

Benton County Mosquito Control District

Meeting Minutes Special Board Meeting December 4, 2017

I. Call to order

President Gray called to order the special meeting of the Benton County Mosquito Control Board at 7:00 pm on December 4, 2017 at 4951 W Van Giesen Street, West Richland, WA.

II. Roll call

The following persons were present: Rudy Cortez, Thomas Groom, Joe Schiessl and Cynthia Gray. The following members were excused: Jake Mokler, Kevin Christensen, and Richard Bloom.

III. Public Hearing on the 2018 Assessment Rolls

President Gray opened the Public Hearing at 7:01 pm. No one from the public was present and no questions/comments by the Board were raised at this time; President Gray closed the Public Hearing at 7:02 pm, and reopened the special meeting at 7:03 PM.

IV. Financial Report

- a) Manager Angela Beehler provided an update to the status of the 2017 budget.

V. State Auditor's Report; 2014, 2015, 2016 Accountability Audit

- a) Manager Angela Beehler provided an explanation and summary to the State Auditor's Report. Draft report is available now; the finalized report will be sent out to the District Manager and all Board Members by the Auditor's office upon completion. Manager informed the Board that an Exit Meeting with representatives from the Auditor's office would occur at the W.R. facility on Thursday, December 7th at 3:30 pm and all Board members are invited to attend.

VI. Resolution 9-17: Resolution revoking and replacing Resolution 4-17, and classifying Benton County properties within the Benton County Mosquito Control District No. 1 for the purpose of the 2018 assessment roll

- a) The resolution was moved by Rudy Cortez and seconded by Thomas Groom. Joe Schiessl asked during discussion, for an explanation of the differences



between Resolutions 9-17 and 4-17. Manager Angela Beehler explained that Resolution 9-17 provided added clarity to how the benefit was derived.

1. Parcels within the District are classified as unimproved or improved by the County Assessor,
2. An unimproved parcel has been described by the Benton County Assessor's Office as raw land that has nothing added to it. An improved parcel is the land plus anything attached to the land, which includes all attachments, both above and below the ground. In other words, it is land that has been partially or fully developed for use.
3. Accurately assessing the specific benefit of mosquito abatement operations to individual properties is extremely difficult, highly subjective and prone to uncontrollable variables (e.g., weather or fluctuating river levels), and
4. Improved properties are assumed to be occupied, therefore they receive a greater benefit from mosquito abatement services due to the negative public health impacts mosquitoes can have on people and animals.
5. Unimproved parcels are assumed to be unoccupied and unused, therefore the benefit derived from mosquito abatement services for unimproved parcels is less than the benefit of improved parcels.
6. Improved properties larger than 0.25 acres often require resources above and beyond routine operations, such as aerial or truck-mounted spraying to prevent and control mosquito populations.

Motion passed with all in favor, none opposed.

VII. Resolution 10-17: revoking and replacing Resolution 7-17, and establishing the assessment method for Benton properties; collection and disposition of revenue

- a) The Resolution was moved by Thomas Groom and seconded by Rudy Cortez. Motion carried with all in favor, none opposed.

“It is hereby resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Benton County Mosquito Control District No. 1 that the 2018 assessment amount for mosquito control within Benton County shall be approximately \$ 1,473,111. Unimproved properties shall be assessed a flat rate of \$5.00 per parcel. Improved properties shall be charged \$40 per acre for the first 0.25 acres of land, and \$0.50 per acre for land over 0.25 acres. The remaining assessment amount will be equally divided amongst improved properties subject to the benefit assessment at a rate of approximately \$13.91 per parcel.”

VIII. Payment of Bills and Signing of Document

- a) After review by the Board, Thomas Groom moved that the warrant numbers 6597 to 6646, direct deposits, and taxes in the amount of \$69,379.45 be approved for payment. The motion was seconded by Rudy Cortez. The motion passed with the following roll call vote.

R. Cortez – Aye / T. Groom – Aye / J. Schiessl – Aye


IX. Adjournment

President Gray adjourned the meeting at 7:20 pm.

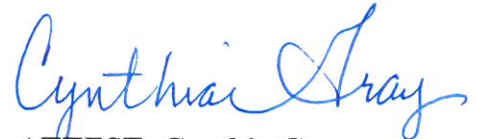
Respectfully Submitted:



Angela Beehler
District Manager



ATTEST: Rudy Cortez
Trustee



ATTEST: Cynthia Gray
President