**ANTELOPE VALLEY MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT**

**455th MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**42624 6TH STREET EAST, LANCASTER, CALIFORNIA 93535**

**(661) 942-2917**

**JANUARY 25, 2024**

**4:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

**TRUSTEES PRESENT**: Elvie Ancheta, David Gantenbein, Tierney Smith-Woods, Cado Dhinsa and Cei Kratz.

**TRUSTEES ABSENT**: None.

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

**OPENING**: Vice President Gantenbein called the meeting to order at 4:00 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.

**INTRODUCTION OF NEWLY APPOINTED BOARD MEMBER FROM THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CEI KRATZ**

Cei Kratz has worked with the district in the past as the District Manager (21 years), therefore she brings an in-depth knowledge to the board.

**APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 7, 2023 MEETING MINUTES**

With the correction to President Manning leading the meeting, Trustee Ancheta moved to approve the Minutes. Trustee Smith-Woods seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER EFT’S AND WARRANTS FOR A TOTAL OF $71,290.84, AND OF DECEMBER EFT’S AND WARRANTS FOR A TOTAL OF $151,671.80**

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

**APPROVAL OF REQUISITION NO. 1748 FOR A TOTAL OF $75,000.00**

Trustee Gantenbein moved to approve the Requisitions. Trustee Dhinsa seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**ELECTION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEE OFFICERS**

Trustee Kratz moved to approve the new positions as named: Trustee Gantenbein as

President, Trustee Ancheta as Vice President, Trustee Dhinsa as Secretary, and Trustee Smith-Woods as Treasurer. Trustee Smith-Woods seconds the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**DISTRICT MANAGERS MONTHLY REPORT**

Firstly, Leann opens her report with an update on the accident that involved one of our trucks. Trustee Dhinsa is still stepping back from this issue due to the conflict of interest. Our insurance was able to give the district $18,000 due to the truck being totaled with a quote of $4,000 to salvage the truck once the case has closed. SDRMA did say that when it comes time to salvage, if the salvage company does not give us the quoted amount, that they will cover the difference. Up until recently, there was very little movement in the case but we did finally receive a third party claim form from the other party, which we were able to forward to our insurance so that they could now move the case closer to conclusion. The police report was sent to us recently as well, and we were listed as at fault for the accident; while speaking with our insurance representative, she was unable to say if this would affect our premium or not. Secondly, due to there being no need to replace the truck (since the district has 7 other vehicles not in use due to short staffing), Leann brought up the potential of using that additional money as a merit raise for the district employees. In the past the board has mentioned giving the staff a raise for all the work that has been loaded onto them, Leann saw this as an opportunity to see this through with the additional funds and the Prop 218 debt already being paid off in December. The board is open to this but has requested an impact report be presented to them next board meeting so that they can make a motion to accept or deny this request. The board feels that if the budget can support this, it is a well-deserved raise due to the additional workload that was given due to lack of funding for seasonal technicians. Lastly, Leann has had little to no contact with the cities or county about the proposed contract for additional funds that was sent to them in December. The only one who reached out was a representative from Lancaster, and they only asked about replacing the board and nothing on whether the contract would work for them. This has just confirmed that the city views the district as being mismanaged and not simply having difficulty operating on a 2005 budget, regardless of all the material and proof that has been sent to them showing otherwise. The board feels that at this point the district continues as it has, the debt has been paid off and the district can continue operating at a lower output as it saves to run another Prop 218. In the past the county has shown interest in helping the district as much as they possibly can, they only have a hard time finding where they can draw the money from; they have expressed in the past that they could help with Outreach once the time comes for another Proposition 218. We are hoping that when it comes time, the cities follow the counties lead and assist in helping us better the district.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 22, 2024 AT 4:00 PM, WILL BE HELD IN-PERSON AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE.**

No further comment.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES COMMENTS:** None

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

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

Respectfully Submitted: Approved:

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Cado Dhinsa David Gantenbein

Board Secretary Board President