

DELANO MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

August 21, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

Trustee Ricardo Cano called the meeting to order at 11:52 a.m. in the District Board Room.

ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Trustees Present – Armendariz, Cano, Nunez

Trustees Absent – Perales, Alexander

Others Present – Thai Thao, Manager; Sergio Vega, Assistant Manager; Kristen Baker, Office Administrator

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

The Flag Salute was led by Trustee Nunez.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

Trustee Cano opened the floor to public communication. There were no public comments at the District and no comments submitted on Zoom.

PRESENTATION

Trustee Cano opened the floor to Presentations. Presentations were given by Representatives from WWCI, 4CREEKS, Inc., PDS, Inc. and FB&E, Inc. for the District's Request for Proposal (RFP) for Design/Build of new storage building.

CONSENT AGENDA

Trustee Cano proceeded to request approval of the district bills for the month of July, as well as minutes of the Regular Board of Trustees Meeting held on July 17, 2025. A motion was made by Trustee Nunez, seconded by Trustee Armendariz and a 3 – 0 – 2 roll call vote: Armendariz Aye, Nunez Aye, Cano Aye, Alexander Absent, Perales Absent; carried to approve the District bills in the amount of \$144,276.24 for August, and the Minutes of the Regular Board of Trustee Meeting of July 17, 2025.

INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

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

On July 18, 2025, the District Manager attended the Southern San Joaquin Valley Region Managers quarterly meeting and on July 24, 2025, District Manager attended the Mosquito and Vector Control Association of California's Board Meeting. On July 23, 2025, the Office Administrator, Kristen Baker, and the District Manager met with the CalPERS pension team. On July 29, 2025, Assistant Manager, Sergio Vega, and the District Manager met with staff at VeeMAC to go over some of the matters the District was seeing after the recent update. The Manager and Office Administrator participated in a CalChamber training on California Compliance on August 14, 2025. The Manager updated the Board of the City of Delano requiring a permit for the larger shed, purchased at the end of June. The Manager has been working with Tuff Shed's permit specialist to prepare and finalize documents to get a permit for the District's 10'x 20' shed. The District has switched uniform providers from Mission Linen to Sparkle Uniform. The District has conducted a total of 20 ULV fog operations up to date this season compared to last year's 11 ULV fog operations for the same time period.

Laboratory and Surveillance per Scientific Program Director, Javier Valdivias:

Routine mosquito surveillance continued through the months of mid-June and mid-July. To date, 309 mosquito samples have been tested for arboviruses, of which 38 were positive for West Nile Virus. Technicians have continued to collect larval samples for both species identification and treatment efficacy evaluations. A total of 147 larval samples have been processed, with *Culex tarsalis* identified as the predominant species. So far in 2025, there have been 0 WNV/SLEV/WEEV human cases reported to the District by the Local Public Health Department. There were 167 mosquito samples collected from July 12 to August 13, 2025.

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

Larvicide and Adulticide operations were deployed in response to the West Nile Virus findings. The Assistant Manager also gave an evaluation of Drone Technology regarding pricing as well as operational effectiveness. Video and Audio content was submitted to the American Mosquito Control Association (AMCA) for the World Mosquito Day campaign. The second seasonal school drain treatments have been completed. Monthly rotational treatments were completed and included the municipal catch basins, Highway 99 stormwater houses, and Cogen plant facilities. Equipment maintenance and repairs were done on the Fogger unit, Quad clutch adjustment, and installation of a new larvicide oil pump valve system. Safety and compliance meetings were held with the monthly safety meeting and weekly tailgate meetings. Field surveillance and investigations were done to identify overlooked breeding sites and isolate high-risk areas requiring additional treatment.

Under Item VII-A-iii 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) The Office Administrator also updated the Board regarding the Kern County Auditor Controller's office new accounting and reporting system, and the fact that it is still being built so revenues are still not correct at this time; pending updates from the County. Email from the County was given to the Board.

OLD BUSINESS

Under item VIII-A of Old Business, the Assistant Manager provided a thorough description of pros and cons of submitted spray Drone models currently available. The District Manager asked the Board to set an allowance and approve the Manager to purchase a spray drone from the submitted drone models. After discussion of the submitted spray drone estimates, a motion was made by Trustee Nunez, seconded by Trustee Cano and a 3 – 0 – 2 roll call vote: Armendariz Aye, Cano Aye, Nunez Aye, Alexander Absent, Perales Absent; carried to approve purchase of Ares-HYL-150 drone, any necessary required items and optional items.

Under item VIII-B of Old Business, the District Manager asked the Board to consider the submitted estimates for District vehicle wraps from interested vendors. The Manager provided information gathered from vendor wrap services. After discussion, it was suggested to have five (5) District vehicles wrapped to start with. A motion was made by Trustee Nunez, seconded by Trustee Cano and a 3 – 0 – 2 roll call vote: Armendariz Aye, Cano Aye, Nunez Aye, Alexander Absent, Perales Absent; carried to select SPD Printing as the vendor to wrap 5 District vehicles.

NEW BUSINESS

Under item IX-A of New Business, the District Manager informed the Board that four proposals had been received and were included in the Board packet for review. The Manager asked the Board to review and discuss submissions received for the District's Request for Proposal (RFP) released and posted on June 27, 2025 for the Design/Build of storage shop. Trustee Nunez motioned, seconded by Trustee Cano and a 3 – 0 – 2 roll call vote: Armendariz Aye, Cano Aye, Nunez Aye, Alexander Absent, Perales Absent; carried to move the agenda item until the end of new businesses. Upon return to item IX-A of New Business, a discussion and review of the proposals were carried out. Following discussion and consideration, a motion was made by Trustee Cano, seconded by Trustee Nunez and a 3 – 0 – 2 roll call vote: Armendariz Aye, Nunez Aye, Cano Aye, Alexander Absent, Perales Absent; carried to approve the District Manager to award the project to WWCI.

Under item IX-B of New Business, the District Manager provided a cost break down for attendance and asked the Board to approve District Staff and Trustees to attend the 92nd American Mosquito Control Association (AMCA) Annual Conference on March 23 – 27, 2026 in Portland, Oregon. After discussion, a motion was made by Trustee Nunez, seconded by Trustee Cano and a 3 – 0 – 2 roll call vote: Armendariz Aye, Cano Aye, Nunez Aye, Alexander Absent, Perales Absent; carried to approve Assistant Manager, Sergio Vega, and any interested Board Members, Trustee Nunez yes, Trustee Cano potentially, to attend the 2026 AMCA Annual Conference held in Portland, OR on March 23 – 27, 2026.

Under item IX-C of New Business, the District Manager provided a cost break down for attendance and asked the Board to authorize District Manager, Jay Thao, Assistant Manager, Sergio Vega (contingent on AMCA attendance), Scientific Program Director, Javier Valdivias, two Mosquito Technicians and any interested Board Members to attend the 2026 Mosquito and Vector Control Association (MVCAC) annual conference held in Rancho Mirage, CA on February 1 – 3, 2026. After discussion, a motion was made by Trustee Nunez, seconded by Trustee Cano and a 3 – 0 – 2 roll call vote: Armendariz Aye, Cano Aye, Nunez Aye, Alexander Absent, Perales Absent; carried to authorize the Manager, the Scientific Director, two Mosquito Technicians, and Trustee Cano to attend the 2026 MVCAC Annual Conference.


Under item IX-D of New Business, the Board was asked to authorize Office Administrator, Kristen Baker, to attend the 2025 California Special District Association (CSDA) Board Clerk Conference held in Santa Rosa, CA on October 27 – 29, 2025. A cost breakdown of attendance was provided to the Board by the Manager. After review discussion, a motion was made by Trustee Nunez, seconded by Trustee Cano and a 3 – 0 – 2 roll call vote: Armendariz Aye, Cano Aye, Nunez Aye, Alexander Absent, Perales Absent; carried to approve the Office Administrator to attend the CSDA Board Clerk Conference held in Santa Rosa, CA on October 27 – 29, 2025.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

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

ADJOURNMENT

Under item XI Adjournment, the date for the Regular Board Meeting was noted – September 18, 2025 at 11:30 a.m. at the District Office. Motion was made by Trustee Nunez, seconded by Trustee Cano and a 3 – 0 – 2 roll call vote: Armendariz Aye, Cano Aye, Nunez Aye, Alexander Absent, Perales Absent; carried to adjourn the meeting at 1:54 p.m.



Rolando Perales, Secretary of the Board