

ANTELOPE VALLEY MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT

363rd SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

42624 - 6TH STREET EAST, LANCASTER, CALIFORNIA 93535 (661) 942-2917

SEPTEMBER 17, 2015

4:00 P.M.

MINUTES

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Elvie Ancheta, Dana Coleman, John Manning, Dennis Persons

TRUSTEES ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Cei Kratz, Karen Mellor, Carolyn Etherton (consultant)

OPENING: President Persons called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and asked Trustee Coleman to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT: limit to 3 minutes:

An opportunity for members of the public to address the Board on items of interest that are within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction, and are not otherwise posted on the agenda. Alisha Semchuck from AV Press was present.

DISCUSSION OF THE RECENT INCREASE OF POSITIVE FINDINGS OF WNV TO THE SENTINEL CHICKEN FLOCKS IN THE ANTELOPE VALLEY. Although the counts have increased, the totals are well within "normal" ranges for the Antelope Valley for this time of year. The public is invited to attend to voice any concerns or questions that they may have on District activities.

Karen Mellor, District Entomologist, provided graphs to each board member and reported on each:

- Received confirmation of two positive mosquito pools today. We will send out a press release tomorrow regarding that and also include anything the board wishes from this special meeting.
- Graph of WNV positive chickens week by week for the last five years. This graph shows the main peak each year is in August and September.
- Graph of YTD comparison of WNV cases in the Antelope Valley. The number of WNV positive chickens is lower this year than the last few years at this time of year.
- Graphs of WNV cases in chickens, birds, mosquito pools, humans and fatalities season by season since 2009. This shows how the cases vary quite a bit from year to year. The variations are based on many factors including weather and human behavior.

- The Epidemiology Report that we receive every week from the Los Angeles County Public Health Department shows statistics and graph of WNV Infections. The numbers are lower in LA County this year compared to previous years. President Persons inquired if any health facilities are researching or close to developing a human vaccine for WNV. Karen Mellor explained that yes there are advances in this, although since a small amount of people are dying from WNV or even having symptoms, it comes down to a hard business decision of companies spending millions or billions of dollars on a vaccine that most people will probably not elect to get. Trustee Ancheta suggested we keep reiterating to the community what this district does to prevent and treat mosquito breeding and all of our efforts being done in the Antelope Valley.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Board, President Persons adjourned the meeting at 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Approved:

Dennis Persons
Board President