

DELANO MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

March 20, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

Trustee Art Armendariz called the meeting to order at 11:32 a.m. in the District Board Room.

ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Trustee's Present – Armendariz, Perales, Alexander, Nunez (arrived at 11:34 a.m.), Cano (joined at 11:41 a.m. - joined remotely from 1744 S Pearl St, Fresno, CA 93721)

Others Present – Thai Thao, Manager; Sergio Vega, Assistant Manager; Kristen Baker, Office Administrator, two members of the Public.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

The Flag Salute was led by Trustee Perales.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

Trustee Armendariz opened the floor to public communication. Two members of the public introduced themselves as Michael Cardenas and Lorain Cantu. There were no comments submitted on Zoom.

PRESENTATION

Trustee Armendariz opened the floor to Presentations. There were no Presentations.

CONSENT AGENDA

Trustee Armendariz proceeded to request approval of the district bills for the month of February, as well as minutes of the Regular Board of Trustees Meeting held on February 20, 2025. A motion was made by Trustee Perales, seconded by Trustee Alexander and a 4 – 0 – 1 roll call vote: Nunez Aye, Alexander Aye, Perales Aye, Armendariz Aye, Cano Absent; carried to approve the District bills in the amount of \$83,194.17 for February, and the Minutes of the Regular Board of Trustee Meeting of February 20, 2025.

INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

Under Item VII-A-1 Manager Report, the District Manager, Thai Thao, reported:

- a) Manager Thao participated in a California Special District Association (CSDA) Budget workshop on February 26th – 27th. The workshop was a great refresher as well as provided new knowledge and

resources into the budgeting process for Special Districts. Manager Thao also attended a CA CLASS Webinar on March 5th which provided information regarding economic updates and projections for this year's CA CLASS investment outlook.

- b) The Office Administrator and Manager Thao attended a CSDA webinar on Financing Strategies and Funding Options on February 18th and Leadership Lessons on February 21st as well as a California Public Records Request Webinar on March 4th.
- c) District RFP for Architectural/Engineering services was released and posted on March 3rd. RFPs and invitations to bid were also sent out to a couple Architectural/Engineering firms.
- d) Two Trustees, the Assistant Manager and Scientific Program Director attended the 91st annual American Mosquito Control Association (AMCA) Conference this year on March 3rd – 7th in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Staff reported the Conference helped clear questions regarding larvicide and adulticide assays. Talks also gave good ideas regarding getting the most out of limited resources, i.e. grid trapping for a more complete surveillance route.
- e) The District has purchased two AED machines for the District. First Aid and CPR training has been scheduled for March 26th at the Kern Mosquito and Vector Control District with John Holick from Valent Biosciences.
- f) Calibrations for Ultra Low Volume (ULV) Foggers have been scheduled for April 3rd with Clarke.
- g) Two replacement GX-160 spray motor and D30 pump units has been purchased for the District's spray trucks. In addition, spreader and hopper units have been purchased to be outfitted on District ATV's for the upcoming season.
- h) Manager Thao have been asked by the Mosquito and Vector Control Association (MVCAC) to speak at the MVCAC Spring meeting in Sacramento in regards to the FEMA public fund application process on March 24th.
- i) Routine Winter maintenance was continued in the Lab. 3D printing for the upcoming year has commenced. Dippers for the operational staff are being created, as well as components for the surveillance program. Inventory of the current lab supplies was completed, and ordering of products will begin in the upcoming days.
- j) The District will be closed on March 31st in observance of Cesar Chavez Day.

Under Item VII-A-2 Operation Report, the Assistant Manager, Sergio Vega, reported:

- a) Fish Holding Pool was cleaned to ensure optimal conditions of the Gambusia fish, used for controlling mosquito larvae.
- b) Restocked the Gambusia fish supply to ensure we have a sufficient supply for the season.
- c) Calibration of spray equipment including spray systems in spray trucks, hand cans, backpack sprayers, quads with boom systems, and granule backpack spreaders to ensure effective pesticide application along with safety and efficiency for the mosquito season.
- d) Safety Data Sheets (SDS) were completed to ensure all technicians are well informed about the pesticides used. The data sheets provide detailed information on safety, handling, and usage.
- e) Granule Spreader systems were installed on the District quads; the upgrade enhances the District's ability to distribute granular pesticides more effectively.
- f) Ongoing training continues with webinars, monthly safety meeting, and conferences.
- g) Public Relations posters are being created for upcoming public evens the District will attend.
- h) Field Equipment maintenance and repairs have been done to ensure reliability and effectiveness of the District's operations; the equipment consists of dippers, fish nets, pesticide containers, and treatment application tools.
- i) Early season field surveillance has begun to detect larvae presence and initiate treatments accordingly.
- j) The schedule for pesticide management and resistance control is being finalized, this is crucial for maintaining the effectiveness of the pesticides and preventing resistance in mosquitoes.

Under Item VII-A-3 Financial Report, the Office Administrator, Kristen Baker, reported:

- a) Monthly Financial Report was given comparing current numbers with the same period last year, and gave totals of all financial accounts.
- b) Dental and Vision Claims for the month were reported.
- c) Petty Cash detail was given; balance and activity.
- d) California CLASS income earned on deposit was reported.
- e) Employment applications were revised to reflect the new California law dealing with applicant driver's license information.
- f) Created Direct Deposit Authorization forms for new payees in QuickBooks.
- g) Attended webinars for annual updates on employment law, the Brown Act, Public Records and potential District Liability Issues.
- h) The District is now a member of CalChamber, after looking into a few sources for Human Resources materials, forms, wizards, and labor law. With CalChamber the District also has links for study materials in order to take a California approved Human Resources exam and be certified as a Professional in Human Resources – California (PHR-CA)
- i) Preparation for the 2025 Mosquito Season is in progress with the seasonal vehicle packets, uniforms, and Seasonal Technician supplies.
- j) Logs have been created for the 2025 season for radios, service and fish requests.
- k) Government Compensation Reporting has been completed and submitted for the District.
- l) Form 700's are almost complete, pending two Trustee forms.
- m) ADA Accessible websites are now requirements and have been looking into tools that may streamline the task to ensure our site materials are in compliance.

OLD BUSINESS

Under item VIII of Old Business, Trustee Armendariz opened the floor to Old Business. There was no Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

Under item IX-A of New Business, the District Manager asked the Board to discuss and review the proposed mid-year adjustment to the adopted Fiscal Year 2024/2025 – Fiscal Year 2025/2026 District two-year budget. The Manager explained adjustments are being asked for line items Public Relations, Equipment and Maintenance and Travel/Meeting within the Operations expenditure portion of the adopted budget. A Board Resolution for the budget amendments was prepared by the Manager and provided to the Board of Trustees in their packet. After much discussion, Trustee Nunez voiced that instead of making the proposed mid-year budget amendments, remaining funds from other Operation line items can be used to cover overages in the listed line items. Trustee Nunez mentioned this is what the City of Delano does. A Motion was made by Trustee Nunez, seconded by Trustee Perales and a 5 – 0 roll call vote: Alexander Aye, Cano Aye, Perales Aye, Nunez Aye, Armendariz Aye; unanimously carried to leave the District budget as is and transfer funds from remaining operation line items to current line items needing amendments and revisit in the future.

Under item IX-B of New Business, the Manager asked the Board to approve and ratify expenditures for the District Manager to attend the MVCAC Spring Meeting in Sacramento to give a presentation on March 24, 2025. Motion was made by Trustee Nunez, Seconded by Trustee Cano and a 5 – 0 roll call vote: Perales Aye,

Alexander Aye, Cano Aye, Nunez Aye, Armendariz Aye; unanimously carried to approve and ratify expenditures for the District Manager to attend the MVCAC Spring Meeting in Sacramento.

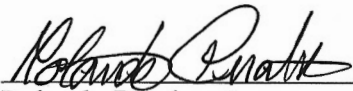
Under item IX-C of New Business the Board was asked to discuss any nomination interest for the CSDA Board of Directors, Seat B. After discussion, there was no nomination interest from the Board.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Under item XI Board Member Reports, Trustee Armendariz asked if there were any reports or announcements from members of the Board. Trustee Nunez reported on the AMCA conference he attended, along with Trustee Cano and two District employees; and reported candid conversation had with the Assistant Manager and Scientific Program Director regarding the District while at the conference. Trustee Nunez suggested the District look into the cost of a spray drone and program, cost of two new ATV's, VeeMac software's ability for daily reporting, fish tank restructure and potential of adding more funds into the District's CA CLASS account. Trustee Nunez asked if the District receives any kind of federal funding. Trustee Cano reported on the AMCA conference as well, and suggested electronic timekeeping software and possible vehicle wraps or QR Codes for District vehicles. Trustee Armendariz gave insight on the District wrap and believes it needs to be more attractive, colorful, when vehicle wraps and QR codes were discussed. Trustee Alexander asked about public outreach and the Assistant Manager let him know that the Scientific Program Director is in talks with one of the local high school science teachers.

ADJOURNMENT

Under item XI Adjournment, the date for the Regular Board Meeting was noted – April 17, 2025 at 11:30 a.m. at the District Office. Motion was made by Trustee Cano, Seconded by Trustee Perales and a 5 – 0 roll call vote: Alexander Aye, Nunez Aye, Perales Aye, Cano Aye, Armendariz Aye; carried to adjourn the meeting at 12:17 p.m.



Rolando Perales, Secretary of the Board