

Churchill County Mosquito, Vector, and Noxious Weed Abatement District  
Board of Trustees  
Churchill County, Nevada  
7400 Reno Highway  
Fallon, NV 89406  
Meeting October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
OPEN MEETING SESSION

**1. Call to Order**

Chairwoman, Cynthia McGarrah called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Chairwoman, Cynthia McGarrah  
Vice Chairman, Marion Jonte  
Trustee, Richard Grondin  
Trustee, Barry Steward  
Trustee, Kim Turner

Legal Counsel, Joseph Sanford  
District Manager, Nancy Upham  
Assistant Manager, JD MacKay  
Board Secretary, Melania Sagi

**Public Present**

None

**2. Pledge of Allegiance:**

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. Public Comment:**

None

**4. Review and Adoption of the Agenda:**

Ms. Upham requested that the Agenda be adopted as is. Mr. Jonte made a motion to adopt the Agenda as is. Mr. Stewart seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**5. Discussion and Approval of Minutes from August 10, 2023:**

Ms. McGarrah requested a correction in the expenditures for the reimbursement amount of \$24,700.00 should be \$2,470.00. Mr. Jonte made a motion to approve the minutes with the suggested correction. Mr. Stewart seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**6. Certificate of Posting:**

Ms. Upham stated that the Agenda was posted in accordance with NRS.

## 7. Correspondence:

1. August 4, 2023, Liberty Pond Mosquito service request - Churchill County PIO.
2. August 4, 2023, California Arboviral Update.
3. August 15, 2023, Debt Management Committee submission.
4. August 18, 2023, Debt Management Committee – District Submission.
5. August 23, 2023, Property Appraisal for NPAIP. Mr. Jonte asked if Ms. Upham had received an estimate of the property's value. Mr. Sanford explained that the appraisal was for replacement cost, not the facility's value.
6. August 25, 2023, Upcoming NDA Funding for Noxious Weed Control. Ms. Upham is going to apply for funding from the Nevada Department of Agriculture for \$28,000.00 towards weed control.
7. September 6, 2023, Weed Concerns — Loreli LeBaron. This is the letter that the County sends out to private property owners for weed complaints.
8. September 6, 2023, Positive Mosquito Pools – Laura Morrow. Ms. Upham explained that there were two (2) positive mosquito pools. The technicians have concentrated treatment efforts on those areas.
9. September 11, 2023, Audit Information Request – Katie Dinneen.
10. September 13, 2023, Invasive Weed Funding – Jake Dick.
11. September 14, 2023, Weed Concern protocol – Loreli LeBaron. Ms. LeBaron wrote to Ms. Upham to explain what the protocol was when members of the public called in to complain about the weeds, either on their own property or on someone else's property.
12. September 14, 2023, GASB 75 Information request – Lori Watts.
13. September 20, 2023, Meeting on October 10, 2023, EDRR – Jake Dick. This was a meeting concerning the Emergency Detection Rapid Response for weed control in the state.
14. September 27, 2023, Streamline Breakdown – Zach Burkel. This is a company that specializes in Mosquito Control District website development.
15. September 28, 2023, Alhambra Water Purchase. Ms. Upham has installed a water cooler in the break room at the facility.
16. September 28, 2023, October EAP Resources – Alexandra Rosa. These are resources available to the employees.

## 8. Appointment:

None

## 9. Old Business:

1. Discussion regarding this season's climate reports. The Board members briefly discussed their experiences of this summer compared to their perceptions of past summers.
2. Discussion regarding birds and their competency in transmitting arboviruses. Ms. Upham explained that birds are amplifying hosts and are susceptible to infection early on. Finding viruses in the bird population first allows the District to focus their treatments and prevent the spread to horses or humans.

3. Discussion regarding diseases that are considered arboviruses more familiarly known as mosquito-borne illnesses. Most of the mosquito-borne illnesses have common symptoms such as headache, fever, joint pain, and nausea. Some mosquito-borne illnesses can cause encephalitis which is the swelling of the brain or even encephalomyelitis which is swelling of the brain stem, both very dangerous situations. Ms. Upham gave a brief description of each of the arboviruses and explained that most of the viruses are transmitted by the *Culex* mosquitoes.

Mr. Jonte asked if any of the viruses affected animals and humans from the same species of mosquito. Ms. Upham responded that every one of these is zoonotic, meaning they can be transmitted from animals to people.

4. Discussion and possible action regarding the in-house dry ice program with respect to the following points.
  - A. Cost
  - B. Liability
  - C. Viability
  - D. Safety
  - E. Storage
  - F. Repayment to Trustee Grondin

Ms. Upham provided the Board Members with a comparison of the District's total dry ice investment from 2022 with the current cost from 2023. When considering the purchase, travel, and technician compensation, the cost from 2022 was \$4,825. The cost of renting the tank, equipment setup, and trial and error tests for 2023 to date is \$3,465. Mr. Jonte asked if those savings would continue. Ms. Upham added that the District would return the tank for the off-season allowing for greater savings. She said that safety was not an issue as the equipment was well-ventilated and Mr. Grondin will need to be reimbursed for the scale he purchased for the District.

#### **10. New Business:**

None

#### **11. District Manager's Report and Operations Review:**

Ms. Upham said there was not much to report. The technicians are working hard using long-term larvicides. They have been truck fogging in the mornings and in the evenings when the weather allows.

#### **12. Board Member's Reports:**

Mr. Jonte asked Ms. Upham if the new technicians were up to the task of the increased water year this summer. Ms. Upham said that it seemed that this crew was more motivated and had a good handle on what was expected of them. Mr. Jonte asked if there were programs in place to retain these technicians. Ms. Upham responded that the compensation is greater than it has ever been, and they have health insurance. Mr. Jonte thanked Ms. Upham and Mr. MacKay for all that they do.

**13. Any Request for Future Agenda Items:**

None

**14. Expenditures:**

August 2023 Expenditures:

Payroll: \$50,878.95

Vendors: \$5,269.45

Total: \$56,148.40

September 2023 Expenditures:

Payroll: \$49,275.04

Vendors: \$2,297.75

Total: \$51,572.79

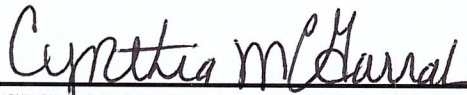
Mr. Steward made a motion to approve the August 2023 and September 2023 expenditures. Mr. Jonte seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**15. Public Comment:**

None

**16. Adjournment:**

Ms. McGarrah called the meeting to a close at 6:24 PM.



SIGNATURE:

Chairwoman or Vice Chairman

11-28-2023

DATE: