

Benton County Mosquito Control District

Meeting Minutes Regular Board Meeting August 23, 2021

I. Call to Order:

Board President, Cynthia Gray called to order the meeting of the Benton County Mosquito Control Board of Trustees at 7:00 PM on August 23, 2021.

II. Roll Call:

The following members were present: Richard Bloom, Marianne Boring, Cynthia Gray, Bill McKay, Bill Moore, and Thomas Groom. Excused: Kevin Christensen and Jake Mokler.

III. Approval of Minutes for the June 28, 2021 Regular Meeting:

Marianne Boring moved that the Regular Meeting Minutes from June 28, 2021 be approved as written. Motion was seconded by Richard Bloom. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Guest Agenda Items:

There were no guest agenda items to discuss.

V. Financial Report:

Angela Beehler, District Manager, presented the year-to-date financial report.

VI. Correspondence:

The Manager disseminated local newspaper articles mentioning District activities and a thank you letter from the West Richland Police Department for participating in West Richland National Night Out.

VII. Manager's Report:

Angela Beehler, District Manager, provided her report:

The Water Stargrass Eco-harvester has arrived. The Benton Franklin Conversation District plans to start utilizing the harvester in the Yakima River immediately.

Upon checking the Centers for Disease Control and Preventions' website for Washington state, 16 other counties are testing for West Nile virus, four other counties



have reported positive West Nile virus mosquito pools, and one other county reported a West Nile virus positive horse. Benton County has 27 positive mosquito pools and a reported case in an alpaca.

VIII. Old Business:

There was no old business to discuss.

IX. New Business: Draft 2022 Budget

The 2021 Budget is projected to have a carryover of \$800,000, which is on budget.

The District Manger recommended at least a 3% Cost of Living Adjustment based on the Consumer Price Index and Social Security Administration estimations for 2022.

The Board suggested increasing the control products line item due to the availability of supplies and shipping costs.

The District Manager suggested offering prorated benefits and a prolonged season for certain pre-authorized positions such as the Biologist and Unmanned Aircraft Systems, as well as \$1.00 pay increase for returning employees in 2022.

Other items in the draft 2022 budget include the 2nd treatment drone, two replacement vehicles, and repairing the parking lot.

X. Payment of Bills and Signing of Documents:

Following review by the Board, Thomas Groom moved and Richard Bloom seconded the motion to approve and sign warrant numbers 9207 through 9345, payroll direct deposits, and tax payments for a combined total of \$413,478.41. Motion carried unanimously.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote: Marianne Boring (Aye), Richard Bloom (Aye), Bill McKay (Aye), Bill Moore (Aye), and Thomas Groom (Aye).

XI. Adjournment:

Hearing no further business to come before the Board, Cynthia Gray adjourned the meeting at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:



Angela Beehler
District Manager



ATTEST: Cynthia Gray
Board President



ATTEST: Richard Bloom
Trustee