















Coachella Valley  
Mosquito and Vector  
Control District

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Indio, CA 92201  
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[www.cvmosquito.org](http://www.cvmosquito.org)

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**Budget Workshop Meeting Via Zoom**  
**Tuesday, May 12, 2020**

**4:30 p.m.**

**AGENDA**

**In the interest of maintaining appropriate social distancing and to comply with orders issued by Governor Newsom, the Board encourages the public to participate in this meeting via Zoom by calling 1-888-475-4499 (toll free), Meeting ID: 827 1681 3137 or click this link to join: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82716813137>. If you would like to comment on the agenda item or subject matter within the jurisdiction of the Board, please email your public comment to the Clerk of the Board by 3:00 p.m. on May 12, 2020 at [gmorales@cvmvcd.org](mailto:gmorales@cvmvcd.org).**

Assistance for those with disabilities: If you have a disability and need accommodation to participate in the meeting, please call the Clerk of the Board at (760) 342-8287 for assistance so the necessary arrangement can be made.

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Confirmation of Agenda
4. Public Comments

Please see above regarding remote participation and public comments. Those wishing to address the Board should complete a Public Comment Card and email it to the Clerk of the Board by 11:00 a.m. on May 1, 2020 at [gmorales@cvmvcd.org](mailto:gmorales@cvmvcd.org).

- A. **PUBLIC Comments — AGENDA ITEMS:** Persons wishing to address the Board on agenda items are requested to do so at this time. When addressing the Board, please come to the podium and give your name and address for the record. In order to conduct a timely meeting, a three-minute time limit per person per item has been established.
- B. **PUBLIC Comments — NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** Persons wishing to address the Board on items not appearing on the agenda are requested to do so at this time. When addressing the Board, please come to the podium and give your name and address for the record. In order to conduct a timely meeting, a three-minute time limit per person has been established. California Government Code Section

54950 prohibits the Executive Committee from taking action on a specific item until it appears on the agenda.

5. Overview/Discussion of Preliminary FY 2020-2021 Budget
6. Trustee/Staff Comments
7. Confirmation of Next Meeting Date
8. Adjournment

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**Certification of Posting**

I certify that on May 8, 2020 I posted a copy of the foregoing agenda near the regular meeting place of the Board of Trustees of the Coachella Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District and on the District's website, said time being at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting of the Board of Trustees (Government Code Section 54954.2)

Executed at Indio, California, on May 8, 2020.

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Graciela Morales, Clerk of the Board



## **Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District**

### **Legislative Advocacy Policy**

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of the Legislative Advocacy Policy (“Policy”) is to guide Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District (“District”) officials and staff in considering legislative or regulatory proposals that are likely to have an impact on the District and to allow for a timely response to important legislative issues. Although the expenditure of public funds for the purpose of supporting or opposing a ballot measure or candidate is prohibited<sup>1</sup>, the expenditure of public funds is allowed to advocate for or against proposed legislation or regulatory actions which will affect the public agency expending the funds.<sup>2</sup>

The purpose for establishing legislative advocacy procedures is to provide clear direction to District staff with regard to monitoring and acting upon bills during state and federal legislative sessions. Adherence to legislative advocacy procedures will ensure that legislative inquiries and responses will be administered consistently with “one voice” as to the identified advocacy priorities adopted by the Board of Trustees (“Board”). The legislative advocacy procedures and advocacy priorities will provide the District’s General Manager, or designee, discretion to advocate in the District’s best interests in a manner consistent with the goals and priorities adopted by the Board. This policy is intended to be manageable, consistent, and tailored to the specific needs and culture of the District.

#### **Policy Goals**

- Advocate for the District’s legislative interests at the county, state, and federal levels.
- Provide information to the Board and District staff on the legislative process and key issues and legislation that could impact the District.
- Serve as an active participant with other local governments, the Mosquito and Vector Control of California (MVCAC), the California Special Districts Association (CSDA), and local government associations on legislative and regulatory issues that are important to the District, region and state.

<sup>1</sup> Cal. Gov. Code § 54964.

<sup>2</sup> Cal. Gov. Code § 53060.5; *Stanson v. Mott* (1976) 17 Cal. 3d 206.

## **Policy Principles**

The Board recognizes the need to protect the District interests and local control, and to identify various avenues to implement its strategic and long-term goals. It is the policy of the District to proactively monitor and advocate for legislation as directed by the advocacy priorities and by the specific direction of the Board.

This Policy provides the District's General Manager, or designee, the flexibility to adopt positions on legislation in a timely manner, while allowing the Board to set advocacy priorities to provide policy guidance. The Board shall establish various advocacy priorities and, so long as the position fits within the advocacy priorities, staff is authorized to take a position without Board approval.

Whenever an applicable advocacy priority does not exist pertaining to legislation affecting the District, the matter shall be brought before the Board at a regularly scheduled Board meeting for formal direction from the Board. The Board may choose to establish a standing committee of two (2) Trustees, known as the "Legislative Advocacy Committee", with the authority to adopt a position when consideration by the full Board is not feasible within the time-constraints of the legislative process.

Generally, the District will not address matters that are not pertinent to the District's local government services and mission, such as social issues or international relations issues.

## **Legislative Advocacy Procedures**

It is the policy of the District to proactively monitor and advocate for legislation as directed by the advocacy priorities and by the specific direction of the Board. This process involves interaction with local, state, and federal government entities both in regard to specific items of legislation and to promote positive intergovernmental relationships. Accordingly, involvement and participation in regional, state, and national organizations is encouraged and supported by the District.

Monitoring legislation is a shared function of the Board and General Manager or designated staff. The legislative advocacy procedures are the process by which staff will track and respond to legislative issues in a timely and consistent manner. The General Manager, or designee, will act on legislation utilizing the following procedures:

1. The General Manager or designee shall review requests that the District take a position on legislative issues to determine if the legislation aligns with the District's current approved advocacy priorities.

2. The General Manager or designee will conduct a review of positions and analysis completed by such organizations as the MVCAC, CSDA and other local government associations when formulating positions.
3. If the matter aligns with the District's approved priorities, the District's response shall be supplied in the form of a letter to the legislative body reviewing the bill or measure. Advocacy methods utilized on behalf of the District, including but not limited to letters, phone calls, emails, and prepared forms, will be communicated through the General Manager or designee. The General Manager or designee shall advise staff to administer the form of advocacy, typically via letters signed by the General Manager, or designee, on behalf of the Board.
4. All draft legislative position letters initiated by the General Manager or designee shall state whether the District is requesting "support", "support if amended", "oppose", or "oppose unless amended" action on the issue, and shall include adequate justification for the recommended action. If possible, the letter should include examples of how a bill would specifically affect the District, e.g. "the funding the District will lose due to this bill could pay for X capital improvements."
  - a. Support - legislation in this area advances the District's goals and priorities.
  - b. Oppose - legislation in this area could potentially harm, negatively impact or undo positive momentum for the District, or does not advance the District's goals and priorities.
5. The General Manager may also provide a letter of concern or interest regarding a legislative issue without taking a formal position on a piece of legislation. Letters of concern or interest are to be administered through the General Manager or designee.
6. When a letter is sent to a state or federal legislative body, the appropriate federal or state legislators representing the District shall be included as a copy or "cc" on the letter. The appropriate contacts at the MVCAC, CSDA and other local government associations, if applicable, shall be included as a cc on legislative letters.

7. A position may be adopted by the General Manager or designee if any of the following criteria is met:
  - a. The position is consistent with the adopted advocacy priorities;
  - b. The position is consistent with that of organizations to which the District is a member, such as the MVCAC or CSDA; or
  - c. The position is approved by the Board or the Legislative Advocacy Committee.
8. All legislative positions adopted via a process outside of a regularly scheduled Board Meeting shall be communicated to the Board at the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting. When appropriate, the General Manager or designee will submit a report (either written or verbal) summarizing activity on legislative measures to the Board.

### **Advocacy Priorities**

#### **Public Health**

Play an active role in ensuring public health legislation and regulations benefit or have no impact on the District's Integrated Vector Management Program and services.

#### **Environmental Regulations**

The District's mission is to deliver a science based, environmentally sound integrated vector management program to protect public health. The District will work to ensure that proposed legislation does not expand or create new environmental regulations that hamper the ability of the District to carry out responsive and effective control strategies.

#### **Revenue, Finances, and Taxation**

Ensure adequate funding for special districts' safe and reliable core local service delivery. Protect special districts' resources from the shift or diversion of revenues without the consent of the affected districts. Promote the financial independence of special districts and afford them access to revenue opportunities equal to that of other types of local agencies. Protect and preserve special districts' property tax allocations and local flexibility with revenue and diversify local revenue sources. Support opportunities that allow the district to compete for its fair share of regional, state, and federal funding, and that maintain funding streams. Opportunities may include competitive grant and funding programs. Opportunities may also include dedicated funding streams at the regional, state, or federal levels that allow the district to maximize local revenues, offset and leverage capital expenditures, and maintain district goals and standards.

## **Governance and Accountability**

Enhance special districts' ability to govern as independent, local government bodies in an open and accessible manner. Encourage best practices that avoid burdensome, costly, and redundant or one-size-fits all approaches. Protect meaningful public participation in local agency formations, dissolutions, and reorganizations, and ensure local services meet the unique needs, priorities, and preferences of each community.

Oppose additional public meeting and records requirements that unnecessarily increase the burden on public resources without effectively fostering public engagement and enhancing accountability of government agencies.

Promote local-level solutions, decision-making, and management concerning service delivery and governance structures while upholding voter control and maintaining Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) authority over local government jurisdictional reorganizations and/or consolidations.

## **Human Resources and Personnel**

Promote policies related to hiring, management, and benefits and retirement that afford flexibility, contain costs, and enhance the ability to recruit and retain highly qualified, career-minded employees to public service. As public agency employers, support policies that foster productive relationships between management and employees.

Maintain special districts' ability to exercise local flexibility by minimizing state mandated contract requirements. Oppose any measure that would hinder the ability of special districts to maximize local resources and efficiencies through the use of contracted services.

## **Infrastructure, Innovation, and Investment**

Encourage prudent planning for investment and maintenance of innovative long-term infrastructure. Support the contracting flexibility and fiscal tools and incentives needed to help special districts meet California's changing demands. Promote the efficient, effective, and sustainable delivery of core local services.

Prevent restrictive one-size-fits-all public works requirements that increase costs to taxpayers and reduce local flexibility.