

**GREATER LOS ANGELES COUNTY VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT
MINUTES NO. 2022 – 05**

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, May 12, 2022, 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*
Dr. Jeff Wassem, *City of Burbank*
Jim Dear, *City of Carson*
Mark Bollman, *City of Cerritos*
Leonard Mendoza, *City of Commerce*
Baru Sanchez, *City of Cudahy*
Ruth Low, *City of Diamond Bar*
Robert Keifer, *City of Downey*
Luis Roa, *City of Hawaiian Gardens*
Marylin Sanabria, Secretary/Treasurer –
City of Huntington Park
Catherine Houwen, *City of La Habra Heights*
John Lewis, *City of La Mirada*
Steve Appleton, *City of Los Angeles*
Steven Goldsworthy, *Los Angeles County*
Jorge Casanova, *City of Lynwood*
Jessica Torres, *City of Maywood*
Avik Cordeiro, *City of Montebello*
Raul Elias, *City of Pico Rivera*
Jesse H. Avila, *City of San Fernando*
Scott Kwong, Vice President - *City of San Marino*
Heidi Heinrich, *City of Santa Clarita*
Joe Angel Zamora, *City of Santa Fe Springs*
Robert Copeland, *City of Signal Hill*
Hector Delgado, *City of South El Monte*
Jessica Martinez, *City of Whittier* *7:23
Leticia Lopez, *City of Vernon*

TRUSTEES ABSENT (EXCUSED)

Sonny Santa Ines, *City of Bellflower*
Paulette Francis, *City of Gardena*
Vrej Agajanian, *City of Glendale*
Steve Croft, *City of Lakewood*
Ana Valencia, *City of Norwalk*

TRUSTEES ABSENT

Leonard Pieroni, *City of La Cañada*
Flintridge
Emily Holman, President - *City of*
Long Beach
Isabel Aguayo, *City of Paramount*
Denise Diaz, *City of South Gate*

OTHERS PRESENT

Susanne Kluh, *General Manager*
Steve Vetrone, *Acting Director of*
Scientific-Technical Services
Mark Daniel, *Director of Operations*
Mary-Joy Coburn, *Director of*
Communications
Carolyn Weeks, *Director of Fiscal*
Operations
Allison Costa, *Director of Human*
Resources
Anais Medina Diaz, *Public*
Information Officer
Vania Pocasangre, *Community*
Outreach Assistant
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

Vice President Kwong called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm. The meeting was held via teleconference, in compliance with AB 361 in the interest of maintaining appropriate social distancing.

2. QUORUM (ROLL) CALL

Following roll call, it was recorded that 27 Trustees were present and 10 were absent. One trustee joined the meeting after roll call, bringing the total to 28 Trustees present and nine absent

3. INVOCATION

Trustee Dear (Carson) led the invocation.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Trustee Bollman (Cerritos).

5. CORRESPONDENCE

General Manager Klueh reported that LAFCO mailed a letter announcing the results of the LAFCO representative elections for special districts' seat and the alternate. General Manager Klueh thanked the trustees who volunteered to be placed on the ballot.

6. INTRODUCTIONS

(Introductions requested by staff or Trustees of persons attending the meeting are made at this time).

Director Coburn introduced the newest member of the Community Affairs Department, Community Outreach Assistant Vania Pocasangre. Ms. Pocasangre shared details about herself and expressed her gratitude and excitement for joining the District.

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 – 8.4)

(VOTE REQUIRED)

8.1 Consideration of **Minutes 2022-04** of regular Board Meeting held on April 14th, 2022. *(EXHIBIT A)*

8.2 Consideration of **Resolution 2022-07** Authorizing Payment of Attached Requisition April 1st through April 30th, 2022. *(EXHIBIT B)*

8.3 Compliance with AB 361 to facilitate remote Trustee attendance at meeting during the Covid-19 pandemic *(EXHIBIT C)*

Summary: Board reconsideration of the circumstances of the declared COVID-19 emergency to determine whether the Board should continue to hold remote meetings pursuant to AB 361's special teleconferencing requirements.

8.4 Consideration of extension of contractual services with CliftonLarsonAllen LLP for auditing services. *(EXHIBIT D)*

Trustee Appleton (City of Los Angeles) made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Trustee Casanova (Lynwood) and approved unanimously.

Yes: Artesia, Bell, Bell Gardens, Burbank, Carson, Cerritos, Commerce, Cudahy, Diamond Bar, Downey, Hawaiian Gardens, Huntington Park, La Habra Heights, La Mirada, Los Angeles City, Los Angeles County, Lynwood, Maywood, Montebello, Pico Rivera, San Fernando, San Marino, Santa Clarita, Santa Fe Springs, Signal Hill, South El Monte, Vernon

No: NONE

Absent: Bellflower, Gardena, Glendale, La Canada Flintridge, Lakewood, Long Beach, Norwalk, Paramount, South Gate, Whittier

9. CONSIDERATION AND VOTE FOR AMENDMENT TO CONTRACT BETWEEN THE BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION CALIFORNIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM AND THE GLACVCD BOARD OF TRUSTEES

(EXHIBIT E) (VOTE REQUIRED)

Summary: Proposed amendment to the District's retirement contract as recommended by CalPERS to resolve issues with conflicting Government Codes. The District's current retirement contract from 1969 includes an exclusion for "all hourly rated or hourly basis employees (Exclusion)" under Government Code section 20502. However, the District is adhering to the membership eligibility requirements in Gov. Code section 20305 enacted in 1975 that supersedes our original exclusion. Therefore, the Exclusion is invalid and should be removed from the District's Retirement Contract.

Trustee Dear (Carson) made a motion to approve the amendment to the contract between the CalPERS Board of Administration and the GLACVCD Board of Trustees. The motion was seconded by Trustee Appleton (City of Los Angeles) and approved unanimously.

Yes: Artesia, Bell, Bell Gardens, Burbank, Carson, Cerritos, Commerce, Cudahy, Diamond Bar, Downey, Hawaiian Gardens, Huntington Park, La Habra Heights, La Mirada, Los Angeles City, Los Angeles County, Lynwood, Maywood, Montebello, Pico Rivera, San Fernando, San Marino, Santa Clarita, Santa Fe Springs, Signal Hill, South El Monte, Vernon

No: NONE

Absent: Bellflower, Gardena, Glendale, La Canada Flintridge, Lakewood, Long Beach, Norwalk, Paramount, South Gate, Whittier

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

10.1 Executive Committee

Scot Kwong, Vice President

- Discuss seasonal employee benefits.

Vice-President Kwong provided a brief overview of the committee's meeting in which they discussed the required changes to seasonal employee benefits.

General Manger Klueh shared that the district needs to modify the benefits provided to seasonal employees to comply with the Affordable Care Act. Staff was advised by labor attorneys to offer health insurance to seasonal staff and staff determined that on short notice this could only be done by onboarding them as limited-term employees in Tier IV.

The unexpected costs of providing benefits to seasonal staff this year will create an unbudgeted expenditure, but the District has the funds to cover the costs. However, management will be looking at

seasonal staffing needs and working with legal counsel to find the most cost-effective solution for future seasons.

Trustee Dr. Wassem asked if seasonal employees had the ability to apply for unemployment with this new change, and General Manager Klugh shared that seasonal employees have always had the ability to apply for unemployment benefits, if needed, after working for the District.

Trustee Appleton inquired how often seasonal employees convert into full-time staff. General Manager Klugh responded that seasonal employees quite often become permanent employees, particularly in the Operations Department. The seasonal waves provide the opportunity for employment development and training. While the change in labor requirements might come at a high cost, the change will also provide the District with greater flexibility to use the seasonal employee assistance.

Trustee Keifer inquired if all seasonal employees always worked for less than six months to forego the requirement to provide benefits. General Manager Klugh concurred and shared that the district usually hired two waves of seasonal employees to maximize their six-month window and cover both the early *Culex* and later *Aedes* mosquito season.

10.2 Joint Budget & Finance / Personnel Committee

Marilyn Sanabria, Chair

Robert Copeland, Chair

Steve Goldsworthy, Vice Chair

- Discussion and consideration of draft budget FY22/23 and related personnel items.

Trustee Goldsworthy provided a brief report sharing that the committee discussed the proposed budget at length and voted to approve as presented. A Budget presentation will be provided to the full Board at the next board meeting.

General Manager Klugh thanked the committee for their discussion and questions. Additionally, she thanked staff for their work on the budget.

11. CONSIDERATION OF RETURN TO INPERSON MEETING

(VOTE OPTIONAL)

Director Coburn provided an update on the straw poll that was sent out prior to the board meeting. Only 11 responses were collected: six said they did not feel comfortable, while five said they were comfortable with in-person meetings. Director Coburn suggested conducting an additional vote since there are more trustees present.

Vice-President Kwong asked for another poll to be conducted using the Zoom polling feature. General Manager Klugh said it would be good to have majority agree to come back in person instead of just a little over half.

Trustee Bollman shared that he felt that the board works well when they meet in person and many other boards are meeting in person. Multiple trustees expressed their openness to returning to in-person meetings again.

Director Coburn conducted the poll through Zoom which resulted in 23 participants of the 28 trustees present. Eighteen trustees said they were comfortable returning to in-person meetings, while five said they felt uncomfortable. With majority in favor, the June meeting will be conducted in-person, with a hybrid option for a few trustees.

12. STAFF PROGRAM REPORTS: APRIL 2022

12.1 Manager's Report

S. Klueh, General Manager

General Manager Klueh did not have anything to add to her report.

12.2 Scientific-Technical: (Staff Report A) S. Vetrone, Acting Sci.-Tech Services Dir.

Acting Director Vetrone presented on a trip staff took alongside Orange County Vector and Mosquito Control to Lee County Mosquito Control District in Florida to learn about Lee County's sterile insect technique program. Visiting staff were asked to participate in the day-to-day operations to maintain and run the mass rearing mosquito program, irradiation machine, and sterile insect program logistics.

Acting Director Vetrone thanked Lee County staff for opening their doors and allowing GLACVCD and OCMVCD staff to learn about its process.

12.3 Operations (Staff Report B)

M. Daniel, Operations Dir.

Director Daniel did not have anything to add to his report.

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

Director Coburn shared a Kudos board highlighting the work of staff during the month of April. In addition, she shared images of the 70th Anniversary Open House and thanked the trustees who attended for their support. She also reported there will be additional events throughout the year to provide more opportunities for trustees, staff, and residents to celebrate the milestone year.

12.5 Fiscal (Staff Report D)

C. Weeks, Finance Director

Director Weeks did not have anything to add to her report.

12.6 Human Resources (Staff Report E)

A. Costa, Human Resources Dir.

Director Costa did not have anything to add to her report.

12.7 General Counsel Report

Q. Barrow, General Counsel

Director Barrow did not have anything to report.

13. OTHER

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

Trustee Dear suggested looking into the possibility of annexing the City of Compton which has its own vector control district but with minimal staff.

Mr. Barrow asked the Board to continue discussion around this subject at a future meeting with the item on the agenda. He suggested to place the item for consideration of the Board before directing staff to take any action.

Lastly, Vice-President Kwong recited the speech that he shared during the 70th Anniversary Open House Program.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Vice-President Kwong adjourned the meeting at 8:13 p.m. The next Board of Trustees meeting will be scheduled on Thursday, June 9th, 2022, at 7:00 PM at the District's headquarters at 12545 Florence Avenue, Santa Fe Springs.