

**GREATER LOS ANGELES COUNTY VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT  
MINUTES NO. 2019-12**

The meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District was held at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 12, 2019, at the District office at 12545 Florence Avenue, Santa Fe Springs, California.

**TRUSTEES PRESENT**

Melissa Ramoso, *City of Artesia*  
Ali Saleh, *City of Bell*  
Pedro Aceituno, *City of Bell Gardens*  
Sonny R. Santa Ines, *City of Bellflower*  
Dr. Jeff D. Wassem, *City of Burbank*  
Mark W. Bollman, *City of Cerritos*  
Baru Sanchez, *City of Cudahy*  
Steve Tye, *City of Diamond Bar*  
Dan Medina, *City of Gardena*  
Luis Roa, *City of Hawaiian Gardens*  
Leonard Pieroni, *City of La Cañada Flintridge*  
Catherine Houwen, *City of La Habra Heights*  
Larry P. Mowles, *City of La Mirada*  
Steve Croft, *City of Lakewood*  
Salvador Alatorre, *City of Lynwood*  
Emily Holman, *City of Long Beach*  
Steve Appleton, *City of Los Angeles*  
Steven A. Goldsworthy, *Los Angeles County*\*7:08  
Avik Cordeiro, *City of Montebello*\*7:06  
Leonard Shryock, *City of Norwalk*  
Raul Elias, *City of Pico Rivera*  
Jesse H. Avila, *City of San Fernando*  
Scott T. Kwong, *City of San Marino*  
Heidi Heinrich, *City of Santa Clarita*  
Robert D. Copeland, *City of Signal Hill*\*7:32  
Denise Diaz, *City of South Gate*

**TRUSTEES ABSENT**

Elito D. Santarina, *City of Carson*  
Leonard Mendoza, *City of Commerce*  
Jerry Walton, *City of Glendale*  
Marilyn Sanabria, *City of Huntington Park*  
Ricardo Lara, *City of Maywood*  
Dr. Tom Hansen, *City of Paramount*  
Jay Sarno, *City of Santa Fe Springs*  
Hector Delgado, *City of South El Monte*

**TRUSTEES ABSENT (EXCUSED)**

Robert Kiefer, *City of Downey*  
Josué Alvarado, *City of Whittier*

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Truc Dever, *General Manager*  
Mark Daniel, *Director of Operations*  
Susanne Klueh, *Director of Sci-Tech Services*  
Mary-Joy Coburn, *Director of Community Affairs*  
Richard Knott, *Director of Human Resources*  
Carolyn Weeks, *Director of Fiscal Operations*  
Anais Medina Diaz, *Public Information Officer*  
Fernando Martinez, *Facilities and Fleet Maintenance Supervisor*  
Quinn M. Barrow, *Legal Counsel*

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

1. **CALL TO ORDER**  
President Sanchez called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM
2. **QUORUM (ROLL) CALL**  
Following roll call, it was recorded that 23 Trustees were present and 13 were absent. Three Trustees arrived after roll call.
3. **INVOCATION**  
Trustee Roa gave the invocation.
4. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**  
Trustee Kwong led the pledge of allegiance.
5. **CORRESPONDENCE**

NONE

6. **INTRODUCTIONS**

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

General Manager Dever introduced Dr. Stephen Dobson, the meeting's speaker on Wolbachia, and Outreach Assistant Liliana Moreno and Community Liaison Caroline Gongora who attended the meeting to see Dr. Dobson's presentation.

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 2019-11** of regular Board Meeting held November 14, 2019. ***(EXHIBIT A)***

8.2 Consideration of **Resolution 2019-18** authorizing payment of attached requisition November 1, 2019 through November 31, 2019. ***(EXHIBIT B)***

8.3 Consideration of **Resolution 2019-19** approving contract amendments between the District and Joan Stein Jenkins, Esquire for Administrative Hearing Officer services. ***(EXHIBIT C)***

*Summary: Last year, as part of our Nuisance Abatement Procedures, the District entered into agreements for administrative hearing officer services with Joan Stein Jenkins, Esq. This resolution seeks to extend the terms of the agreements for one additional year.*

8.4 Consideration of one (1) County of Los Angeles Negotiated Tax Exchange Resolution (NTER), related to the annexation of Project Parcel Map. 73610. 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 territories identified in the resolutions to provide revenue to the County Lighting Maintenance Districts (CLMDs) 1687. A copy of the letter from the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works requesting this resolution is attached. ***(EXHIBIT D)***

*Analysis: The NTER from the County of Los Angeles is similar to previous L.A. County tax sharing resolutions and seeks to generate revenue to partially fund the services of CLMD 1687. Similar resolutions have previously been adopted by the Board. These Petitions relate to funding for the operation and maintenance of street lighting services provided within the annexed territory. 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.*

**Trustee Croft made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Trustee Alatorre and approved unanimously.**

**9. PRESENTATION ON WOLBACHIA-INFECTED MALE MOSQUITO RELEASES FOR AEDES CONTROL**

*Summary: Stephen Dobson, PhD, CEO MosquitoMate, presented on his proposal for a Wolbachia release collaboration in Southern California. This is a new technology to mitigate invasive Aedes populations and the risks of arbovirus transmission.*

Dr. Dobson gave a presentation on the state of the *Aedes* mosquito infestation in the District, the District's current control efforts, and the potential use of the Wolbachia technology to combat these mosquitoes. Dr. Dobson provided background information on the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito, how they are critical components in disease transmission, and how the Wolbachia technology can help decrease their population. He highlighted that there is no genetic modification since Wolbachia is a naturally-occurring bacterium that causes sterility in mosquitoes. Male mosquitoes, which do not bite, are released to neighborhoods to mate with the local female mosquitoes, and the result are eggs that do not develop. MosquitoMate is collaborating with Verily, a Google company focused on mosquito rearing and sex separating, which can automate the rearing of millions of mosquitoes to help alleviate the costs. He provided data from the City of Clovis, where the release of male mosquitoes provided a 95% reduction in the *Aedes aegypti* population. The District is considering a multi-district collaboration to share the cost of \$1 million with the San Gabriel Valley MVCD and Orange County MVCD.

Trustee Santa Ines thanked Dr. Dobson for the comprehensive report, and asked about the average lifespan of mosquitoes and at what point the mosquitoes are separated by gender for the rearing process. Dr. Dobson explained that adult mosquitoes live for up to two weeks, while the eggs remain dormant for months. The pupal separation occurs 24 hours after becoming pupa, then the females are immediately removed within another 24 hours. Trustee Santa Ines followed up by asking which areas are likely to attract the released male mosquitoes, to which Dr. Dobson responded that male mosquitoes are likely to go where humans are.

Trustee Shryock referenced a chart showing a decrease in mosquito populations in the City of Clovis, and asked Dr. Dobson when would a district start seeing similar results. Dr. Dobson clarified that the Wolbachia technology prevents mosquito breeding, so a decrease in mosquito population will not show because breeding will not take place; the technology prevents the breeding. Trustee Shryock also asked about the ability for the technology to adapt to another mosquito species at a later time and Dr. Dobson explained that this is the advantage of having a local facility—it allows for flexibility.

Trustee Medina asked for a copy of the presentation which staff agreed to distribute. He also asked about the cost of another species of mosquito should they become an issue and Dr. Dobson explained that the cost of the program would vary depending on the need (ie., a minimal infestation of *Aedes albopictus* would cost less). Trustee Medina also asked about the ability to expand the rearing facility as needed and Dr. Dobson responded that erecting a facility closer to areas with the need for the technology would be more ideal.

Trustee Wassem asked how long it would take to expand 40 miles to the Santa Clarita area and Dr. Dobson answered that it depends on where the release is taking place. A farther release would take longer to get to a certain destination, whereas multiple releases can cover a larger area faster.

Trustee Goldsworthy asked how long it would take to implement the new technology, and Dr. Dobson said he hopes that the EPA will approve it in April 2020 and that GLACVCD would make the determination to move forward. After that, he would aim for deployment in April/May of 2021.

Trustee Cordeiro asked if the procedure for *Aedes albopictus* is the same as *Aedes aegypti*, and if the EPA approves one, they should also approve the other. Dr. Dobson said he hoped that would be the case. Trustee Cordeiro also asked if this procedure could be used for the *Culex* species, and if it's possible to eradicate all mosquitoes. Dr. Dobson said that there will always be mosquitoes, but this technology will be focusing on the biggest threats.

Trustee Holman asked what the longest sustained period of time was for the use of this technology. Dr. Dobson explained that the City of Clovis had three consecutive years of releases, and that over time, fewer mosquitoes were released in the previously treated areas. The results improved each year.

Trustee Heinrich asked if the infestation area in Los Angeles equated to approximately five square miles, as quoted. Director Klueh explained that the infestation area is much larger, but the treatment would cause a ripple effect; the same amount of mosquitoes and budget over time can cover more of the affected areas. Trustee Heinrich also asked if the mosquitoes could gain an immunity from the bacterium. Dr. Dobson said that in previous studies, there have been no evidence that there are resistant pockets that are not affected by Wolbachia. He confirmed that there is a possibility of using multiple strains of Wolbachia. Director Klueh also reported that the biggest concern would be the accidental release of female mosquitoes that could mate with the released male mosquitoes, thus eliminating the notion of incompatibility where the eggs become viable. Close monitoring of the process is vital to ensure that this doesn't happen.

Trustee Appleton asked who verifies the sorting and how it's verified. Dr. Dobson answered that there are strict manufacturing processes and regulations by the EPA and the state of California. The facility must be EPA-approved. Trustee Appleton also asked about the partnership and Dr. Dobson explained that the process and the resulting sterilization is covered by intellectual property rights of the University of Kentucky.

Trustee Shryock asked what Trustees should be doing in the meantime while waiting for approvals. Director Klueh answered that the [Districts are working together to help alleviate the burden on one District. They need to have a better assessment of the mosquito population to better determine a strategy. General Manager Dever also explained that a robust Public Relations campaign will need to be developed to better inform the residents about what to expect. A proposal will also need to be presented and an ample amount of time to prepare. The three Districts have had many discussions already, a Memorandum of Understanding must be developed, and more coordinating must take place. Trustee Shryock also asked if legislation might help the process. General Manager Dever mentioned that the Mosquito Control Association of California has created an Ad Hoc Committee to discuss *Aedes* funding and are actively working with legislators to put some appropriations aside to help for endeavors such as these. She asked that Trustees speak with their local legislators.

Trustee Sanchez mentioned that a trial run may be good to show legislators that these treatments work. He asked if the quoted cost for the five square miles also includes the facility costs. Dr. Dobson answered that the facility is included in the costs, and that it would be owned by MosquitoMate. Trustee Sanchez suggested that an Ad Hoc Committee be created to further discuss.

Trustee Appleton asked the Board to think about the primary mission to control vectors, and the most efficient way to do it. He suggested that the Board explore to what degree this is a joint venture, and how they can be independent.

Trustee Sanchez asked who is interested in being part of the Ad Hoc Committee and the following Trustees expressed their interest: Steve Croft, Catherine Houwen, Avik Cordeiro, Mark Bollman, Emily Holman, Heidi Heinrich, Steven Appleton, Dan Medina, and Leonard Shryock.

Trustee Sanchez wrapped up the discussion by mentioning that the MOU may need to be reconsidered since this is a purchase and he also thanked Dr. Dobson for his presentation.

10. **CONSIDERATION OF LAFCO REQUEST TO NOMINATE CANDIDATES TO SERVE AS SPECIAL DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE AND ALTERNATE (EXHIBIT E)**

*Summary: At the November meeting, the Board requested this item be revisited once interested individuals had a chance to research the position and election process. To be eligible, the nominee must be an elected official or appointed to the board for a fixed term. Nominations must be received no later than December 27, 2019 by 5:00pm.*

**Trustees Medina and Santa Ines expressed interest in applying for a nomination to serve as Special District Representative and/or alternate for the LAFCO Board.**

11. **CONSIDERATION OF 2 TRUSTEES TO ATTEND THE 86<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL AMERICAN MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION (AMCA) CONFERENCE IN PORTLAND, OREGON, MARCH 16-20, 2020. (EXHIBIT F)**

Trustees Heinrich and Appleton expressed interest in attending.

Trustee Roa is unable to attend MVCAC in January, and Trustee Medina will be taking his place.

12. **STAFF PROGRAM REPORTS: NOVEMBER 2019**

12.1 Manager's Report

T. Dever, General Manager

General Manager Dever wished everyone a happy holidays. A small cutting board was distributed to all Trustees as a small gift from the District. She also thanked Trustee Sal Alatorre for his years of dedicated service.

Trustee Alatorre expressed his thanks for being part of the group for the past six years. He is very impressed and thankful for his years of service on the Board.

12.2 Scientific-Technical: (Staff Report A)

S. Klueh, Sci-Tech Director

Director Klueh offered to answer any questions about her report.

12.3 Operations: (Staff Report B)

M. Daniel, Operations Dir.

Director Daniel thanked the Board for their support, and wished them happy holidays.

12.4 Community Affairs: (Staff Report C)

MJ. Coburn, Comm. Affairs Dir.

Director Coburn wished the Board happy holidays, and expressed looking forward to working with them in 2020.

Trustee Pieroni thanked Director Coburn for presenting at the City of La Canada Flintridge Council Meeting, and for Community Liaison Kuan for staffing a booth at the Mayor's Hike.

12.5 Fiscal: (Staff Report D)

C. Weeks, Finance Dir.

Director Weeks offered to answer any questions.

12.6 Human Resources: (Staff Report E)

R. Knott, Human Resources Dir.

Director Knott offered to answer any questions.

12.7 Legal Counsel Report

Q. Barros, Legal Counsel

Counsel Barrow wished everyone happy holidays.

13. **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 Sanchez thanked Trustee Alatorre for his service on the Board of GLACVCD.

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

The next Board of Trustees meeting will be scheduled on Thursday, January 9th, 2020 at 7:00 PM at the District's headquarters at 12545 Florence Avenue, Santa Fe Springs.

**President Sanchez adjourned the meeting at 8:16 PM.**