

DELANO MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

October 16, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

Trustee Art Armendariz called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. in the District Board Room.

ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Trustees Present – Armendariz, Alexander, Nunez, Perales

Trustees Absent – Cano

Others Present – Thai Thao, Manager; Sergio Vega, Assistant Manager; Kristen Baker, Office Administrator; Jennifer P. Thompson, Attorney from Lozano & Smith

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

The Flag Salute was led by Trustee Nunez.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

Trustee Armendariz opened the floor to public communication. There were no public comments at the district and 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 September, as well as minutes of the Regular Board of Trustees Meeting held on September 18, 2025. A motion was made by Trustee Nunez, seconded by Trustee Perales and a 4 – 0 – 1 roll call vote: Alexander Aye, Perales Aye, Nunez Aye, Armendariz Aye, Cano Absent; carried to approve the district bills in the amount of \$120,976.64, and the Minutes of the Regular Board of Trustee Meeting of September 18, 2025.

INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

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

End of Season letters were distributed to Seasonal staff. Staff appreciation lunch will take place on October 17th at El Puesto Restaurant in Delano. Sergio participated in the Delano Harvest Parade on October 4th. Jose and Thao tabled a booth at the Delano National Night Out on October 7th.

The Fall southern San Joaquin Valley Region (SSJVR) Regional Manager's Meeting will be held on October 24th at Delta Mosquito Vector Control District. Thao has been nominated as the next SSJVR Regional Representative. Votes will be finalized at the meeting and the new representative will start service in November. The Regional Representative sits on the Mosquito Vector Control Association of California Board (MVCAC) and is required to attend the MVCAC Board, quarterly and Planning Meetings.

Upcoming meetings include the MVCAC Fall Board meeting scheduled for October 29th as a virtual meeting. The MVCAC Planning meeting is scheduled for December 2nd – 4th in Visalia. Tulare Public Health MHOAC meeting on October 14th and a Kern Public Health Department Quarterly meeting on October 20th.

The Vector Control Continued Education (CE) live training is scheduled for November 5th at the Tulare Agriculture Center. District Full Time staff will attend to upkeep CE credits and maintain their state certification.

As of September 29th, Tuff Shed's permit specialist updated and mentioned the city is in the process of the plan check for the shed permit.

Thao met with the COO of WWCI on October 3rd in regards to clarifications of the building contract. The District's Legal Counsel Team is currently working on a contract for the district to present to WWCI. Thao will be taking intermittent CFRA/FMLA leave in mid-November possibly through January to help care/bond with his newborn.

Laboratory and Surveillance per Scientific Program Director, Javier Valdivias:

Routine mosquito surveillance continued through the months mid-September and mid-October. 28,387 mosquitoes were collected across 89 trap sets. The district-wide average during this period was 318.95 mosquitoes per trap night; an increase of 99.04% compared to last year's average of 160.24 mosquitoes per trap night. This increase is normal to see, as conditions such as temperature and habitat changes occur that force mosquitoes to fly closer into town. To date, 425 mosquito samples have been tested for arboviruses, of which 85 were positive for West Nile Virus. So far in 2025, there have been 2 WNV/SLEV/WEEV human cases reported to the district by the local public health department. There were 63 mosquito samples collected from August 11th to September 11th.

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

Following recent rainfall, the District completed multiple catch basin treatments across all serviced cities to address post-storm mosquito surges. The Highway 99 Storm House received its 4th seasonal treatment. *Aedes aegypti* door-to-door operations continued in both Delano and McFarland. Service requests increased significantly this month, and were responded to promptly. Regular urban and rural field surveillance remained active, with particular focus on high trap sites where mosquito counts were elevated, ensuring immediate treatment response. Weekly Monday trainings addressed field challenges and provided ongoing staff development opportunities. The District's monthly safety meeting focused on Eye Safety, Hearing Protection, and Safe Lifting Practices through SDRMA's safety program. These sessions reinforced proper field procedures, accident prevention, and overall workplace safety awareness. End of Season operations began, including full truck detailing, equipment inspections, and the mechanical issue corrective action checklist for winter repairs. Seasonal employee evaluations were completed to assess performance, identify growth areas,

and prepare for next season's operational readiness. The District finalized its Drone order and is awaiting assembly and shipment. Planning began for next year's operations with the Drone; including a designated truck and preparation for FAA Drone licensing. The first fully wrapped District vehicle has been completed successfully by SPD Printing. New misting spray systems were tested, calibrated, and deployed during door-to-door and service request operations; proving effectiveness and improved treatment coverage for residents. Due to the success, a second misting spray system has been purchased and added to the field fleet. Ongoing field surveillance identified multiple high activity WNV detection sites leading to immediate treatment and follow-up. New flight radius maps were developed to support response operations around high mosquito trap counts. The maps help technicians identify potential breeding sources based on species-specific flight distances, improving response accuracy and efficiency. Social media engagement continued with educational and interactive posts designed to inform residents about mosquito prevention. Sergio is working on new public outreach materials include pamphlets, posters, and tabling even displays.

Under Item VII-A-iii Financial Report, the Office Administrator, Kristen Baker, updated the Board with a Monthly Financial Report comparing September's current numbers with the same period last year, and gave totals of all financial accounts. 1 Dental and 2 Vision Claims for September were reported. Petty Cash detail was given; balance and activity with 1 use for September at The Home Depot. California CLASS income earned on deposit was reported. The Board was also given an update regarding the Kern County Auditor Controller's office continued work on processing property tax disbursements in their new system. Email from the County was distributed to the Board as there are no available reports for the new fiscal year, resulting in no revenues to report at the given time.

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 Board was asked to consider the District to join as early adopters of Nidus, a Mosquito Control Software, and authorize the District Manager to explore, negotiate, sign and manage agreement and any necessary documents needed to carryout adoption of Nidus. After much discussion on the software, a motion was made by Trustee Nunez, seconded by Trustee Perales and a 4 – 0 – 1 roll call vote: Alexander Naye, Perales Naye, Nunez Naye, Armendariz Naye, Cano Absent; carried to reject the District from joining as early adopters of the Mosquito Control Software, Nidus.

Under item IX-B of New Business, the District Manager asked the Board to authorize the District Manager to sign and renew the 2026 Cooperative Agreement with the California Department of Public Health. The Manager explained this agreement ensures the District can continue to apply pesticides for public health purposes for the 2026 calendar year. A motion was made by Trustee Nunez, seconded by Trustee Perales and a 4 – 0 – 1 roll call vote: Alexander Aye, Perales Aye, Nunez Aye, Armendariz Aye, Cano Absent; carried to approve District Manager to sign and renew the 2026 Cooperative Agreement with the California Department of Public Health.

Under item IX-C of New Business, the Board was asked to discuss cancelling the regular November 20, 2025 Board Meeting and authorize the Manager or his designee to pay routine and necessary claims, invoices, and bills prior to the next Board meeting. Following discussion, a motion was made by Trustee Nunez, seconded by

Trustee Perales and a 4 – 0 – 1 roll call vote: Alexander Aye, Perales Aye, Nunez Aye, Armendariz Aye, Cano Absent; carried to cancel the regular November 20, 2025 Board Meeting, along with the regular December 18, 2025 Board Meeting and call for a Special Board Meeting on December 4, 2025 at 11:30 a.m.

Under item X of New Business, AB 1234: Ethics Training, a motion was made by Trustee Nunez, seconded by Trustee Perales and a 4 – 0 – 1 roll call vote: Alexander Aye, Perales Aye, Nunez Aye, Armendariz Aye; carried to move the Ethics Training to after Adjournment.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Under item XI Board Member Reports, Trustee Armendariz asked if there were any reports or announcements from members of the Board. There were no Board Member reports.

ADJOURNMENT

Under item XII Adjournment, the date for the Special Board Meeting was noted – December 4, 2025 at 11:30 a.m. at the District Office. Motion was made by Trustee Nunez, seconded by Trustee Perales and a 4 – 0 – 1 roll call vote: Alexander Aye, Perales Aye, Nunez Aye, Armendariz Aye, Cano Absent; carried to adjourn the meeting at 11:59 a.m.



Rolando Perales, Secretary of the Board