#### **MINUTES**

# 1092<sup>nd</sup> MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE ALAMEDA COUNTY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT

July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021

TIME: 5:00 P.M.

PLACE: Zoom Teleconference Only

TRUSTEES: P. Robert Beatty, President, City of Berkeley

Subru Bhat, Secretary, City of Union City

Cathy Roache, County-at-Large
Wendi Poulson, City of Alameda
Preston Jordan, City of Albany
Shawn Kumagai, City of Dublin
City of Emeryville, vacant
George Young, City of Fremont
Elisa Marquez, City of Hayward
Steven Cox, City of Livermore
Eric Hentschke, City of Newark
Jan O. Washburn, City of Oakland
Andrew Mingst, City of Piedmont

Julie Testa, City of Pleasanton Victor Aguilar, City of San Leandro

- 1. Board President Beatty called the regularly scheduled board meeting to order at 5:01 P.M.
- 2. Trustees Beatty, Bhat, Roache, Jordan, Kumagai, Young, Marquez, Cox, Hentschke, Washburn, Mingst, Testa and Aguilar were present on the Zoom conference. Trustee Poulson was absent.
- Board President Beatty invited members of the public to speak on any issue relevant to the District. Information Technology Director Robert Ferdan was present for technical support. Field Operations Supervisor Joseph Huston was present to give a presentation on mosquito control products. Vector Biologist Jeremy Sette was present to record the minutes. No public comments were submitted.
- 4. Approval of the minutes of the 1091st meeting held June 9th, 2021.

**Motion:** Trustee Hentschke moved to approve the minutes.

Second: Trustee Aguilar

Vote: motion carries: unanimous. Trustee Jordan abstained.

5. Appointment of a committee to nominate candidates for vacant District Officers.

#### Discussion:

President Beatty explained that former Emeryville Trustee Cooley had resigned, and new Board Officers would need to be nominated by a committee for election at a later meeting. Trustees Hentschke, Marquez and Kumagai were nominated to become the nominating committee, which they agreed.

**Motion:** Trustee Testa moved to nominate Trustees Hentschke, Marquez and Kumagai to

the nominating committee

Second: Trustee Washburn

Vote: motion carries: unanimous.

6. Nominating Committee nominates a slate of District Board Officers for Board approval. **Discussion:** 

President Beatty explained that the next Board Officers in line for Officer positions would be Trustees Bhat and Aguilar. President Beatty suggested that formalizing an existing tradition via policy regarding choosing new Officers may be beneficial. The General Manager explained traditions and policies regarding choosing new Board Officers and will propose these changes along with other policy updates at a later meeting. President Beatty brought to the Board's attention the list of future Board officers. Trustee Jordan mentioned the City of Albany's tradition and policy related to this issue and was also in favor of a policy addition while also asking what the role of the Secretary and Vice-President are (reviewing and signing Board documents, backing up the President, respectively). The General Manager asked if Trustee Roache was the attendee calling in from an unlisted telephone number (yes). Trustee Cox asked how longevity affects becoming an officer (it depends on the longevity of the Trustees preceding them). Trustee Hentschke asked if there would be a motion on a Board Officer selection policy change (President Beatty noted that it was only under discussion at this point and that the Policy Committee could address the issue at a later meeting). President Beatty asked who was on the current Policy Committee (Trustee Bhat and Marquez noted they were members of the Committee) and noted that he was interested in joining. Trustee Kumagai agreed with the District's tradition and asked if the upcoming members were comfortable in accepting the nominations. Trustees Bhat and Aguilar both commented that they were comfortable with moving into the Officer positions. The General Manager thanked the Board for their patience with these changes.

**Motion:** Trustee Roache moved to approve Trustees Bhat and Aguilar as nominees for Board Vice-President and Secretary, respectively

**Second:** Trustee Washburn **Vote:** motion carries: unanimous.

7. Presentation on mosquito control products by Field Operations Supervisor Joseph Huston. **Discussion:** 

The General Manager introduced Field Operations Supervisor Joseph Huston who gave a presentation on mosquito control products and fielded the following discussion. President Beatty asked about the benefits of mixing Bti with Bs (Bti will essentially act as the quick kill/ knockdown component with a short residual, whereas Bs has a longer residual for a later kill). Trustee Jordan asked a question in the group chat at 5:40 P.M. "Do the bacteria remain inert in the environment or do they 'wake up' and commence reproducing? Extending their effectiveness?" (Bti is a derivative that is removed from the environment quickly, whereas Bs may be recycled for a longer residual for extended mortality, and both are affected by UV light and other variables effecting their efficacy and longevity). Trustee Washburn commented on the excellent explanation by Huston and added an explanation of Bs's mode of action. Trustee Jordan also asked in the group chat at 5:45 P.M. "Nice. To confirm, Bs. becomes a living agent and Bti is essentially a chemical. Is Spinosad a live agent Bs or a bio-produced chemical?" (Bti is a spore, Bs can reproduce, and spinosad is a by-product and derivative of a bacterium). Trustee Jordan asked for clarification on Bs's mode of action (when it is ingested by larvae who in turn die, the by-product is still in the environment for a limited time to be ingested by other larvae). Trustee Washburn claimed that Bs does reproduce in the wild but disappears guickly. Trustee Jordan commented that it would be

great to have a product that did reproduce more in the environment for increased control. Trustee Bhat mentioned in the group chat at 5:56 P.M. "Joseph keeps saying 'FDA Approved'. I don't think the FDA approves pesticides. It must be the EPA approval he is talking about". Huston clarified that he meant EPA, not FDA and Trustee Bhat added in the group chat "Excellent presentation, Joseph. Many thanks". President Beatty added to the group chat at 5:56 P.M. "Agreed!! Thank you, Joseph!" Trustee Hentschke said in the group chat at 6:00 P.M. "Thanks you, Joseph! It's nice to be able to explain our strategy with the public!" Trustee Mingst added at 6:00 P.M. "Clear and concise, thanks". Trustee Jordan added to the group chat at 6:01 P.M. "That was great! I feel prepared to answer those questions President Beatty has mentioned". Trustee Washburn additionally added at 6:01 P.M. "Excellent presentation, Joseph. Many thanks". Trustee Jordan asked how the IGR's are engineered (chemical process that mimics a juvenile insect hormone). Trustee Washburn mentioned the active ingredient, Methoprene, how there are different juvenile hormones, and that IGR's are a good rational approach to the mosquito problem. Trustee Roache gave a background of her agency's relation to regulate pesticide applications and commended the District's management and field employees for their great work in abiding by the pesticide laws and regulations.

8. Financial Reports as of June 30th, 2021.

#### Discussion:

The General Manager presented the Financial Reports as of June 30th, 2021.

9. Presentation of the Monthly Staff Report.

### Discussion:

The General Manager turned it over to Field Operations Supervisor Joseph Huston who gave the Operations Report. Trustee Jordan asked in the group chat at 6:08 P.M. "What processes are used to identify the pools for noticing". Huston answered that private pilots have been hired since around 2007 to take aerial imagery in identifying unmaintained swimming pools. The General Manager noted that per District policy, drones will not be used to fly over homes and noted that the unmaintained swimming pool process will be explained in more depth at a future meeting. Trustee Jordan added in the group chat at 6:10 P.M. "Got it on the drone usage. Excellent on application of deep learning image processing". The General Manager noted that the law firm contract payment was for reviewing a multi-agency payment contract for environmental consulting and noted a typo on the letterhead that he will update. Trustee Jordan asked in the group chat at 6:16 P.M. "What is the treatment approach for a water body the size of Del Valle that stores water destined for potable? Seems a challenge". Huston answered that most of the lake is open water and filled with fish, so there is not much mosquito habitat; however, when the water rises into a few inlets that are conducive to mosquito breeding, a mosquito in that area, Aedes vexans, moves through their life cycle quickly and can be difficult to predict and control.

10. Presentation of the Manager's Report.

#### Discussion:

The General Manager presented the Manager's Report and fielded the following discussion. The General Manager congratulated Field Operations Supervisor Joseph Huston on thirty years of service, relayed his appreciation for his service, his excellent representation of District values, and presented him with the District's 30 year anniversary golden pin. The Board thanked Huston and congratulated him. The General Manager asked if any Trustee is interested in the annual conference to let him know.

- 11. Board President Beatty asked for reports on conferences and seminars attended by Trustees. None.
- 12. Board President Beatty asked for announcements from the Board. None.
- 13. Board President Beatty asked trustees for items to be added to the agenda for the next Board meeting. The General Manager noted that the Board Officer elections will occur in August and that he would be working with an attorney to present on mosquito abatement legal procedures. President Beatty asked if the election would be to elect those nominated before (The General Manager answered, yes). Trustee Jordan asked if the cemetery project would be brought up at a future meeting (The General Manager answered, yes).

DocuSianed by:

Victor Aguilar

Victor Aguilar, Secretary BOARD OF TRUSTEES

14. The meeting adjourned at 6:38 P.M.

## Respectfully submitted,

Approved as written and/or corrected at the 1093<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Board of Trustees held August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021

P. Robert Beatty, President BOARD OF TRUSTEES