger mosquito and is routinely returning to the South El Monte/El Monte area to ensure there are no new infestations. The District's aim is also to heighten awareness in the community. The District continues to pursue an eradication program and is working with the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District on joint efforts in the region. Mark mentioned that there appears to be a correlation between the infestation area and locations where Lucky Bamboo distributors were. Mark also indicated that the infestation has not spread much beyond the radius that the District delineated twelve years ago, and commented that is a good sign.

Trustee Wassem asked for a status report on the MADIS program. Mark reported that the company is working on providing the District with deliverables. Mark also indicated that if MADIS is unsuccessful, the district may revert back to using previous aerial photography services.

Trustee Appleton thanked Mark for taking him on a tour of Harbor Lake and expressed that it was very instructive and educational to see a region that receives a lot of run off and posing a lot of challenges for mosquito control.

Trustee Williams asked whether or not the District treats the Compton Creek area. Mark explained that Compton Creek is covered by a small district and that GLACVCD treats above and below that section. Mark added that staff is working hard to keep the District's areas under control. Ken stated he would contact the manager of Compton Creek MAD tomorrow and mention that concern was expressed during the Board meeting

Susanne also added that the County has been very good about vegetation management in those areas; they have already been in touch to say that they will do their annual maintenance there as soon as they get their clearance from Fish and Game following bird nesting season.

10.4 Community Affairs: *(Staff Report C)*

T. Dever, Community Affairs Dir.

Community Affairs Director Truc Dever reported that District staff participated in ten media interviews related to the Studio City green pool incident. This coverage coupled with all of the media hype over the WNV epidemic in Texas has effectively raised awareness about WNV and the importance of mosquito control.

Truc also announced that the district has kicked off its school education program for the new school year by sending out promotional flyers and brochures to all schools within district boundaries. The District has received calls from eighteen schools already, six of which are new to the program. There are only four days left for booking in October and the month of November is completely booked. This school year is shaping up to be another busy year for the BugBus.

Trustee Morton asked if there is any explanation as to why the Dallas area has seen so much WNV activity. Susanne responded by saying that due to the nature of biology, it is difficult to provide an explanation. However, the virus does appear to be active in cycles. Over the years, the district has seen periods of low activity and high activity. Susanne indicated that there are a lot of different factors that play into how much WNV activity occurs in a given year. Susanne also explained that in Texas, the one thing that they do differently is they don't larvicide. Texas officials monitor mosquitoes and when they have any positives, will usually implement their truck-based fogging program. Adulticiding is the only strategy that Texas officials use in regards to WNV, and they do not larvicide preemptively. Susanne concluded that this year, perhaps the right weather conditions were present to trigger the epidemic in Texas.

10.5 Fiscal: (*Staff Report D*)

C. Weeks, Finance Director

Director of Finance Carolyn Weeks referred the Board to her staff report and had nothing further to add.

10.6 Human Resources: (*Staff Report E*)

R. Miller, Human Resources Dir.

Director of Human Resources Robert Miller reported that this month the district will be conducting interviews for a couple of full-time positions.

10.7 Legal Counsel Report

Q. Barrow, Legal Counsel

- **CLOSED SESSION: CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL (EXISTING LITIGATION)**
(Government Code Section 54956.9(a))
Long Beach Unified School District v. The County of Los Angeles et al., LASC Case No. BS 137598

Legal Counsel Quinn Barrow announced the Board would go into closed session to discuss the case of Long Beach Unified School District versus the County of Los Angeles, case number BS137598.

After returning from closed session, Quinn reported that the Board gave direction to District legal counsel, and there was no other reportable action taken.

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).

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

The next Board of Trustees meeting will be scheduled on Thursday, October 11, 2012. The meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. at the District's headquarters office at 12545 Florence Avenue, Santa Fe Springs.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.