**ANTELOPE VALLEY MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT**

**433rd MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**42624 6TH STREET EAST, LANCASTER, CALIFORNIA 93535 (661) 942-2917**

**APRIL 25, 2022**

**4:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

**MEETING VIA WEB CONFERENCE**

**TRUSTEES PRESENT**: John Manning, Elvie Ancheta, Steve Hofbauer, and Tierney Smith-Woods.

**TRUSTEES ABSENT**: David Gantenbein

**STAFF PRESENT**: Leann Verdick, Carolyn Etherton (consultant)

**OPENING**: President Manning called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**: limit to 3 minutes:

An opportunity for members of the public to address the Board on items of interest that are within the Board’s subject matter jurisdiction, and are not otherwise posted on the agenda. No members of the public were present.

**APPROVAL OF MARCH 24, 2021 AND APRIL 14, 2022 MEETING MINUTES:**

Trustee Manning moved to approve the minutes. Trustee Ancheta seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MARCH EFT’S AND WARRANTS FOR A TOTAL OF $91,465.76:**

Trustee Manning moved to approve EFT’s and Warrants. Trustee Ancheta seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF REQUISITION NO. 1726 FOR A TOTAL OF $100,000:**

Trustee Manning moved to approve the requisition. Trustee Smith-Woods seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**PRESENTATION BY KAREN MELLOR, DISTRICT ENTOMOLOGIST, ON THE GENETICALLY ENGINEERED MOSQUITO PROGRAM AND THE STERILE INSECT TECHNIQUE (SIT):**

Tulare County is in the process of approving a trial run for Sterile Insect Technique (SIT). This technique has been used to control and exterminate invasive mosquitoes, such as Aedes aegypti, in many countries and even in the Florida Keys with great success. The way SIT works is that they genetically alter male mosquitoes of the invasive mosquito using tetracycline; they then release the males into the wild where they will procreate with wild females of the same genus. Once they successfully breed with the females, the females will lay her eggs and this will start the ultimate goal of eradicating the invasive mosquito; the female offspring will fail to reach adulthood, being stuck in the larval stage, and the male offspring will go forward to continue the cycle. When the technicians go to collect samples, the affected female larvae will glow when introduced to a florescent light. This modification will eventually end itself naturally.

**APPROVAL OF QUOTE FROM LEADING EDGE TO INTEGRATE AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY INTO EXISTING MAPVISION PROGRAM:**

Due to negotiations that were taking place during the time of last month’s meeting on price the approval was postponed until now. This issue has prompted Leann Verdick to potentially pursue a contract to lock in a price so that there are no surprises in the coming years.Trustee Ancheta moved to approve the motion. Trustee Manning seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**DISTRICT MANAGERS MONTHLY REPORT INCLUDING LEGISLATIVE REPORT:**

Firstly, Leann Verdick has received the timeline given to us via SCI on what to expect on a day to day bases for Prop 218. She asked all Board Members present if the scheduled special meetings would work, these needing to be solidified to lock in the ballot mail out date as these meetings will be primarily to pass requisitions that directly affect the ballot. A public hearing has been scheduled as well, this is for the purpose to have a one on one with the land owners who will potentially participating in the vote and to address any questions and/or concerns they may have. AV Mosquito staff did have a meeting with SCI in which they gave guidelines on what we can and cannot do as employees, as well as how we should address Prop 218 to the AV; it came down to the fact that while on the clock employees can only encourage participation and not ask for a yes/no vote. This does not hold true for board members, who are allowed to encourage a yes vote as they are seen as advocates for AVMVCD. Secondly, Brenna has been getting momentum with outreach and has started the process of locking in events and interviews; she and Tannan were at the Poppy Festival for all three days with great success, Brenna has an interview coming up with a local Spanish radio, and a few other booths set for the middle of May and the beginning of June. Thirdly, the Engineers Report is expected at the beginning of May and once received it will be sent to the lawyers to overview and approve. Aside from this we have been going over ballots and envelopes, getting ready for the ballot to go into full swing. Lastly, seasonals are scheduled to come back on May 17th, luckily they are all returning seasonals and will only need to be refreshed and then sent off to do their routes. There is a new seasonal who will be starting on May 31st, this will complete the 6 required seasonal positions but we are still looking for a seventh as this will help the workload in the field.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR MAY 26, 2022 AT 4:00 PM VIA ZOOM:**

Special Meeting has been scheduled for May 12, 2022 at 4:00 PM via Zoom.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES COMMENTS:** Trustee Hofbauer prompted the confirmation of the Special Board Meetings, please note and set aside the time and date for 5/12/22, 7/5/22 and 7/13/22 at 4 p.m. for the special meetings

**ITEMS NOT ON THE POSTED AGENDA:** None.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business to come before the Board, President Manning adjourned the meeting at 4:57 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted: Approved:

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John Manning Elvie Ancheta

Board President Board Secretary