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# SACRAMENTO ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

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Laura Nickerson, Chair  
Stephanie Holstege, Vice  
Chair  
Christine Casey  
Dr. Anthony DeRiggi  
Richard Hunn  
Eugene Lee  
Thomas Malson  
Gage Marchini  
Jacqueline Todak  
Mark White

A JOINT COMMISSION APPOINTED BY:  
County of Sacramento  
City of Sacramento  
City of Isleton  
City of Folsom  
City of Galt  
City of Elk Grove

## **MINUTES**

Monday, April 15, 2024, 6 p.m.  
11080 White Rock Road, Suite 200  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Join by Zoomgov:

<https://saccounty-net.zoomgov.com/j/1608752767>

Meeting ID: 160 875 2767

## **ITEM**

1 Call to Order  
Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm.

2 Roll Call – Staff Secretary

Present: Laura Nickerson, Christine Casey, Dr. Anthony DeRiggi, Richard Hunn,  
Eugene Lee, Tom Malson, Gage Marchini, Jacqueline Todak, Mark White  
Absent: Stephanie Holstege

3 Introduction of Commissioners

4 Public Comment

\*Members of the public have three minutes to comment on each separate item  
including any matter not on the posted agenda.

No Public Comment

5 Sacramento Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District Update- Gary Goodman,  
Executive Director

The 1915 Mosquito Abatement Act is incorporated into the CA Health and Safety Code. Mosquitoes pose a threat to California's economic development and the health and wellbeing of the public. Many mosquitos carry diseases such as West Nile Virus (WNV), Dengue Fever, Malaria, Chikungunya, Zika Virus, Dog Heartworm. These are serious neuro invasive diseases with long term effects so eradicating mosquitos is

essential to public health. The Sacramento Yolo Mosquito & Vector Control District provides safe, effective, and economical mosquito and vector control by the surveillance of mosquitos and vectors to determine the threat of disease transmission while also lowering annoyance levels. They work closely with CDPH and UC Davis. When the District was initially formed, Malaria was the biggest public health threat, but it is now West Nile Virus.

Sacramento has approximately 1.4 million residents and Yolo has approximately 300,000 residents; meaning, urban centers are adjacent to agriculture and wetlands. In California, there are 53 species of mosquitoes, 24 of those species in the Sacramento region. Not every species transmits disease. They have varying habitats and prefer different blood sources. Only the females bite while the males feed on nectar. Mosquitoes have 4 developmental stages, with the immature stage requiring stagnant water. That is why the district focuses on public education and outreach to reduce stagnant and untreated water sources such as storm drains, untreated pools, stagnant water features in the garden, empty plant pots, dog water bowls, and tires that have collected water. Preventing larvae from hatching is a highly effective mosquito control method. The length of time from egg to adult can vary from 3-21 days depending on species. The aggressive Aedes species takes 3-5 days from egg to adult. Water temperature and weather are important factors in the life cycle timing. Aedes prefer to bite humans. This species is non-native to California and traveled into California from Asia and Mexico. They are difficult to control once established as are most invasive species. The Anopheles species transmit malaria. The District uses chickens as a sentinel for WNV because they can carry it without getting sick. If a chicken tests positive for WNV then the District knows to focus on control measures in that area. Tick surveillance testing for Limes disease is a large part of disease control. Traps are set heavily in areas where a diseased bird or mosquito has been found.

The District has an integrated Mosquito management approach which includes public outreach, school education, surveillance, biological control, ecological management, and chemical control as a last resort. District personnel set and check traps every day to track disease and species types in rice fields, water conveyance systems, water in vegetation areas and urban catch basins. They also have a fish breeding hatchery program and plant thousands of pounds of mosquito eating fish in Sacramento waters each season. Fish planting is an example of biological control. The District will also assist with ecological control on farmland. They have aided with heavy equipment and labor to the Cosumnes River Preserve, CDFW, and US Fish and Wildlife to mitigate breeding grounds. Chemical Control is used when adult stage mosquitos are found to be carrying disease. The District is using drones in the field to apply pesticides and increase efficiency.

West Nile Virus is under-reported because symptoms present the same as the flu. In 2023, 428 human cases were reported but the number of actual cases could conceivably be 30-70% percent higher than reported, or 12,000-13,000.

The invasive Aedes Aegypti can only fly about 100 yards which means they are being transported into the area on people, soil or, in cars. They are originally thought to have come to California on bamboo plants that were shipped here from other continents.

The District encourages residents to take an active part in removing standing water.

Traps are inspected frequently to count mosquito samples. Trucks spray larvicide treatments at night to get material into back yards which is effective in reducing disease carriers below detection level.

The district performs disease testing in their own state of the art lab. Innovative control methods are being researched and used such as Sterile Insect Technique. This technique has been used by the USDA for medfly and fruit fly population reduction. Male mosquitoes are sterilized by either Wolbachia method, which introduces a sterilizing bacterium to the male insect, or by irradiation or gene modification. The mosquitos are then released into neighborhoods where invasive species are present. They mate with the female but there are no offspring, resulting in a significant decline in mosquito populations.

The Culex Pipiens species in suburban areas is developing a resistance to pesticides. Homeowners use pesticides and over water lawns and the runoff enters storm drains. Consistent exposure to the pesticide can cause mosquitos to build up resistance.

6 Sacramento County Sustainability Update- John Lundgren, Sustainability Manager

John Lundgren mentioned the free self-serve compost at Branch Center, ECOS Earth Day event, infill planning workshops, and County podcasts.

7 Approve Final Version of Revised Mission/Vision Statement

The final version of the Revised Mission/Vision Statement was voted on again as a few more edits were requested in the month of March.

Motion to approve was made by Christine Casey, seconded by Mark White.

Ayes: Laura Nickerson, Christine Casey, Dr. Anthony DeRiggi, Richard Hunn, Eugene Lee, Tom Malson, Gage Marchini, Jacqueline Todak, Mark White

Abstentions: None

Noes: None

Motion passed.

8 Approve Letters of Invitation To Join SEC To Citrus Heights and Rancho Cordova

Motion to approve sending the letters of invitation to Citrus heights and Rancho Cordova to add a member seat to the commission (after eliminating an extra comma in the date line) was made by Mark White, seconded by Jaqueline Todak.

Ayes: Laura Nickerson, Christine Casey, Dr. Anthony DeRiggi, Richard Hunn, Eugene Lee, Tom Malson, Gage Marchini, Jacqueline Todak, Mark White

Abstentions: None

Noes: None

Motion passed.

9 Approve Draft Minutes March 18, 2024

Motion to approve March 18 Draft Minutes after the correction of the spelling of names DeRiggi and Christine and the addition of Eugene Lee to letterhead, was made by Tom Malson, seconded by Christine Casey.

Ayes: Laura Nickerson, Christine Casey, Dr. Anthony DeRiggi, Richard Hunn, Eugene Lee, Tom Malson, Gage Marchini, Jacqueline Todak, Mark White

Abstentions: None

Noes: None

Motion passed.

- 10 EMD Director's Report- Jennea Monasterio, Director, Sacramento County Environmental Management Department

Compliance education for hazmat facilities will be implemented using enforcement monies received by EMD.

- 11 Report Back on SEC Commissioner Monitoring of Environmental Issues and Agencies
- 12 Commissioner Comments
  - Awards Committee update
  - Review ordinance establishing Sacramento Environmental Commission
- 13 Next Meeting- May 20, 2024, EMD, 11080 White Rock Road, Suite 200, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

***This meeting is being recorded in its entirety and will be available the following day. Agendas are posted in the offices of the City of Sacramento, Folsom, Galt, Isleton, Elk Grove, and the County of Sacramento and on the EMD Website at: [emd.saccounty.gov](http://emd.saccounty.gov). Agendas are also forwarded to interested parties upon request.***