

**GREATER LOS ANGELES COUNTY VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT  
MINUTES NO. 2016-05**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District was continued to 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 19, 2016, at the District office at 12545 Florence Avenue, Santa Fe Springs, California.

**TRUSTEES PRESENT**

Sally Flowers, *(City of Artesia)*  
Ali Saleh, *(City of Bell)*  
Ray T. Smith, *(City of Bellflower)*  
Pedro Aceituno, *(City of Bell Gardens)* \*7:10 pm  
Dr. Jeff Wasse, *(City of Burbank)*  
Elito Santarina, *(City of Carson)*  
Baru Sanchez, *(City of Cudahy)* \*7:25 pm  
Steve Tye, *(City of Diamond Bar)*  
Dan Medina, *(City of Gardena)*  
Barry Bruce, *(City of Hawaiian Gardens)*  
Elba Guerrero, *(City of Huntington Park)*  
David Spence, *(City of La Cañada Flintridge)*  
Jerry Walton, *(City of Glendale)*  
Jim Remington, *(City of La Habra Heights)*  
Steve Croft, Vice President *(City of Lakewood)*  
Pauline Deal, *(City of La Mirada)*  
Robert Campbell, *(City of Long Beach)*  
Salvador Alatorre, *(City of Lynwood)*  
Cheri Kelley, *(City of Norwalk)*  
Tom Hansen, *(City of Paramount)*  
Bob Archuleta, *(City of Pico Rivera)*  
Nina Herrera, *(City of San Fernando)*  
Scott Kwong, *(City of San Marino)*  
Tina Szumanski, *(City of Santa Clarita)*  
Dr. Hazel Wallace, *(City of Signal Hill)*  
Hector Delgado, *(City of South El Monte)*  
Maria Davila, President *(City of South Gate)*  
Owen Newcomer, *(City of Whittier)*

**TRUSTEES ABSENT**

Steve Appleton, *(City of Los Angeles)*  
Mark Bollman, Sec.-Treasurer *(City of Cerritos)*  
Roger C. Brossmer, *(City of Downey)*  
Luis Gonzalez, *(City of Santa Fe Springs)*  
Martin Kreisler, *(County of Los Angeles)*

**TRUSTEES ABSENT (EXCUSED)**

Tina Baca Del Rio, *(City of Commerce)*  
Eddie De La Riva *(City of Maywood)*

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Truc Dever, *General Manager*  
Mark Daniel, *Director of Operations*  
Susanne Klueh, *Director of Scientific-Technical Services*  
Kelly Middleton, *Director of Community Affairs*  
Carolyn Weeks, *Director of Fiscal Operations*  
Rakesha Thomas, *Director of Human Resources*  
Levy Sun, *Public Information Officer*  
Luke DeNitto, *Maintenance Supervisor*  
LeShawn Simplis-Barnes, *Education Program Coordinator*  
Heather Hyland, *Education Program Coordinator*  
Quinn Barrow, *Legal Counsel*

**VACANT**

City of Montebello

*\* Denotes time of late arrival (vote tallies on agenda items reflect actual Trustees present at time of vote)*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

President Davila called the meeting to order at 7:09 P.M.

**2. QUORUM (ROLL) CALL**

Following roll call, it was recorded that 26 Trustees were present and 9 were absent. Two Trustees arrived after roll call. One position is currently vacant.

**3. INVOCATION**

Trustee Archuleta gave the invocation.

**4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Trustee Flowers led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**5. CORRESPONDENCE**

Vice President Croft read a letter addressed to the Board from LAFCO commending manager Truc Dever and staff for their diligent assistance during the recently completed reorganization of portions of Gardena to the District.

6. **INTRODUCTIONS**

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

- The District welcomed new Glendale Trustee, Jerry Walton.

President Davila welcomed Trustee Walton and provided him with a few minutes to introduce himself.

- 2016 Student Poster Contest Winners:

1st Place Winner: Calin Diva, 5th Grade, Kennedy STEM Academy in Artesia

Honorable Mention: Diego Vazquez, 5th Grade, 96th Elementary School in Los Angeles

Kelly Middleton provided a brief overview about the District's annual poster and essay contests, and turned it over to LeShawn Simplis-Barnes and Heather Hyland, the District's Education Program Coordinators, to introduce this year's poster contest winners.

LeShawn began by introducing Diego Vazquez who was selected this year for an Honorable Mention award for his unique 3-D poster. His submission inspired the Department to reconfigure the poster contest next year to incorporate this format, and all entries will be submitted to the Los Angeles County Fair to be displayed in the America's Kids Exhibit. Diego was given a \$25 gift card and certificate and congratulated by the Board.

Calin Diva was introduced and honored for her poster entry highlighting how she will be a 'public health hero' by keeping her yard free of mosquitoes. Calin was honored with a \$100 gift card, a certificate, and a pizza party for her class.

President Davila congratulated the students on their innovative work, and thanked both the parents and teachers for their support and the terrific education they are providing their students.

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 2016-04** of regular Board Meeting held on April 14, 2016.

**(EXHIBIT A)**

- 8.2 Consideration of **Resolution 2016-07** Authorizing Payment of Attached Requisition April 1, 2016 through April 30, 2016.

**(EXHIBIT B)**

- 8.3 Consideration of County of Los Angeles Negotiated Tax Exchange Resolution (NTER), for Annexation L 054-2015. This resolution authorizes the County of Los Angeles and GLACVCD to collectively approve and accept the negotiated exchange of ad valorem property tax revenue resulting from the annexation of the subject territory identified in the resolution to provide revenue to the County Lighting Maintenance District (CLMD) 1687. A copy of the letter from the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works requesting these resolutions are attached. **(EXHIBIT C)**

*Analysis: The NTERs from the County of Los Angeles are similar to previous L.A. County tax sharing resolutions and seek to generate revenue to partially fund the services of CLMD 1687 as noted above. Similar resolutions have previously been adopted by the Board; territory tract number L 005-2013 relates to funding for the operation and maintenance of new street lighting services for the city of*

*Carson. L 080-2008 relates to funding for the Rowland Heights area. Tract No. 60999 relates to funding for the Saugus Area and Petition No. 13-412 relates to areas in the City of Diamond Bar. Although the District gives up a negligible share of its ad valorem property taxes in these exchanges, in subsequent years, that amount would generally be regained, if not exceeded, due to an increase in property values associated with services provided by the CLMD.*

- 8.4 Consideration of request to move \$600,000 from LAIF OPEB Designated Reserve Account (#1027) to CERBT Trust to pay Annual Required Contribution (ARC) for FYE June 30, 2016.

*Analysis: The OPEB Designated Reserve fund balance is currently \$1,000,696. The last contribution of \$600,000 was made in January 2015 to cover the ARC for FYE June 30, 2015. The ARC was established by the OPEB Actuarial Valuation as of July 1, 2013.*

**Trustee Newcomer made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Trustee Archuleta and approved unanimously.**

## 9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

### 9.1 Personnel Committee

E. Guerrero, Chair

- 9.1.a. Discussion and recommendation to consider addition of employer sponsored Short Term Disability benefit for all full time active employees in lieu of Additional Sick Leave beginning FY 16/17.

Trustee Kelley gave the report for the Personnel Committee. Item 9.1.a was deferred for further discussion.

### 9.1.b **Closed Session: Public Employee Compensation Evaluation**

*Pursuant to Government Code §54957, the Board of Trustees will hold a closed session to discuss evaluation of the General Manager's performance.*

*Designated representative attending the Closed Session: Legal Counsel*

No closed session took place. A performance appraisal form will be emailed to all trustees which must be returned to Vice President Croft via email by June 4<sup>th</sup>.

### 9.2 Joint Education & Publicity Committee and Mobile Science and Vector Education Foundation Meeting

P. Deal, Chair

- Discussion and recommendation regarding replacement of existing VecMobile.

Trustee Deal noted that the joint meeting did not have a quorum. Staff reported to the Committee and Foundation that the VecMobile was back in the shop again with continuing electrical problems, and it is recommended that the vehicle be replaced. Trustee Deal personally recommends the Board consider the budget adjustment in the next agenda item to provide the additional funds needed to purchase a replacement vehicle. Trustee Medina supported Trustee Deal's position, stating that the projected cost is really reasonable, and noted that many schools were disappointed to learn the bus was unavailable and were uninterested in a replacement in-class program. Trustee Wallace noted that this is a much loved program by teachers and serves an important role in our community.

Truc clarified that the budget adjustment request for \$130,000 would supplement the \$125,000 currently in the District's VecMobile replacement reserve account and is just a portion of the budget adjustment referenced in Item 10. In response to Trustee Flowers' question regarding protocol, Legal Counsel Quinn Barrow noted that because there was no quorum, the Committee cannot make a recommendation to the Board, but individual Trustees can express their personal recommendations.

10. **CONSIDERATION OF STAFF REQUEST TO MAKE ADJUSTMENTS TO FY 15/16 BUDGET LINE ITEMS TO PURCHASE A NEW VECMOBILE AND COVER PROJECTED EXPENSES THROUGH THE REMAINDER OF THE FISCAL YEAR.**  
***(EXHIBIT D) VOTE REQUIRED***

**Trustee Medina made a motion to approve the requested budget adjustments. The motion was seconded by Trustee Deal.**

In response to Trustee Tye's questions regarding the current reach of our outreach programs, and the significant cost of a replacement vehicle, Kelly provided a brief overview of the program and evaluation of alternatives. The high-demand program reaches more than 7,500 students annually. Because the replacement cost for this type of a vehicle is high, staff spent considerable time searching for a cheaper alternative; purchasing a smaller vehicle or trailer; eliminating the program and only providing in-class programs; or partnering with other outreach institutions into the future. None of the other vehicle options provided the space needed to accommodate students in wheelchairs, and schools have indicated that they are far less interested in in-class programs and would likely not continue inviting us to their schools. Partnerships with other learning institutions, such as the LA Discovery Science Center, require annual contributions of at least \$100,000 making the vehicle replacement the best return on investment which should last for years to come.

Trustee Medina commented that other similar vehicles have cost agencies between \$350,000 and \$450,000 to build. Kelly noted that staff are working to acquire grants for interior fixtures and hands-on equipment and that the maintenance department is highly skilled and excited to work on the project which will save the District considerable funds.

Trustee Flowers requested clarification on the workers' compensation budget adjustment included in this request. Truc noted that the District's premiums had risen and the item was under-budgeted. In response to questions about increased injuries/claims, Rakesha and Truc clarified that our injury count was relatively low, however since we belong to an insurance pool, our premiums are also contingent on claims submitted by other agencies. Rakesha has implemented a more stringent pre-hire physical to try to eliminate future claims, and the District works hard to accommodate employees to reduce time loss. Trustee Medina also noted that as of March 1<sup>st</sup> of this year, workers' compensation rates have gone up by 14% overall.

**Following discussions, President Davila called for a vote. The item was passed unanimously with Trustee Newcomer abstaining.**

11. **STAFF PROGRAM REPORTS: APRIL 2016**

11.1 Manager's Report

T. Dever, General Manager

Truc discussed the District's participation in many discussions with CDC and LA County Department of Public Health related to Zika funding. Los Angeles County has been identified as a high-risk area for importation and local transmission, and will receive priority for a portion of Epidemiology Laboratory Capacity (ELC) grant funding approximating \$55 million. Both this District and the San Gabriel Valley MVCD have been asked to submit proposals outlining their needs to the County. This District is requesting \$158,380 for increased staff, materials, and outreach. CDC is working aggressively to assess and improve vector control's capacity to respond to local Zika transmission, and this District has been very much involved in those discussions.

Truc and Susanne attended the American Mosquito Control Association's Legislative Outreach Day in Washington, DC and had many very good meetings with key staff and legislators regarding funding.

In response to Trustee Bruce's question regarding the Olympics, Truc discussed the very extensive response that is occurring in Brazil and Rio. While some are calling for the cancellation of the games, the CDC does not feel that this would really reduce the risk of increased global spread.

11.2 Scientific-Technical: *(Staff Report A)*

S. Klueh, Sci.-Tech Services Dir.

Susanne reported that WNV has arrived in the District and provided a brief summary of the known positive samples to date. She then provided an overview of a new program the District will utilize this summer to target invasive yellow fever mosquitoes. In partnership with the University of Kentucky and Mosquito Mate, the District will release non-biting male mosquitoes that have been dusted with a small amount of an insect growth regulator that when deposited into cryptic water sources by these males, or mated females, will prevent immature mosquitoes from developing to adults. This process has been successfully used in Fresno and Kentucky and Mosquito Mate is working to make this available on a much larger scale. A short video was shown to demonstrate the process, as well as a map showing the East LA neighborhood where the mosquitoes will be released beginning June 21<sup>st</sup>. Releases will continue for 6 weeks and will be monitored closely and compared to a non-release neighborhood in the city of Commerce. Susanne answered several questions related to vector competency of *Aedes* species, and local versus imported cases of disease.

11.3 Operations: *(Staff Report B)*

M. Daniel, Operations Dir.

Mark reported that the number of service requests has doubled this year compared to last, primarily in response to news coverage of Zika virus risks and our recent reports of WNV confirmation. The Department has hired seasonals and are currently outfitting and training them. *Aedes* teams are actively visiting properties and testing out a new aspirator developed in-house to collect hard-to-capture adult mosquitoes. He noted that local vector control agencies are the only ones ready and able to respond to an outbreak and districts will bear the brunt of that effort. In response to Trustee Remington's question about swimming pool issues, Mark noted that unmaintained pools continue to be a problem for the District, however recent flights offered by Burbank Police Department have helped find more problem sites in that city.

11.4 Community Affairs: *(Staff Report C)*

K. Middleton, Comm. Affairs Dir.

Levy thanked Trustees for their assistance this year and highlighted some of the recent successful outreach partnerships such as an article recently included in the *Carson Report*, thanks to the assistance of Trustee Santarina. Kelly thanked Trustees for working to allow us time on Council agendas to give brief reports to their cities.

Kelly specifically thanked the Board for their support of our educational programs and funding to replace the VecMobile. Outreach materials for the upcoming yellow fever mosquito control program are in the works, and letters will be mailed to all residents in the affected areas. Supervisors and local legislators' offices will be contacted as well. We continue to partner with local districts and the County on regional outreach efforts, and in preparation for Zika. Finally, Kelly highlighted a partnership with the Los Angeles Zoo that is coming together nicely. The zoo staff are excited to incorporate vector education into their summer camp and overnight camp programs and are considering our request to place informational/educational signage around the zoo related to mosquitoes.

11.5 Fiscal: *(Staff Report D)*

C. Weeks, Finance Director

Carolyn had nothing to add to her report and offered to answer any questions.

11.6 Human Resources: *(Staff Report E)*

R. Thomas, Human Resources Dir.

Rakesha noted that the Department was busy this month hiring 24 additional seasonal employees, and offered to further clarify the workers' compensation issue if needed.

11.7 Legal Counsel Report  
No Report.

Q. Barrow, Legal Counsel

12. **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 Santarina made note that this was the first time the *Carson Report* had included information about mosquito issues, and thanked Levy for his well-written, and timely submission of the article.

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

The next Board of Trustees meeting will be scheduled on Thursday, June 9, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at the District's headquarters at 12545 Florence Avenue, Santa Fe Springs.

**The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 PM**

  
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President

  
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Secretary-Treasurer