**ANTELOPE VALLEY MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT**

**456th MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

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

**(661) 942-2917**

**FEBRUARY 22, 2024**

**4:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

**TRUSTEES PRESENT**: Elvie Ancheta, David Gantenbein,, Cado Dhinsa and Cei Kratz.

**TRUSTEES ABSENT**: Tierney Smith-Woods.

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

**OPENING**: President Gantenbein 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 JANUARY 25, 2023 MEETING MINUTES**

Trustee Kratz moved to approve the Minutes. Trustee Dhinsa seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF JANUARY EFT’S AND WARRANTS FOR A TOTAL OF $94,437.20.**

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

**APPROVAL OF REQUISITION NO. 1749 FOR A TOTAL OF $75,000.00**

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

**APPROVAL OF MERIT INCREASES FOR DISTRICT STAFF**

Trustee Kratz moved to approve the 3% Merit Increase. Trustee Dhinsa seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**DISTRICT MANAGERS MONTHLY REPORT**

Firstly, Leann Verdick goes over the upcoming seasons plans. After sitting down and speaking with the staff to discuss the previous season, it was concluded that the original plan to stick to public water sources while keeping house calls to a minimum worked. Both Demian and Zach felt that they were able to do their larger routes with little to no problems, the only issue that made things difficult are the service requests. We in the office do maintain a reasonable expectation on the turnaround time and convey this message to the callers when making the service request. Unfortunately due to budget and the nature of the invasive Aedes mosquito, we will continue to make them a lower priority as they tend to be in areas that we do not have access to, nor do we have the manpower needed to have any impact on their growth. Due to lack of field personnel, we do have many trucks and jeeps being unused. This has brought up the discussion of possibly selling the units before they either cost too much to make operational or are worth little to any buyer due to the work needing to be done. This topic will be revisited once more information has been procured and office discussion has been made. Secondly, Leann, Brenna and Elvie were able to attend the CSDA local chapter meeting on February 21st, Kathryn Barger was the guest speaker. As always, a lot of information was given and talk of finding a sponsor who deals with grants was brought up. This would greatly benefit all of the members, as special districts are constantly overlooked until they are needed, and when needed, most budgets are typically a huge obstacle. Lastly, Leann has heard nothing from the cities or county about additional funding. The last correspondence from the district was the potential contract for all parties, mapping out what we are hoping and willing to do for financial assistance. There was no response from anyone this was sent to. After discussion with the board, it has been decided that we will retain all correspondence (mainly emails) regarding this issue from all parties involved (City of Lancaster, City of Palmdale, LA County, AVMVCD attorney) if anything arises in the future.

**CLOSED SESSION – PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION – TITLE: DISTRICT MANAGER. RENEGOTIATE CONTRACT: 7/1/21 – 7/1/23. PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957.7**

Trustee Gantenbein moved to approve the Closed Session. Trustee Kratz seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. All comments have been closed to public.

**RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION AND PROVIDE DISCLOSURE IF ANY ACTION TAKEN IS REQUIRED BY SECTION 54957.1**

Trustee Gantenbein moved to approve the Reconvening into Open Session. Trustee Ancheta seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The board believes that Leann has done excellent work and has approved an 8% raise, the contract will be renewed, updated and approved at the next board meeting.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 28, 2024 AT 4:00 PM**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES COMMENTS:** None

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

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business to come before the Board, President Gantenbein adjourned the meeting at 5:27 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted: Approved:

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Cado Dhinsa David Gantenbein

Board Secretary Board President