

MINUTES
1118th MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE ALAMEDA COUNTY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT
October 11th, 2023

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/86094737471>
TRUSTEES: Victor Aguilar, President, City of San Leandro
Cathy Roache, Vice-President, County-at-Large
City of Livermore, vacant
Tyler Savage, City of Alameda
Robin López, City of Albany: *from 1000 San Pablo Ave, Albany, CA*
P. Robert Beatty, City of Berkeley
Kashef Qaadri, City of Dublin: *from 100 Civic Plaza, Dublin CA*
Courtney Welch, City of Emeryville: *from 6301 Shellmound St, Emeryville, CA*
George Young, City of Fremont
George Syrop, City of Hayward
Eric Hentschke, City of Newark
Jan O. Washburn, City of Oakland
Hope Salzer, City of Piedmont: *from 76 Cambrian Ave, Piedmont, CA*
Valerie Arkin, City of Pleasanton: *from 3740 Newton Way, Pleasanton, CA*
Subru Bhat, City of Union City

1. Board President Aguilar called the regularly scheduled board meeting to order at 5:01 pm.
2. Trustees Aguilar, Roache, Savage, Beatty, Young, Syrop, Hentschke, Washburn, and Bhat were present in-person at the district. Trustees López, Qaadri, Salzer, and Arkin attended remotely from the publicly posted locations noted above. Trustee Welch logged remotely from the publicly posted location at 5:36 pm.
3. President Aguilar invited members of the public to speak on any issue relevant to the district. Financial & HR Specialist, Michelle Robles, was present for item 9 and item 10. Vector Biologist, Sarah Lawton, was present to record the minutes. Information & Technology Director, Robert Ferdan, was present for technical support.
4. Approval of the minutes of the 1117th meeting held September 13th, 2023.
Discussion: None
Motion: Trustee Washburn moved to approve the minutes
Second: Trustee Arkin
Vote: motion carries: unanimous
5. Ad-Hoc Nominating Committee nominates a slate of 2024 District Officers for Board approval.
Discussion: President Aguilar discussed the Ad-Hoc meeting that he attended along with Trustees Qaadri and Hentschke. The slate of officers proposed by the Ad-Hoc committee is as follows: Trustee Roache as President, Trustee Savage as Vice President, and Trustee Arkin as Secretary. Trustee Qaadri stated that they nominated Trustee Savage as Secretary for the remainder of this year, as the position is currently vacant.

Motion: Trustee Beatty moved to approve the slate of nominees

Second: Trustee Bhat

Vote: motion carries: unanimous

6. Election of Board Secretary for the remainder of 2023. Nominee: Tyler Savage.

Discussion: None.

Motion: Trustee Beatty moved to approve Trustee Savage as the Secretary for the remainder of the year.

Second: Trustee Washburn

Vote: motion carries: unanimous

7. Discussion of remote meeting attendance.

Discussion: Trustee Beatty asked for clarification on the twice per year allowance of attending remotely. (Allowed to attend two times per year remotely under AB 2449.) Trustee Arkin states that she always posts a sign outside of her home, but asked if she needs to be in a more public place now (the preference is to be in a public building, but a private home is acceptable). Trustee Beatty believes more productive work can get done in person, unless perhaps all attendees are on Zoom; he sees the need for Zoom only in an emergency. Trustee Roache agrees that in-person meetings allow for more interaction and value and does not feel there is much value gained from attendees that are on Zoom. Trustee Bhat says Union City is no longer allowing Zoom meetings. He thinks the best way to meet is in-person. He raised the question to the board: Is anyone against all in-person meetings? Trustee Arkin said yes because she has a work meeting every month right before this meeting and would likely not be able to make it on time to Hayward. She stated that she could more likely make it to the public City Council building in time, if necessary. Trustee Bhat does not feel we should be stretching the rules so much and we should require in-person meetings. President Aguilar believes that in special circumstances, remote attendance should be accepted. He stated that he also works a full-time job and has to use PTO in order to make it to each meeting. He pointed out that others cannot make it at all, and we should accommodate those people. He understands Trustee Bhat's opinion but thinks unless a legal issue arises, we should continue holding hybrid meetings. Trustee Beatty believes that traffic is no excuse for not attending in person. He pointed out that he lives far away, but still attends in person. Trustee Roache stated that she goes to many different meetings in many cities and that is just part of the job as a board member. Trustee Syrop feels that the mentality of "just because I suffer, everyone should have to" is an unhealthy one. He feels we should continue holding meetings as we are doing. Trustee Savage pointed out again that this is just informational, but perhaps we propose that for certain high-priority action-item meetings, Trustees should be highly encouraged to attend. Trustee Washburn agrees with Trustee Syrop and added "if it's not broken don't fix it." If there are obstacles for some members, we should accommodate everyone. He agrees more can be done in person but feels we have been operating well. Trustee Roache says the County is very much coming back in person, and asked the other members how their city's how holding meetings? Trustee Syrop said Hayward is 100% back in-person. He stated that members could attend remotely if needed, but they would likely not be re-elected the following term. President Aguilar said that San Leandro meetings are hybrid. Trustee Syrop mentioned that at Hayward's recent meeting they made the decision to tell the public that they reserve the right to mute and disconnect them if they are being inappropriate to prevent "Zoom bombing". Trustee Bhat concluded the discussion by adding his support to remote attendance when appropriate.

8. Update from the Ad-Hoc Strategic Planning Committee.

Discussion: Trustee Bhat summarized the meeting held along with Trustees Washburn, Beatty, Arkin, and Salzer. They discussed how the Board should measure the achievement of the goals. For example: some achievements are evaluated with a yes or no response, whereas other goals need to be quantified. They also discussed the districts response to emergency situations, and they are curious if it would be addressed in the strategic plan? He stated that they received the draft version of goals and then asked for revisions, which the General Manager gave. They wanted more clarifications about Erika Castillo's (Regulatory Affairs/Public Outreach) section. Trustee Washburn pointed out that, coincidentally, we are in the middle of a West Nile virus upsurge. There are emergency responses in place, but each situation is different depending on factors such as location, population, mosquito species, viral abundance etc. He discussed the question posed: How do we know the District is operating with "best practices"? He pointed out there was an EIR (Environmental Impact Report) done in combination with all mosquito districts in the area and we wanted Erika to explain. He stated that this document took years to compile, so we should talk to her for more information. He also addressed the question posed: How do we know district is spending funds responsibly? He pointed out that the District presented at the MVCAC conference about how much time/money has been saved in certain projects. He urged all Board members to attend because they would learn a lot about what is going on in the district. Trustee Salzer said they discussed how do we measure/quantify outcomes of the goals in the Strategic Plan.

9. Review of CalPERS June 30th, 2022, valuation reports.

Discussion: The General Manager and Michelle Robles, Financial & HR Specialist fielded the following conversation: Trustee Beatty asked about the funded status and asked for clarification about the 11.3% decrease in the fund's status. (Yes, that is the correct percentage for last year. The June 30th, 2021 valuation reported the fund status to be at 82.6% and the June 30, 2022 valuation reported the fund to be at 71.3% funded.) Trustee Beatty asked for clarification on if the funded status has gotten worse or better over one year. (The funded status has gone down.) Trustee Washburn stated CalPERS lost 26% in 2012 when the PEPR was initiated.

10. Financial Reports as of September 30th, 2023:

Discussion: Michelle Robles, Financial & HR Specialist, presented the financial report for September. Trustee Savage asked for clarification on what makes up the Professional Services budget item (legal, audit, actuarial, and HR services.) The General Manager states that next month we will discuss the OPEB fund. The General Manager asked Trustee Qaadri to confirm if all of his questions were answered regarding the balance sheet. (Yes, and he suggested sending this informational item to all Board members.)

11. Presentation of the Monthly Staff Report.

Discussion: The General Manager summarized staff reports. Trustee Hentschke said he is interested in attending the adulticide treatment tomorrow night. Trustee Syrop asked if the District has posted signs warning the public to wear long clothing and repellent etc. (Yes, we provided Coyote Hills staff signs which they must approve where to post.) He followed up by asking if the parks along the Hayward shoreline were contacted to post warning signs as well? (No because there has not much West Nile virus activity there.) Trustee Beatty asked for clarification on if all the dead birds in the graph were from this year or from just this month? (This whole year.) Trustee Hentschke asked if dead birds are reported just to the district or to the county too? (Both, but we are the only actionable agency, so reports are forwarded to us). Trustee Beatty was curious about why our District has way more positive birds, and the Central Valley has way more positive mosquitoes. (We have more suburban environments which house many more callers. If a bird dies in someone's yard, they are likely to report it. There tends to

not be many reports of dead birds in rural areas, mainly because many of the dead birds die in an area with no humans to observe and report it.)

12. Presentation of the Manager's Report

Discussion: Trustee Salzer asked if we know if the positive human cases are travel related or locally acquired. (If an individual has traveled outside of the state to a higher-risk area, they will not attribute it to our county.) She followed up by asking, so we do not really know for sure? (Human cases are considered a lagging-indicator of the virus. Positive mosquito pools provide the most location-accurate data because they do not fly far. Positive birds are the next most accurate.) Trustee Bhat said he is interested in attending the MVCAC. Trustee Qaadri asked if a link can be sent out for this event. (Yes.) President Aguilar said he is interested in attending the second day of the conference. The General Manager asked if anyone on this list is not interested in being a Board member anymore, to please let him know. Trustee Hentschke mentioned that he thought his appointment was for four years. (We will check on that for sure. We have to reach out to each city to discuss with them. The law requires two or four-year appointments).

13. Board President asks for reports on conferences and seminars attended by Trustees.

Discussion: None.

14. Board President asks for announcements from members of the Board.

Discussion: Trustee Young said it has been a pleasure to serve the Board for the last 10 years, and at the end of this year he is asking to resign from the Board. President Aguilar thanked him for his service.

15. Board President asks Trustees for items to be added to the agenda for the next Board meeting.

Discussion: The General Manager said the next meeting will include an OPEB discussion and a capital budget item discussion regarding the purchase of an updated database. The district updates the MOU every three years, and a salary survey is done each time, but due to a recent salary survey, he may be proposing some salary adjustments. He pointed out that Trustee Bhat is the only remaining board member from the previous MOU Committee. He reminded everyone to please mark calendars for December 13th at 3:00 pm. There will be an in-person only hour workshop to finish the Strategic Plan, followed by a Board group photo and dinner with ACMAD staff before the regularly scheduled Board meeting.

16. Adjournment at 6:24 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved as written and/or corrected
at the 1119th meeting of the Board of
Trustees held October 11th, 2023



Victor Aguilar, President
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Tyler Savage, Secretary
BOARD OF TRUSTEES