Los Angeles County West Vector Control District

Meeting Topic: Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Meeting Time: November 9, 2023 - 7:30 PM

Join Zoom Meeting by clicking on the link below:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87174808187?pwd=UEhmclZlcXpreWJOeC9JeVloLzV6UT09

If prompted, Click "open Zoom meetings"

OR

If you cannot access the link, go to https://www.zoom.us/ in your web browser (Google Chrome, Explorer, etc.)

Then

Click on Join a Meeting

Enter the Meeting ID and Password below when prompted:

Meeting ID: 871 7480 8187

Passcode: 234667

CALL IN NUMBER:

If you do not have a speaker or microphone installed in your computer, OR you would like to join by teleconferencing dial the following number:

(669) 900 - 6833

Then

Enter the Meeting ID and Password below when prompted:

Meeting ID: 871 7480 8187

Passcode: 234667



OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY WEST VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT

Zoom Meeting Only

November 9, 2023

6750 Centinela Ave. Culver City, CA 90230 7:30 p.m.

Los Angeles County West Vector Control District

6750 Centinela Avenue, Culver City, California 90230 (310) 915-7370 ext. 230 Email: aarugay@lawestvector.org

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President
CHERYL MATTHEWS

Vice President
NANCY GREENSTEIN
Santa Monica

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Culver City

JIM GAZELEY

Lomita

Lomita

MIKE GRIFFITHS
Torrance

JAMES OSBORNE

Lawndale

WAYNE POWELL

Manhattan Beach

STEVE ZUCKERMAN Rolling Hills Estates NOTICE OF A VIRTUAL REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY WEST
VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT

November 9, 2023 7:30 p.m.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY WEST VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

6750 Centinela Ave. Culver City, CA 90230

Virtual Meeting on Zoom November 9, 2023 7:30 p.m.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Due to COVID-19, and in compliance with AB 361 the scheduled meeting will be held remotely. See instructions on the District's website (www.lawestvector.org) under the Board of Trustees section.

Residents who live or own property within the District who wish to comment on any of the listed agenda items are encouraged to attend the meeting virtually. Individuals will be allowed to address the Board at the time specified for comments on the agenda. Comments can only be made on items listed on the agenda for action by the Board. Pursuant to the Brown Act, Government Code Section 54950 et seq., the Board may not take action or discuss any item that is not listed on the agenda. The Board Chairperson has set a limit of three minutes each for those who wish to address the Board. Those who wish to speak to items being considered in a closed session will be given the opportunity to do so prior to the Board going into closed session.

- i. Call to Order
- ii. Roll Call
- iii. Public Comments

1. Closed Session

Recess to Closed Session:

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL--ANTICIPATED LITIGATION Initiation of litigation pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9 Number of potential cases: 1

2. Closed Session Report

General Counsel for the District will make a report regarding the action taken during the closed session.

3. Additional Legal Services Agreement

The Board has appointed Trevor Rusin as the District's General Counsel, and general counsel legal services are provided to the District through his firm Best, Best & Krieger LLP (BBK). Over the past year the District's needs have expanded beyond basic general counsel services to require other specialized legal expertise. Such services require attorneys with specific expertise, and are set at rates that exceed the very low general counsel rate that BBK will continue to provide to the District. This agreement will provide flexibility for the District to use these additional legal services as needed, and ensure the District has access to BBK's full team of legal experts.

The proposed agreement provides for two types of additional legal services. The first type are referred to as "complex legal services" which shall be billed at the hourly rates of \$475.00 per hour for highly specialized Attorneys such as Isabel Safie, \$425.00 per hour for other Partners and Of Counsel, \$300.00 per hour for Associates, \$260.00 per hour for Pension Compliance Analysts, and \$200.00 per hour for Paralegals, Law Clerks and Analysts.

These rates are the exact same rates agreed to by our neighboring vector control district, the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District, for Isabel's work. This work will primarily involve CALPERS and other related matters.

The second type are referred to as "special legal services" which shall be billed at the hourly rates of \$350.00 per hour for Partners and Of Counsel, \$285.00 per hour for Associates, \$180.00 per hour for Paralegals and other non-legal personal. This work will cover other specialized and non-routine legal services that require specialized legal counsel such as employment matters, litigation, and environmental matters.

The District will continue to receive General Counsel legal services at the rate of \$225 per hour.

Staff Report:	Trevor Rusin – General Counsel
Recommended Action:	Approve

4. Minutes of the September 8, 2023, September 14, 2023, and October 13, 2023, Board of Trustees Meetings

Staff Report:	None Scheduled
Recommended Action:	Approve

- 5. Financial Report for September October 2023
 - A) Schedule of Investments
 - B) Bills and Salaries

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ı	Staff Report:	None Scheduled
	Recommended Action:	Approve

6.	Executive Director's Report
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Staff Report:	Aaron Arugay, Executive Director
Recommended Action:	Advisory
1) WNV Update	Advisory
2) Public Education Program	Advisory
3) Field Operations Program	Advisory
4) Vector Ecology Program	Advisory

7. Authorize Board Meetings by Teleconference in Compliance with AB 361 Staff Report: Aaron Arugay, Executive Director Recommended Action: Approve

8. Board of Trustees Comments	
Recommended Action:	As Determined by the Board

9. Motion to Adjourn	
Recommended Action:	Approve

1. Closed Session

Recess to Closed Session:

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The District will continue to receive General Counsel legal services at the rate of \$225 per hour.

Staff Report:	Trevor Rusin – General Counsel
Recommended Action:	Approve



Trevor L. Rusin Partner (310) 220-2177 trevor.rusin@bbklaw.com

November 3, 2023

Los Angeles County West Vector Control District Executive Director Culver City, CA

Re: Legal Representation Agreement

Dear:

ABOUT OUR REPRESENTATION

Best Best & Krieger LLP is pleased to have the opportunity to continue to represent Los Angeles County West Vector Control District ("District"), with Trevor L. Rusin serving as General Counsel for the District, and add additional matters to our relationship. Specifically, pursuant to this Agreement we will assist the District on special and complex matters such as, but not limited to, employment matters, CalPERS investigation matters, and other matters requiring specialized legal counsel as requested by the District. This letter constitutes our agreement setting the terms of our representation as an addition to our current ongoing representation of the District in general counsel matters, which are billed at a rate of \$225/hour. If you wish us to represent the District and agree to the terms set forth in this letter, after you review the letter please sign it and return the signed copy to us.

CONFIDENTIALITY

An attorney-client relationship requires mutual trust between the client and the attorney. It is understood that communications exclusively between counsel and the client are confidential and protected by the attorney-client privilege.

YOUR OBLIGATIONS ABOUT FEES AND BILLINGS

As a Public Agency, we are able to offer the District the following public agency billing rates for special and complex areas of law, such as but not limited to the following.

Complex Legal Services currently include: Employee and Retirement Benefits, including CALPERS matters; Tax and ERISA related matters; and Other matters mutually agreed upon between BBK and the District

Complex Legal Services shall be billed at the hourly rates of \$475.00 per hour for highly specialized Attorneys such as, but not limited to, Isabel Safie (Employee Benefits/CALPERS), \$425.00 per hour for other Partners and Of Counsel, \$300.00 per

hour for Associates, \$260.00 per hour for Pension Compliance Analysts, and \$200.00 per hour for Paralegals, Law Clerks and Analysts.

Special Legal Services include: Litigation and formal administrative or other adjudicatory hearing matters; Labor relations and employment matters; Non-routine real estate matters; Land acquisition and disposal matters; Public construction disputes; Non-routine contract negotiation matters; Non-routine land use and development matters; Toxic substances matters; Complex public utility matters (e.g. telecommunications); Environmental matters (e.g., CEQA, NEPA, endangered species); Water law matters (e.g., water rights & quality); Renewable energy and energy efficiency project contracts and power purchase agreements; Public Financing and Bond Counsel and Other matters mutually agreed upon between BBK and the District.

Special Legal Services shall be billed at the hourly rates of \$350.00 per hour for Partners and Of Counsel, \$285.00 per hour for Associates, \$180.00 per hour for Paralegals and other non-legal personal.

We are happy to discuss mutually agreed upon adjustments whenever necessary. In addition, on July 1, 2025, and each July 1st thereafter, all BBK hourly rates and amounts will be increased for the change in the cost of living for the prior calendar year, as shown by the U.S. Department of Labor in its All Urban Consumers Index set forth for the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim area, with prior written notice, not to exceed five percent (5%).

Our billing policies are described in the memorandum attached to this letter, entitled "Best Best & Krieger LLP's Billing Policies." You should consider the Billing Policies memorandum part of this agreement as it binds both of us. For that reason, you should read it carefully.

INSURANCE

We understand that you are not now insured or have any insurance that may cover potential liability or attorneys' fees in this matter. If you think you may have such insurance, please notify me immediately.

We are also pleased to let you know that Best Best & Krieger LLP carries errors and omissions insurance with Lloyd's of London. After a standard deductible, this insurance provides coverage beyond what is required by the State of California.

HOW THIS AGREEMENT MAY BE TERMINATED

You, of course, have the right to end our services at any time. If you do so, you will be responsible for the payment of fees and costs accrued but not yet paid, plus reasonable fees and costs in transferring the case to you or your new counsel. By the same token, we reserve the right to terminate our services to you upon written notice, order of the court, or in accordance with our attached Billing Policies memorandum. This could happen if you fail to pay our fees and costs as agreed, fail to cooperate with us in this matter, or if we determine we cannot continue to represent the District for ethical or practical concerns.

CLIENT FILE

If you do not request the return of the District file, we will retain your file for five years. After five years, we may have the District file destroyed. If you would like the District file maintained for more than five years or returned, you must make separate arrangements with us.

THANK YOU

On a personal note, we are pleased that you have selected Best Best & Krieger LLP to represent the District. We look forward to a long and valued relationship with you and appreciate your confidence in selecting us to represent the District in this case. If you have any questions at any time about our services or billings, please do not hesitate to call me.

If this letter meets with your approval, please sign and date it, and return the original to us. Unless you sign, date and return this letter to us, we will not represent the District in any capacity, and we will assume that you have made other arrangements for legal representation. The signed letter may be provided to us via electronic mail.

Sincerely,

Trevor L. Rusin of BEST BEST & KRIEGER LLP

TLR

AGREED AND ACCEPTED:

LOS ANGELES WEST VECTOR DISTRICT

By:

Aaron Arugay, Executive Director

Dated:

BEST BEST & KRIEGER LLP'S BILLING POLICIES

Our century of experience has shown that the attorney-client relationship works best when there is mutual understanding about fees, expenses, billing and payment terms. Therefore, this statement is intended to explain our billing policies and procedures. Clients are encouraged to discuss with us any questions they have about these policies and procedures. Clients may direct specific questions about a bill to the attorney with whom the client works or to our

Accounts Receivable Department (accounts.receivable@bbklaw.com). Any specific billing arrangements different from those set forth below will be confirmed in a separate written agreement between the client and the firm.

INVOICE AND PAYMENT OPTIONS

Best Best & Krieger strives to meet our clients' needs in terms of providing a wide variety of invoice types, delivery and payment options. Please indicate those needs including the preferred method of invoice delivery (Invoice via Email; or USPS). In addition, accounts.receivable@bbklaw.com can provide a W-9 upon request and discuss various accepted payment methods.

FEES FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Unless a flat fee is set forth in our engagement letter with a client, our fees for the legal work we will undertake will be based in substantial part on time spent by personnel in our office on that client's behalf. In special circumstances which will be discussed with the client and agreed upon in writing, fees will be based upon the novelty or difficulty of the matter, or the time or other special limitations imposed by the client.

Hourly rates are set to reflect the skill and experience of the attorney or other legal personnel rendering services on the client's behalf. All legal services are billed in one-tenth of an hour (0.10/hour) or six-minute increments. Our attorneys are currently billed at rates from \$235 to \$895 per hour, and our administrative assistants, research assistants, analysts, litigation analysts. paraprofessionals and law clerks are billed at rates from \$175 to \$300 per hour for new work. These rates reflect the ranges in both our public and our private rates. These hourly rates are reviewed annually to accommodate rising firm costs and to reflect changes in attorney status as lawyers attain new levels of legal experience. Any increases resulting from such reviews will be instituted automatically and will apply to each affected client, after advance notice.

Non-Attorney Personnel: BBK may employ the services of non-attorney personnel under the supervision of BBK attorney in order to perform services called for in the legal services agreement. The most common non-attorney personnel utilized are paralegals. Other types of non-attorney personnel include, but are not limited to, case clerks, litigation analysts, and specialty consultants. The client agrees that BBK may use such non-attorney personnel to perform its services when it is reasonably necessary in the judgment of the responsible BBK attorney. Hourly fees for non-attorney personnel will be charged at the rate then in effect for such personnel. A copy of BBK's current rates and titles for non-attorney personnel will be provided upon request.

FEES FOR ELECTRONICALLY STORED INFORMATION ("ESI") SUPPORT AND STORAGE

BBK provides Electronically Stored Information ("ESI") services for matters requiring ESI support, which are matters with a document population over 1GB – typically litigation or threatened litigation matters. BBK provides services for basic ESI processing and storage at the following rates per month based on the number of gigabytes of data ("GB") processed and stored:

1GB -250GB: \$10 per GB 251GB - 550GB: \$8 per GB 551GB - 750GB: \$6 per GB 751GB - 1TB: \$4 per GB

The amount BBK charges for basic processing and storage of ESI allows BBK to recover the costs of providing such services, plus a net profit for BBK. BBK believes that the rates it charges for processing and storage are lower than comparable services available from third party vendors in the market. If you wish to contract separately with a third party vendor for processing and storage costs, please notify BBK in writing. BBK shall not incur costs for ESI support on a particular matter without first confirming by email or written correspondence with the client that the client agrees such services are necessary for the matter at hand.

FEES FOR OTHER SERVICES, COSTS AND EXPENSES

We attempt to serve all our clients with the most effective support systems available. Therefore, in addition to fees for professional legal services, we also charge separately for some other services and expenses to the extent of their use

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by individual clients. These charges include but are not limited to, mileage at the current IRS approved rate per mile, extraordinary telephone and document delivery charges, copying charges, computerized research, court filing fees and other court-related expenditures including court reporter and transcription fees. No separate charge is made for secretarial or word processing services; those costs are included within the above hourly rates.

We may need to advance costs and incur expenses on your behalf on an ongoing basis. These items are separate and apart from attorneys' fees and, as they are out-of-pocket charges, we need to have sufficient funds on hand from you to pay them when due. We will advise the client from time to time when we expect items of significant cost to be incurred, and it is required that the client send us advances to cover those costs before they are due.

ADVANCE DEPOSIT TOWARD FEES AND COSTS

Because new client matters involve both a substantial undertaking by our firm and the establishment of client credit with our accounting office, we require an advance payment from clients. The amount of this advance deposit is determined on a case-by-case basis discussed first with the client, and is specified in our engagement letter.

Upon receipt, the advance deposit will be deposited into the firm's client trust account. Our monthly billings will reflect such applications of the advance deposit to costs and not to attorney's fees (unless otherwise noted in our accompanying engagement letter). At the end of engagement, we will apply any remaining balance first to costs and then to fees. We also reserve the right to require increases or renewals of these advanced deposits.

By signing the initial engagement letter, each client is agreeing that trust account balances may be withdrawn and applied to costs as they are incurred and to our billings, when we issue our invoice to the client. If we succeed in resolving your matter before the amounts deposited are used, any balance will be promptly refunded.

MONTHLY INVOICES AND PAYMENT

Best Best & Krieger LLP provides our clients with monthly invoices for legal services performed and expenses incurred. Invoices are due and payable upon receipt.

Each monthly invoice reflects both professional and other fees for services rendered through the end of the prior month, as well as expenses incurred on the client's behalf that have been processed by the end of the prior month. Processing of some expenses is delayed until the next month and billed thereafter.

Our fees are not contingent upon any aspect of the matter and are due upon receipt. All billings are due and payable within ten days of presentation unless the full amount covered by the balance of an advance held in our trust account.

It is our policy to treat every question about a bill promptly and fairly. It is also our policy that if a client does not pay an invoice within 60 days of mailing, we assume the client is, for whatever reason, refusing to pay. We reserve the right to terminate our engagement and withdraw as attorney of record whenever our invoices are not paid. If an invoice is 60 days late, however, we may advise the client by letter that the client must pay the invoice within 14 days or the firm will take appropriate steps to withdraw as attorney of record. If the delay is caused by a problem in the invoice, we must rely upon the client to raise that with us during the 14-day period. This same policy applies to fee arrangements which require the client to replenish fee deposits or make deposits for anticipated costs.

From time to time clients have questions about the format of the bill or description of work performed. If you have any such questions, please ask them when you receive the bill so we may address them on a current basis.

CHANGES IN FEE ARRANGEMENTS AND BUDGETS

It may be necessary under certain circumstances for a client to increase the size of required advances for fees after the commencement of our engagement and depending upon the scope of the work. For example, prior to a protracted trial or hearing, the firm may require a further advance payment to the firm's trust account sufficient to cover expected fees. Any such changes in fee arrangements will be discussed with the client and mutually agreed in writing.

Because of the uncertainties involved, any estimates of anticipated fees that we provide at the request of a client for budgeting purposes, or otherwise, can only be an approximation of potential fees.

BEST BEST & KRIEGER LLP

4. Minutes of the September 8, 2023, September 14, 2023, and October 13, 2023, Board of Trustees Meetings

Staff Report: Recommended Action:	None Scheduled
Recommended Action:	Approve

Los Angeles County West Vector Control District

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees

September 8, 2023

1. Call to Order:

Call to Order by Cheryl Matthews (President of the Board of Trustees)

2. Roll Call:

Roll Call taken by Catherine Taylor (Assistant Director)

Trustees Present:

Cheryl Matthews

Nancy Greenstein

Barbara Barsocchini

James Bozajian

Mary Drummer

James Fasola

Barbara Ferraro

Jay Garacochea

Jim Gazeley

Mike Griffiths

Wayne Powell

Steve Zuckerman

Trustees Absent:

Bill Ailor

Chad Blouin

James Osborne

Staff/Advisors Present:

Aaron Arugay, Executive Director Catherine Taylor, Assistant Director Trevor Rusin, General Legal Counsel

	Public Com	ments: one
	Authorize B	Board Meetings by Teleconference in Compliance with AB 361:
	Motion by: Second: Vote:	Mary Drummer Mike Griffiths Ayes: 10 Noes: 1 (J. Fasola) Abstentions: 0 Note: Barbara Barsocchini unable to vote due to technical issue
	Action:	Motion Passed
	Meeting Adj	journed by Cheryl Matthews (President of the Board of Trustee
pr	oved by the Bo	pard of Trustees

Date

Bill Ailor, Secretary

Los Angeles County West Vector Control District

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

September 14, 2023

1. Call to Order:

Call to Order by Cheryl Matthews (President of the Board of Trustees)

2. Roll Call:

Roll Call taken by Catherine Taylor (Assistant Director)

Trustees Present:

Cheryl Matthews

Nancy Greenstein

Bill Ailor

Barbara Barsocchini

Chad Blouin

James Bozajian

Mary Drummer

James Fasola

Barbara Ferraro

Jay Garacochea

Jim Gazeley

Mike Griffiths

James Osborne

Wayne Powell

Steve Zuckerman

Trustees Absent:

none

Staff/Advisors Present:

Aaron Arugay, Executive Director

Catherine Taylor, Assistant Director

Trevor Rusin, General Legal Counsel

3. Public Comments:

none

4. Approve Minutes of the July 13, 2023, Board of Trustees Meeting

Motion by: Nancy Greenstein Second: Mike Griffiths

Vote: Ayes: 13

Noes: 0 Abstentions: 0

Note: B. Ailor and S. Zuckerman arrived after vote

Action: Motion Passed

5. Approve Minutes of the August 11, 2023, Board of Trustees Meeting:

Motion by: Chad Blouin
Second: Nancy Greenstein
Vote: Ayes: 13

Noes: 0
Abstentions: 0

Note: B. Ailor and S. Zuckerman arrived after vote

Action: Motion Passed

6. Approve Financial Report for July-August 2023

Motion by: Wayne Powell
Second: Jay Garacochea
Vote: Ayes: 14

Noes: 0

Abstentions: 1 (B. Ailor)

Action: Motion Passed

7. Executive Director's Report

- 1) WNV Update
- 2) Public Education Program
- 3) Field Operations Program
- 4) Vector Ecology Program

8. Authorize Board Meetings by Teleconference in Compliance with AB 361:

Motion by: Bill Ailor

Second: Barbara Barsocchini Vote: Ayes: 13

Noes: 2 (J. Fasola and C. Blouin)

Abstentions: 0

Action: Motion Passed

9. M	leeting Adjourned by Cheryl	Matthews (President of the	e Board of Trustees)
Approved	d by the Board of Trustees		
Bill Ailor	r, Secretary	Date	-

Los Angeles County West Vector Control District

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees

October 13, 2023

1. Call to Order:

Call to Order by Cheryl Matthews (President of the Board of Trustees)

2. Roll Call:

Roll Call taken by Catherine Taylor (Assistant Director)

Trustees Present:

Cheryl Matthews

Nancy Greenstein

Bill Ailor

Barbara Barsocchini

James Bozajian

Mary Drummer

James Fasola

Jim Gazeley

Mike Griffiths

James Osborne

Wayne Powell

Steve Zuckerman

Trustees Absent:

Chad Blouin

Barbara Ferraro

Jay Garacochea

Staff/Advisors Present:

Aaron Arugay, Executive Director Catherine Taylor, Assistant Director Trevor Rusin, General Legal Counsel

Authorize B	oard Meetings by	y Tele	econference in Compliance with AB 30	61:
Motion by: Second: Vote:	Wayne Powell Bill Ailor Ayes: Noes: Abstentions:	11 1 0	(J. Fasola)	
Action:	Motion Passed			
Meeting Ad	journed by Chery	yl Mat	tthews (President of the Board of Tru	stee

Date

Bill Ailor, Secretary

- Financial Report for September October 2023 A) Schedule of Investments B) Bills and Salaries 5.

Staff Report: Recommended Action:	None Scheduled
Recommended Action:	Approve

Los Angeles County West Vector Control District Schedule of Investments Period Ending: September 2023							
Fund/Account Balance September 2023 September 2022							
LAIF*	323,793.61	3.53%	1.51%				
LACIF**: P81	1,194,019.77 2,564,643.18	3.83%	1.91%				
Bank of America Money Market Account	605,080.69	0.00%	0.00%				
Bank of America Payroll Account	448,836.69	0.00%	0.00%				
5,136,373.94							

^{*}LAIF (Local Agency Investment fund)

I certify that this report accurately reflects all pooled investments as reported to me by the custodial agencies and is in conformity with the investment policy as approved by the Board of Trustees of the Los Angeles County West Vector Control District on 11/9/95. A copy of this policy is available in the office of the Executive Director. The investment program herein shown provides sufficient cash flow liquidity to meet the next six months estimated expenditures.

Sources for the valuation are as follows: State of California, Office of the Treasurer; County of Los Angeles, Office of Auditor-Controller; Bank of America

Aaron Arugay	Date
Executive Director	

^{**}LACIF (Los Angeles County Investment Fund)

LOS ANGELES COUNTY WEST VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT Bills & Salaries August 21 to October 20, 2023

PAYEE NAME	DESCRIPTION	STATEMENT	
Payroll	Salaries/Payroll Taxes	Period: AUG. 1, TO SEPT. 30, 2023	614,315 23
5 STAR GC 1005	Building Maint. 5135	Inv. No.: 1092	1,250 00
ACCO Engineered Systems 1039	Building Maint. 5135	Inv. No.: 20459437	676 82
ACE Hardware 1051	Building Maint. 5135	Inv.No.:80706, 80714	32 97
ADAPCO, Inc. 2070	Insecticides 5232	Inv. No: 135754	58,757.70
Aegis Security & Investigations 1075	Security 5281	Inv. No: 13757, 13848	16,929 00
Airgas West 1109	Ento/Lab Supplies, Equip. & Service 5115	Inv. No: 5502085249, 5502802868	104 07
Airport Marina Ford 1120	Auto Repair 5121	Inv. No: 649958, 649287, 651036	4,945.15
Alert Communications 1164	AHB Program Fund 5117	Inv. No: 33905, 33949	3,013.18
American Messaging 1215	Communications 5275	Inv. No.: L8331976XI, L8331976XJ	1,436 69
ARC Professional Services, Inc. 1239	Outside Services & Consultants 5180	Stmt. Date 6/23, 7/23 Inv. 103, 104, 105	48,788 55
AT&T Mobility 3200	Communications 5275	Stmt. Date: 08/23,09/23,10/23	3,507 36
Athens Sevices/United Pacific Waste 3921	Refuse Collection 5270	Inv. Date: 9/01/2023, 10/01/2023	1,793 98
Best Best & Krieger 1404	Legal Services Fund 5184	Inv. No: 973574, 975629	2,650 50
California Ice Co. 1570	Ento/Lab Supplies, Equip. & Service 5115 \$3949; Safety 5236 \$1551	Stmt. Date: 8/31/23, 9/30/23	5,500 00
Calpers Health Benefits 1610	Group Insurance 5035	Stmt. Date: 09/23, 10/23	106,247 22
Calpers Retirement System 1610	Retirement 2084; \$20743.16; 5030: \$137198 84	Stmt. Date: 07/31/23, 08/15/23, 08/31/23, 09/15/23	157,942 00
City Of L.A Public Works Sanitation 1810	Building Maint. 5135	Stmt. Date: 09/15/2023 Inv.No.: 20230915129	316 91
Cleaning Contract 1447	Janitorial 5131	Inv. No: 12880, 12981	3,924 00
Complete Office 1758	Office Expenses 5170 \$155.47; Household 5051 \$871.25	Inv.No.: 4079026-0,4088737-0, 4088959-0, 4090490-0	1,026.72
CPS HR Consulting 1816	Outside Services & Consultants 5180	Inv. No: 0010753, 10997	9,618 85
Environmental Help, Inc. 2038	Outside Services & Consultants 5180	Inv. No.: WVCD-SEP23, WVCD-OCT23	2,994 00
Federal Express Corp. 2050	Office Expensess 5170	Stmt. Date: 8/23, 9 /23, 10/23	2,279 08
Ford Pro 2106	Communications 5275	Inv. No: INV18711465,Inv. No: NV19397546	400 00
Frontier/Verizon 3991	Telephone 5267	Stmt. Date: 08/31/23, 09/29/23	8,869 66
Golden State Elevator 2220	Building Maint. 5135	Inv. No: 00170639, 00172122,00172272	660 08
Golden State Water Co. 3580	Water 5264	Stmt. Date: 09/23	576 90
Grainger 2228	Safety 5236 \$3662 65; Field Equipment 5127 \$348 39	Inv. No: 98203840130, 9822977469, 984629614, 9850831414, 1494472073	4,011 04
Henry P. Eng, CPA 2900	Bookeeping 5186	Stmt. Date: 9/1/2023,10/1/2023	5,300 00
Home Depot 2320	Building Maint. 5135 \$1109.46; Office Exp. 5170 \$163.16; Safety 5236 \$610 93	Stmt. Date: 08/23, 09/23	1,883 55
HSI Workplace Compliance Solutions, Inc. 2346	Conferences, Mtgs, Training - Staff 5163	Inv. No.: INV89190	7,500 00
L.A. Green Landscaping Maint. 2533	Building Maint. 5135	Inv. No: 006196, 006250, 006320	840 00
Lewis Road Office Condo Assoc. 2579	Office Expenses 5170	Stmt. Date: 09/2023, 10/2023	1,100 00
Liebert Cassidy Whitmore 2592	Legal Services Fund 5184	Inv. No: 248881, 249773	904 50
M & N Automotive Repair, Inc. 2661	Auto Parts/Repair 5121	Inv. No: 14835, 14874, 14873, 14899, 14955, 14970, 14983, 14988, 14989, 15010,15012	15,758 39

AGENDA/2023-2024 - AUG. 21, 2023 - OCT. 20, 2023

LOS ANGELES COUNTY WEST VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT Bills & Salaries August 21 to October 20, 2023

PAYEE NAME	DESCRIPTION	STATEMENT		
Malibu Feed Bin 2676	Ento/Lab Supplies, Equip. & Service 5115	Stmt. Date: 08/31/23	890.70	
Mr. Bill Ailor 2990	Board Expenses 5161	MEET NG OF 09/14/2023, 10/13/2023	200 00	
Mr. Chad Garnet Blouin 2862	Board Expenses 5161	MEET NG OF 09/14/2023	100 00	
Mr. James Bozajian 2903	Board Expenses 5161	MEET NG OF 09/8/2023, 09/14/2023, 10/13/2023	200 00	
Mr. James Fasola 2921	Board Expenses 5161	MEET NG OF 09/8/2023, 09/14/2023, 10/13/2023	200 00	
Mr. James Osborne 2905	Board Expenses 5161	MEET NG OF 09/14/2023, 10/13/2023	200 00	
Mr. Jay Garacochea 2907	Board Expenses 5161	MEET NG OF 09/8/2023, 09/14/2023	100 00	
Mr. Jim Gazeley 2908	Board Expenses 5161	MEET NG OF 09/8/2023, 09/14/2023, 10/13/2023	200 00	
Mr. Mike Griffiths 2924	Board Expenses 5161	MEET NG OF 09/8/2023, 09/14/2023, 10/13/2023	200 00	
Mr. Wayne Powell 2983	Board Expenses 5161	MEET NG OF 09/8/2023, 09/14/2023, 10/13/2023	200 00	
Mr. Steve Zuckerman 2961	Board Expenses 5161	MEET NG OF 09/8/2023, 09/14/2023, 10/13/2023	200 00	
Ms. Barbara Barsocchini 3015	Board Expenses 5161	MEET NG OF 09/8/2023, 09/14/2023, 10/13/2023	200 00	
Ms. Barbara Ferraro 3014	Board Expenses 5161	MEET NG OF 09/8/2023, 09/14/2023	100 00	
Ms. Cheryl Matthews 3013	Board Expenses 5161	MEET NG OF 09/8/2023, 09/14/2023, 10/13/2023	200 00	
Ms. Mary Drummer 3039	Board Expenses 5161	MEET NG OF 09/8/2023, 09/14/2023, 10/13/2023	200 00	
Ms. Nancy Greenstein 3043	Board Expenses 5161	MEET NG OF 09/8/2023, 09/14/2023, 10/13/2023	200 00	
MVCAC 3070	Ento/Lab Supplies, Equip. & Service 5115	Inv. No: 7364202, 7364246	10,956 00	
Nathan's Towing 3089	Towing 5254	Inv. No: INV0618, INV0638	690 00	
National Fire Protection Assoc. 3107	Office Expenses 5170	Order No.: 7396367 INV. 8604567Y	1,040.45	
Nationwide Retirement Solutions 3080	Deferred Comp. 2084	Stmt. Date: PPE 8/31/23, 9/15/23, 9/30/23, 10/15/23	19,653 32	
ODP Business Solutions/Office Depot 3163	Office Exp. 5170: \$1493.50, Ento/Lab Supplies, Equip. & Ser. 5115 \$218.78	Stmt. Date: 9/23, 10/23	1,712 28	
Otis Elevator Co. 3177	Building Maint. 5135	Inv. No: F10000103747	100 00	
Pacific Truck Equipment, Inc. 3212	Vehicles 5425	Inv. No.: 76101	2,268 08	
Pitney Bowes Global Financial Services LLC 3310	Office Expensess 5170	Inv.No.: 3106237949	330.14	
Prudential Overall Supply 3361	Uniforms 5070	Stmt. Date: 08/30/23, 09/31/23	11,713 02	
Redwing Business Advantage Account 3400	Uniforms 5070	Inv. No.: 8-1-139930	122 80	
SATMODO LLC. 3492	Communications 5275	Inv. No: 231304, 233058	985 58	
Securitas Technology Corp 3647	Security 5281	Inv. No: 6003591275	588 34	
Shell Fleet Plus 3530	Gasoline 5251	Inv. No: 91668864, 82403798	8,408.18	
SoCalGas 3590	Gas 5261	Stmt. Date: 08/29/23, 09/29/23	248 04	
Southern California Edison 3620	Electricity 5264	Stmt. Date: 08/27/23, 09/27/23	21,022 07	
Spectrum/Charter Communications 3846	Communications 5275	Stmt. Date: 9/23	2,079 00	
Staff Reimbursement	Uniforms 5070	Stmt. Date: 9/19/23	75 00	
Stericycle, Inc. /Shred- t 3534	Refuse Collection 5270	Inv. No: 8004652286, 8004933401	385 51	
Sterling Messenger Svcs. 3682	Office Expenses 5170	Stmt. Date: 08/31/23, 09/30/23	1,740 50	

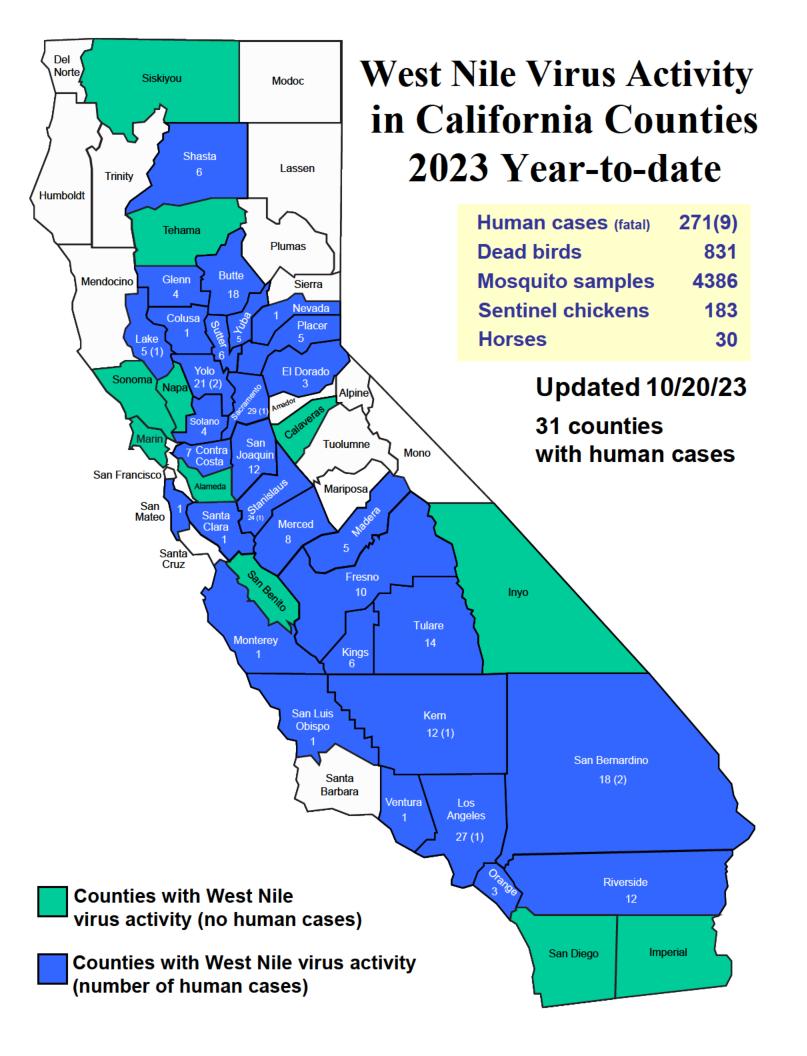
AGENDA/2023-2024 - AUG. 21, 2023 - OCT. 20, 2023

LOS ANGELES COUNTY WEST VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT Bills & Salaries August 21 to October 20, 2023

PAYEE NAME	DESCRIPTION	STATEMENT	
Sun Life Dental Insurance Co. 2175 / VSP 3998	Dental/Vision 5036	Stmt. Date: 9/2023, 10/2023	11,281 67
Sun Life Financial 2175	Voluntary Life Ins. 2084	Stmt. Date: 9/2023, 10/2023	993 02
Taormina Phone Service 4104	Telephone 5267	Inv. No.: 200923, 20092023, 250923, 21023	905 50
Teletrac, Inc. 3730	Communications 5275	Stmt. Date: 9/1/23, 10/1/23 Inv. 92883589, 92907163	2,283.72
Total Compensation Systems, Inc. 3858	Outside Services & Consultants 5180	FY 2023-2024 Inv. No: 12019	1,755 00
Unum Life Insurance Co. Of America 3950	Long Term Disability Insurance 2084	Stmt. Date: 9/1/23, 10/1/23	7,094.75
USI 3912	Educational Materials & Equip. 5171	Inv. 0397151300019	535 57
Vector-Borne Disease Acct. CDPH 2842	Conferences, Mtgs, Training - Staff 5163	Stmt. Date: 10/1/23	195 00
Veolia Es Technical Solutions LLC 3835	Ento/Lab Supplies, Equip. & Ser. 5115 \$323.46; Hazardous Waste 5238 \$6181.78	Inv. No:MD 125418 Sales Order 97406, 99536	6,505 24
Wex Bank (Exxon Mobil) 2830	Gasoline 5251	Stmt. Date: 9/15/23, 10/15/23	8,863 24
Bank Of America Bankcard Services	VE Lab Supplies & Equip. 5115	Ref. No.: 2408	757 04
Bank Of America Bankcard Services	Building Maint. 5135	Ref. No.: 5881	98.15
Bank Of America Bankcard Services	Field Equipment 5127	Ref. No.: 4940, 5214	553.47
Bank Of America Bankcard Services	Office Expensess 5170	Ref. No.: 5824, 4287, 0845, 0370, 6594, 1077, 0133	2,276 56
Bank Of America Bankcard Services	Educational Materials & Equip. 5171	Ref. No.: 0056, 0122	388.76
Bank Of America Bankcard Services	Communications 5275	Ref. No.: 6117	87 52
Bank Of America Bankcard Services	Total Bills & Salaries:	Period: Aug. 21 to Oct. 20, 2023	1,228,137 32
Account Transfer (LAC F P81 Account to B of A Money I	Market Acct./Payroll Acct. #-1313)		1,000,000 00

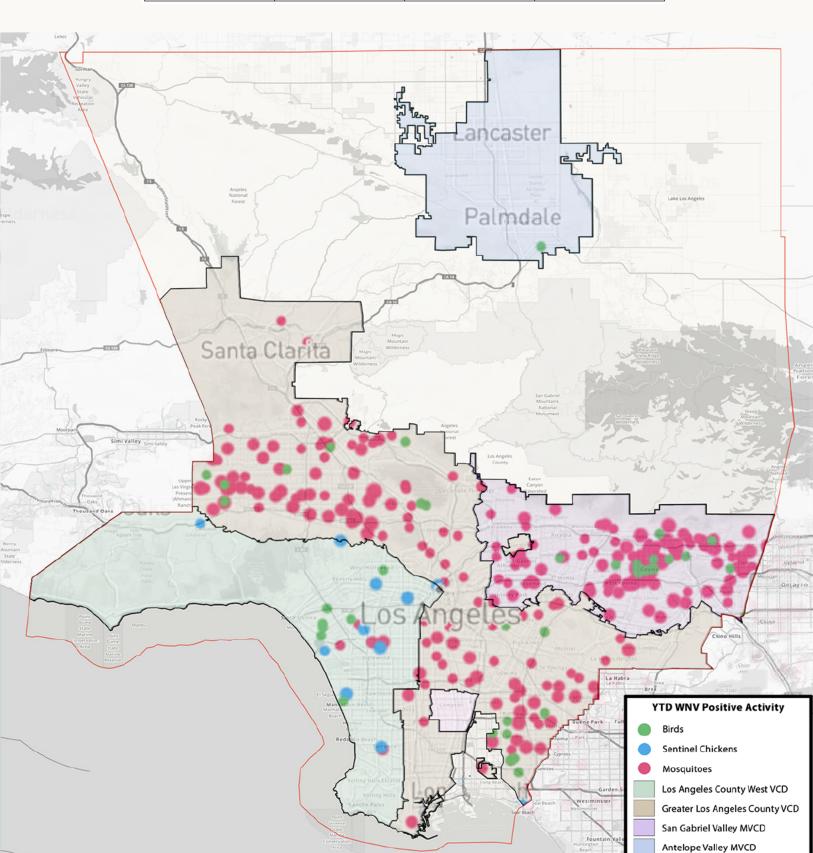
AGENDA/2023-2024 - AUG. 21, 2023 - OCT. 20, 2023

6. Executive Director's Report Staff Report: Aaron Arugay, Executive Director 1) WNV Update Advisory 2) Public Education Program Advisory 3) Field Operations Program Advisory 4) Vector Ecology Program Advisory



West Nile Virus Activity 2023 Los Angeles County

Total YTD Activity	Dead Birds	Sentinel Chickens	Mosquito Pools	
591	44	27	520	



West Nile Virus Activity 2023 Los Angeles County West Vector Control District As of 10/24/23

City/Community	Dead Birds		Sentinel Chickens		Mosquito Pools	
	Positives to Date	Date of First Detection	Positives to Date	Date of First Detection	Positives to Date	Date of First Detection
Calabasas			1	9/19/2023		
Culver City	1	9/12/2023				
El Segundo			3	9/12/2023		
Inglewood			3	9/19/2023	6	8/15/2023
Los Angeles City	4	9/12/2023	11	9/12/2023	1	9/26/2023
Los Angeles County (Baldwin Hills)			2	9/19/2023	1	2/7/2023
Los Angeles County (Marina del Rey)	1	10/10/2023				
Manhhattan Beach	1	10/24/2023				
Torrance			2	10/17/2023	2	8/22/2023
			_			_

YTD West Nile Virus Activity Within the District

Total YTD Activity	Dead Birds	New Positives	Sentinel Chickens	New Positives	Mosquito Pools	New Positives
39	7	1	22	0	10	0

October 2023 Public Education

PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAM

BACKGROUND

An essential program of the District includes educating the public about the life cycle of honeybees, mosquitoes, ticks, vector-borne diseases, property owners' responsibilities, and functions of the District. General public education is accomplished through the means of informational brochures, fact sheets, city bulletins, public speaking engagements, public service announcements, informational booths at community events, and the District web site (www.lawestvector.org).

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic all public education programs will be done remotely until further notice. The District continues to provide staff for public speaking engagements and community events through virtual technologies.

SCHEDULING OF EVENTS

Please contact the District to schedule an event or if you are aware of an organization that may benefit from receiving the latest information regarding the West Nile virus, Africanized honeybees, Lyme disease, or other vector-borne diseases.

Heather Teodoro: (310) 915-7370, ext. 225 Catherine Taylor: (310) 915-7370, ext. 232

OCTOBER 2023 Field Operations

Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant:

Hyperion staff continued to focus on multiple offline batteries, collector tanks, and offline final clarifiers during this period. All offline subdivisions are continuously monitored and either drained or treated until all repair work is fully completed. Primary batteries D and B remain in offline status.

Regular bi-weekly meetings with Hyperion staff continue to be held to exchange information regarding potential mosquito activity in the facility.

Chevron Refinery:

Area Treated:

3,403.76 sq. yds (0.702 acres)

Type of Source:

5 excess water 31 containers, 7 drain channel,

Treatment Products:

26.40 oz. (1.65 lbs.) of FourStar 180-day briquets 6.60 oz. (0.41 lbs.) of Altosid 30day briquet 19.86 fl. oz. (0.16 gal) of VectoBac liquid 0.33 fl. oz. (0.003 gal) of Agnique liquid

Baldwin Hills Oil Fields:

Area Treated:

7,620.7 sq. yds (1.57 acres)

Type of Source:

32 box drains, 31 containers, 450 oil sumps, 9 pond 4 excess water, 1 drain channel

Treatment Products:

326.25 oz. (20.0 lbs.) of FourStar 150-day BTI briquets 153.06 oz. (9.57 lbs.) of Altosid 30-day briquets, 1.2 oz. (0.08 lbs.) of FourStar 180-day briquets 129.04 oz. (8.07 lbs.) of VectoMax granule 4.2 oz. (0.26 lbs.) of VectoMax water soluble packets

Ballona Wetlands:

Area Treated:

237,157.34 sq. yds (49.0 acres)

Type of Source:

5 Marsh

Treatment Products:

15680.00 oz. (980.0 lbs.) of VectoMax granules

Torrance Refinery:

Area Treated: 0

Type of Source: 0

<u>Treatment Products</u>: No treatment this period.

Underground Drains:

Area Treated:

58,334.31 sq yds (12.05 acres)

Type of Source:

519 underground drains

Treatment Products:

142.80 oz (8.93 lbs.) of VectoMax water soluble packets

3765.00 oz. (235.31 lbs.) of FourStar 150-day briquets

63.46 oz. (3.966 lbs.) of Altosid XR briquets

6.15 oz. (2.73 lbs.) of VectoMax granules

188.67 fl.oz.(1.47 gal.) of VectoBac liquid

558.00 oz. (34.88 lbs.) of FourStar 45-day BTI briquets

2.30 oz. (0.14 lbs.) of Altosid Pellets

150.23 oz. (9.39 lb.) of VectoBac granules

63.00 oz. (3.94 lbs.) of VectoLex granules

Madrona Marsh:

Area Treated:

48,400.00 sq. yds (9 acres)

Type of Source:

10 Marsh

Treatment Products:

2240 oz. (140 lbs.) of VectoMax granules640 oz. (40 lbs.) of VectoBac granules320 oz. (20 lbs.) of VectoMax water soluble packets

Playa Vista Marsh System:

Area Treated:

425.920 sq. yds (88 acres)

Type of Source:

56 marsh, 32 creek

Treatment Product:

5120 oz (320 lbs.) of VectoBac granules 23040 oz (1440 lbs.) of VectoMax granules

MOSQUITO SERVICE REQUEST CALLS BY CITY JULY - OCTOBER 2023

NO.	CITY							
		Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
1	Agoura Hills	2		6	12			20
2	Beverly Hills	6	6	9	17			38
3	Calabasas	2		4	8			14
4	Culver City	7	3	11	16			37
5	El Segundo		2	3	1			6
6	Hawthorne	5	1	1	5			12
7	Hermosa Beach	2	2	5	4			13
8	Hidden Hills			3				3
9	Inglewood	1	7	3	10			21
10	Lawndale		1	3	2			6
11	Lomita			5	7			12
12	Los Angeles City	69	99	279	289			736
13	L.A. Co. Unincorporated Areas – (Malibu, Topanga,	2	8	13	11			34
14	Malibu City	1			1			2
15	Manhattan Beach	1	1	2	7			11
16	Palos Verdes Estate	1	1					2
17	Rancho Palos Verdes		4	2	1			7
18	Redondo Beach	3	5	3	3			14
19	Rolling Hills		1	1	1			3
20	Rolling Hills Estates		1	1	2			4
21	Santa Monica	9	6	14	9			38
22	Torrance	1	5	10	18			34
23	West Hollywood	4	1	8	3			16
24	Westlake Village			1	2			3
	Total (All Cities)	116	154	387	429			1086

AHB SERVICE CALLS BY CITY JULY - OCTOBER 2023

NO.	CITY							
		Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
1	Agoura Hills	3	3		1			7
2	Beverly Hills	9	10	11	8			38
3	Calabasas	4	5	3	1			13
4	Culver City	14	8	7	10			39
5	El Segundo	2		2				4
6	Hawthorne		3	2	8			13
7	Hermosa Beach			1				1
8	Hidden Hills		1	2				3
9	Inglewood	7	10	6	9			32
10	Lawndale	1	2	4	5			12
11	Lomita	2	1	2				5
12	Los Angeles City	68	80	114	92			354
13	L.A. Co. Unincorporated Areas – (Malibu, Topanga, etc.)	6	8	6	4			24
14	Mal bu City	2		3				5
15	Manhattan Beach	3	2	1	3			9
16	Palos Verdes Estate	1	2					3
17	Rancho Palos Verdes	6	3		7			16
18	Redondo Beach	3	5	3	3			14
19	Rolling Hills			2				2
20	Rolling Hills Estates	4	3	2				9
21	Santa Monica	5	10	16	20			51
22	Torrance	6	4	6	3			19
23	West Hollywood	2						2
24	Westlake Village	4		2	1			7
	Total (All Cities)	152	160	195	175			682

January 2018 through October 2023

Stinging Insects

(Africanized honeybees, yellow jackets, bumble bees, wasps, carpenter bees, etc.)

Service Requests and Treatments

MONTH	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan.	34/19/8	44/24/9	35/31/11	41/33/18	14/10/5	41/23/9
Feb.	74/38/11	75/42/20	48/43/15	42/35/18	79/46/18	53/31/6
Mar.	115/70/26	117/59/22	97/84/31	78/67/27	148/94/20	40/29/3
Apr.	418/216/71	448/209/68	75/52/18	207/140/65	230/145/53	117/59/17
May	301/184/77	436/211/74	180/137/45	186/105/63	258/159/48	228/148/36
June	395/218/92	481/215/83	167/134/51	153/91/66	227/162/75	263 /130/38
July	367/216/112	387/196/65	236/199/87	100/43/31	222/180/71	290/152/44
Aug.	358/243/142	412/261/94	232/197/83	136/74/46	161/113/52	229/160/54
Sept.	311/206/110	488/292/101	200/171/69	107/66/38	153/109/41	289/195/60
Oct.	269/185/88	214/121/46	158/129/61	163/97/43	160/114/67	265/175/74
Nov.	177/115/42	236/139/53	86/64/29	75/61/29	56/39/13	
Dec.	52/30/12	53/34/8	42/33/13	22/17/10	46/42/19	
TOTAL	2803/1709/751	3391/1803/643	1556/1274/513	1310/829/454	1754/1213/482	

Figures listed above represent the following: total number of calls the district received, service request responses, and total number of treatments.

Current Status Summary

Vector Ecology Monthly Report

October 2023

Sentinel Chickens: See "WNV Update" section.

Adult Mosquito Collections: See "WNV Update" section.

Midge Collections:

Ballona Creek: During this reporting period, adult midge populations at the Ballona

Creek averaged 0.003810 grams/trap night.

Samples averaged 0.003750 grams/trap night over the last reporting

period.

Palos Verdes Peninsula:

Information on Sweet Itch is available on the District's website.

7. Authorize Board Meetings by Teleconference in Compliance with AB 361

Staff Report:	Aaron Arugay
Recommended Action:	Approve

Authorization to Hold Board Meetings by Teleconference in Compliance with Assembly Bill 361

To: Board of Trustees

From: Aaron Arugay, Executive Director

Date: November 9, 2023

<u>For authorization</u>: Consider finding by a majority vote pursuant to Government Code sections 54953 (e) that the Board continue to have teleconferencing meetings due to the dangers posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and the measures to promote social distancing that have been recommended.

Under AB 361, local agencies can hold meetings without a public meeting space and without providing notice of the board members' teleconference locations if there is a Governor-proclaimed state of emergency and either (1) state or local officials are imposing or recommending measures to promote social distancing or (2) the Board determines that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees. These findings were made by the Board on January 12, 2023.

To continue meeting remotely in compliance with Government Code section 54953(b)(3), the Board must make the following findings every 30 days pursuant to Government Code section 54953(e)(3):

- (A) The Board must reconsider the circumstances of the state of emergency and
- (B) Determine that any of the following circumstances exist:
 - (i) The state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person, or
 - (ii)State or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.

As of October 26, 2023, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health has reported 36,878 residents of Los Angeles County have died from the virus.

On October 25, 2023, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health reported a daily average case count of 220, a daily average of 345 hospitalizations, as well as an average of 4.4 deaths per day for the previous 7 days.

On December 15, 2022, the Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board voted to adopt non-emergency COVID-19 prevention regulations. These regulations took effect on February 3, 2023, and will remain in effect for two years after the effective date, except for the record-keeping subsections that will remain in effect for three years. Under the new non -emergency standards that went into effect 2-3-2023 it states:

"(2) When determining measures to prevent COVID-19 transmission and to identify and correct COVID-19 hazards, employers shall review applicable orders and guidance related to COVID-19 from the State of California and the local health department with

jurisdiction over the workplace and shall treat COVID-19 as an airborne infectious disease. COVID-19 prevention controls include remote work, physical distancing, reducing the density of people indoors, moving indoor tasks outdoors, implementing separate shifts and/or break times, restricting access to the work area, and other prevention measures, in addition to the requirements of this section"

If the authorization to continue to meet by teleconference is approved by a majority vote, the next board meeting will also be held remotely unless facts on the ground change significantly. In accordance with AB 361, the ability to hold meetings by teleconference will need to be reauthorized every 30 days.

Recommendation:

Move that the Board continue to hold meetings via teleconference pursuant to Government Code section 54953(e) and find that (i) it has reconsidered the circumstances of the COVID-19 state of emergency, and (ii) state or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.

Motion:	
Second:	
Ayes:	
Noes:	
Abstentions:	

8. Board of Trustees Comments				
Staff Report:	None Scheduled			
Recommended Action:	As determined by the Board			

9. Motion to Adjourn		
Recommended Action:	Approve	