

MINUTES

1103rd MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE ALAMEDA COUNTY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT

July 13th, 2022

TIME: 5:00 P.M.
PLACE: Hybrid Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Physically held at the Office of the District
23187 Connecticut Street, Hayward, CA 94545 and
Teleconferencing at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84465467124>
TRUSTEES: Subru Bhat, President, City of Union City
Victor Aguilar, Vice-President, City of San Leandro
Cathy Roache, Secretary, County-at-Large
Tyler Savage, City of Alameda
Preston Jordan, City of Albany
P. Robert Beatty, City of Berkeley
Shawn Kumagai, City of Dublin
Courtney Welch, City of Emeryville
George Young, City of Fremont
Elisa Márquez, City of Hayward
Steven Cox, City of Livermore
Eric Hentschke, City of Newark
Jan O. Washburn, City of Oakland
Hope Salzer, City of Piedmont
Julie Testa, City of Pleasanton

1. Board President Bhat called the regularly scheduled board meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.
2. Trustees Bhat, Aguilar, Roache, Savage, Jordan, Beatty, Kumagai, Márquez, Cox, Hentschke, Washburn, Salzer, and Testa were present on the Zoom conference. Trustee Welch was absent. Trustee Young arrived at 5:11 P.M.
3. Board President Bhat invited members of the public to speak on any issue relevant to the district. Public Outreach Coordinator Judith Pierce, MPH, was present to give a presentation titled *Education and Outreach Update*. Lab Director Eric Haas-Stapleton, PhD, was present to give a presentation titled *Will AI Brick the Entomologist...or change their roles substantially*. Information Technology Director Robert Ferdan was present for technical support. Vector Biologist Jeremy Sette was present to record the minutes. No public comments were submitted.
4. Approval of the minutes of the 1102nd meeting held June 8th, 2022.
Motion: Trustee Kumagai moved to approve the minutes
Second: Trustee Beatty
Vote: motion carries: unanimous. Trustee Savage abstained.

5. Presentation by Public Outreach Coordinator, Judith Pierce, MPH: *Education and Outreach Update*.

Discussion:

The General Manager introduced Public Outreach Coordinator, Judith Pierce, MPH, who gave a presentation titled *Education and Outreach Update* and fielded the following questions. Trustees Jordan and Salzer asked which school grades the curriculum was prepared for (official curriculum currently is for 3rd graders with her eventual goal to develop a mosquito-related comic book for 7th graders). Vice-President Aguilar commended Pierce on her presentation and the district's booth at the Alameda County Fair. Trustee Salzer was impressed with the presentation and asked if specific mosquito data was taken into account when determining schools to visit along with equity concerns (yes, socioeconomic and high-risk mosquito factors are used), what the ten different marks on the map indicated (each icon was related to classroom presentations and events) and which schools gave resistance to visits (no outright resistance, there were more issues related to capacity and contemporary testing). President Bhat asked how many cities had been visited so far (currently eight cities). Trustee Savage commended Pierce, along with Mark Weiland's participation at the 4th of July Parade in Alameda and asked if there was an attempt to leverage YouTube for educational purposes (at this point, YouTube is not being utilized). The General Manager explained different methods other mosquito control districts have used in using social media for outreach and education, including YouTube and how ACMAD has promoted these efforts. Secretary Roache gave kudos to Pierce and staff for the Alameda County Fair ACMAD booth. Pierce requested Trustees reach out to her via email if they have any further questions or have any ideas for future events that the district could participate in.

6. Presentation by Lab Director, Eric Haas-Stapleton, PhD: *Will AI Brick the Entomologist...or change their roles substantially?*

Discussion:

Lab Director Eric Haas-Stapleton, PhD, gave a presentation titled, *Will AI Brick the Entomologist...or change their roles substantially?* and fielded the following discussion. Trustee Beatty asked if the cost for the commercially available AI unit includes a service contract and asked how much the machine cost (service contract is part of the subscription). President Bhat asked if the AI machine would be owned by ACMAD (no, but the benefit of not owning the equipment is the improvements including having free and continued data updates). Trustee Jordan thanked Haas-Stapleton for his presentation, expressed his amazement of ACMAD's innovation, and asked how the AI identification accuracy would compare to an expert human (experts would likely not misclassify mosquitoes, but rare species are difficult for humans to identify by human eye and could currently be missed). President Bhat thanked Haas-Stapleton for an excellent presentation. Trustee Beatty asked if adult mosquito samples needed to be separated and flattened for the machine learning to be more accurate (yes and there are still improvements to be made). Trustee Jordan expressed concerns that the machine learning may misidentify invasive *Aedes* species (agreed). President Bhat asked if the district had published a paper related to the presentation (not yet).

7. Financial Reports as of June 30th, 2022.

Discussion:

The General Manager presented the Financial Reports and fielded the following discussion. Trustee Salzer asked for clarification on the GMC check (a new truck approved last summer). Trustee Jordan asked for clarification on timing of Leading Edge purchases (IT Director Robert Ferdan answered that the charges are related to the pool project) and the

Verseris purchase (a pesticide company). Trustee Salzer asked how reserves are allocated (reserves are dispersed per fiscal policy which is implemented by budgetary spreadsheet formulas) and asked if the district is considering reducing the carbon footprint regarding the new truck purchase (yes, ACMAD is looking into electric vehicles when available for our uses).

8. Presentation of the Monthly Staff Report.

Discussion:

The General Manager and the Lab Director gave the Monthly Staff Report and fielded the following discussion. Trustee Jordan explained his experience in monitoring wells and asked if there were any efforts in altering catch basin design (explained the challenges relating to catch basins) and expressed his willingness to talk offline about possible changes to catch basin design. Haas-Stapleton thanked Trustee Jordan for the idea and will follow-up offline. Trustee Jordan expressed his entertainment by the district's published paper title "*Mr Mister: Rockin' the Aedes of the San Francisco Bay Salt Marshes*".
Group Chat: Trustee Salzer added at 6:19 P.M. "Might be worth an A/B test?"

9. Presentation of the Manager's Report.

Discussion:

The General Manager presented the Manager's Report and fielded the following discussion. The General Manager recognized Field Operations Supervisor Joseph Huston, Lab Director Eric Haas-Stapleton, General Manager Ryan Clausnitzer, Information Technology Director Robert Ferdan, and Public Outreach Coordinator Judith Pierce for their service anniversaries of 31, 7, 7, 7, and 2 years, respectively.

10. Board President Bhat asked for reports on conferences and seminars attended by Trustees. None.

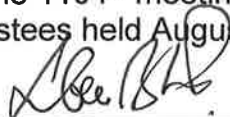
11. Board President Bhat asked for announcements from the Board. The General Manager gave credit to Vector Biologist Tom McMahon for his many years of district service and brought up the subsequent opening of the field technician position. President Bhat announced that he completed his term in the Alameda County Civil Grand Jury and explained his experience. Trustee Jordan thanked President Bhat for his service.

12. Board President Bhat asked trustees for items to be added to the agenda for the next Board meeting. The General Manager announced that there will be a presentation at the next Board meeting on the latest district's health equity study related to operational data.

13. The meeting adjourned at 6:44 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved as written and/or corrected
at the 1104th meeting of the Board of
Trustees held August 10th, 2022


Subru Bhat, President
BOARD OF TRUSTEES


Cathy Roache, Secretary
BOARD OF TRUSTEES