

**MINUTES OF THE 945<sup>th</sup> MEETING**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Orange County Mosquito and Vector Control District**

TIME: 3:00 P.M. April 16, 2026

PLACE: 13001 Garden Grove Blvd., Garden Grove, CA 92843

PRESIDENT:	Robert Ruesch	Mission Viejo
VICE PRESIDENT:	Tanya Doby	Los Alamitos
SECRETARY:	John Taylor	San Juan Capistrano

**TRUSTEES PRESENT:**

Anaheim	Carlos Leon	Lake Forest	Robert Pequeño
Brea	Cecilia Hupp	Los Alamitos	Tanya Doby
Costa Mesa	Bill Turpit	Mission Viejo	Bob Ruesch
Cypress	Kyle Chang	Newport Beach	Erik Weigand
Dana Point	John Gabbard	Orange	Sean Chavarria
Fountain Valley	Kim Constantine	Placentia	Thomas Hummer
Fullerton	Shana Charles	Rancho Santa Margarita	April Josephson
Garden Grove	Ariana Arestegui	San Clemente	Zhen Wu
Irvine	Melinda Liu	Seal Beach	Nathan Steele
La Habra	James Gomez	Stanton	Gary Taylor
La Palma	Vikesh Patel	Tustin	Rebecca Gomez
Laguna Hills	Erica Pezold	Villa Park	Kelly McBride
Laguna Niguel	Gene Johns	Yorba Linda	Peggy Huang
Laguna Woods	Pearl Lee	County of Orange	Lisa Fernandez

**TRUSTEES ABSENT:**

Aliso Viejo	Garrett Dwyer	San Juan Capistrano	John Taylor
Buena Park	Lamiya Hoque	Santa Ana	Benjamin Vazquez
Huntington Beach	Gracey Van Derk Mark	Westminster	Carlos Manzo
Laguna Beach	Mark Orgill		

Trustees Hoque, Van Der Mark, and J. Taylor had a notified absence.

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Lora Young, District Manager  
Miquel Jacobs, Director of Communications  
Jerry Sims, Director of Operations  
Amber Semrow, Director of Scientific Technical Services  
Tawnia Pett, Executive Assistant/Clerk of the Board  
Alexandra Severino, District Counsel

**A. Opening:**

1. **Call the Business Meeting to Order:** President Ruesch called the meeting to order at 3:00 P.M.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** President Ruesch asked Trustee Johns to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Roll Call:** Twenty-eight Trustees were present out of the current Board membership of 35.

**B. Public Comments: None****C. Presentations:**

1. District Staff gave a presentation entitled "Together We Fight: Engaging the Community in 2026"

**D. OCMVCD Committee Reports to the Board of Trustees:**

1. Budget & Finance Committee: Committee chair Pequeño reported the committee discussed the proposed District budget for 2026-27 27-28 and the District benefit assessments.
2. Public Relations Committee: Committee chair Constantine reported the committee discussed the upcoming outreach campaign and discussed the District FlashVote survey.
3. Policy & Personnel Committee: Committee chair Chavarria reported the committee reviewed ongoing negotiations between the District Manager and the Employee Association. There will be a full report in May.

**E. Consent Calendar: Items for Approval by General Consent:**

On motion from Trustee J. Gomez, seconded by Trustee Pezold, and approved by unanimous vote, the Board of Trustees approved Consent Calendar Items E.2 through E.4. Agenda Item E.1 was passed by majority vote due to absences at the previous Board Meeting (Abstained: Trustees Leon, Hupp, Charles, Hummer, and Wu).

Ayes: Trustees Leon, Hupp, Turpit, Chang, Gabbard, Constantine, Charles, Arestegui, Liu, J. Gomez, Patel, Pezold, Johns, Lee, Pequeño, Doby, Ruesch, Weigand, Chavarria, Hummer, Josephson, Wu, Steele, G. Taylor, R. Gomez, McBride, Huang and Fernandez

Noes: None.

Abstained: None.

Absent: Trustees Dwyer, Hoque, Van Der Mark, Orgill, J. Taylor, Vazquez, and Manzo

1. **Approval of Minutes:** Approved, without reading, the minutes of 944<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Board of Trustees held March 19, 2026.
2. **Approved Warrant Register for February 2026: (Exhibit A)** Received and filed.
3. **Approved Monthly Financial Report for February 2026: (Exhibit A)** Received and filed.
4. **Adopted Resolution No. 606 to Direct the Preparation of the Engineer's Report or Fiscal Year 2026-27 for the Orange County Mosquito and Vector Control District, Vector Surveillance and Control Assessment (District No. 1) and the Mosquito, Fire Ant and Disease Control Assessment District (District No. 2) : (Exhibit A)**

**F. Business Items:**

1. **Public Hearing to Review Orange County Mosquito and Vector Control District Vacancies and Recruitment and Retention Efforts in Compliance with Assembly Bill 2561/Government Code Section 3502.3 (Exhibit A)**

**Public Hearing Opened: 3:20 PM**

Director of Human Resources Vera gave a presentation on the state of the District's vacancies, recruitment, and retention efforts for the past year since the last report.

**Public Hearing Closed: 3:24 PM**

Received and filed

2. **Approved NHA Advisors for Municipal Financial Advisory Services for the District's Campus Redevelopment Project (Exhibit A, B, C, D)** On motion from Trustee Hupp, seconded by Trustee Pezold, and approved by unanimous vote, the Board of Trustees approved NHA Advisors for the municipal financial advisors services for the District's campus redevelopment project.

**Ayes:** Trustees Leon, Hupp, Turpit, Chang, Gabbard, Constantine, Charles, Arestegui, Liu, J. Gomez, Patel, Pezold, Johns, Lee, Pequeño, Doby, Ruesch, Weigand, Chavarria, Hummer, Josephson, Wu, Steele, G. Taylor, R. Gomez, McBride, Huang and Fernandez

**Noes:** None.

**Abstained:** None.

**Absent:** Trustees Dwyer, Hoque, Van Der Mark, Orgill, J. Taylor, Vazquez, and Manzo

**G. Informational Items Only (No Action Necessary):**

1. **Staff Presentation:** Director of Scientific Technical Services Semrow gave an update on vector activity in the county.
2. **Staff Presentation:** Director of Operations Sims gave an update on operations activity in the county.
3. **Staff Presentation:** Director of Communications Jacobs gave an update on outreach activity in the county.

**H. President's Report and Trustee Comments:**

1. President Ruesch introduced the new Trustee from the city of Placentia, Thomas Hummer.

**I. District Manager's Report:** District Manager Young reported:

1. Budget Workshops will be May 6 and 12, 2026 from 12:00-1:30PM
2. The budget will be digitally distributed to the Board the week of April 20, 2026
3. The Ad hoc committee members for the Budget & Finance and Building, Property, & Equipment Joint Committees for phase one of the design build are John Gabbard (Dana Point), Robert Pequeño (Lake Forest), Sean Chavarria (Orange), John Taylor (San Juan Capistrano), Nathan Steele (Seal Beach), and Kelly McBride (Villa Park)

J. **District Counsel Report: None**

K. **Correspondence:**

1. Trustee and Staff conference reports from meetings attended in March.

L. **Future Agenda Items: None**

M. **Adjournment:**

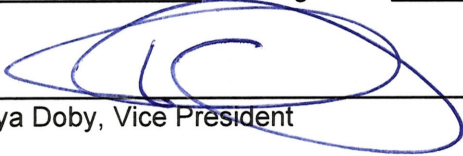
1. President Ruesch adjourned the meeting at 3:51 P.M. to a regular meeting on Thursday, May 21, 2026.

I certify that the above minutes substantially reflect the actions taken by the Board of Trustees at its meeting held April 16, 2026.

Lora Young  
Lora B. Young, District Manager

Approved as written and/or corrected by the Board of Trustees at its 946th

Nine hundred forty-sixth meeting held May 21, 2026

ATTEST:   
Tanya Doby, Vice President