



# CALAFCO

# NEWSLETTER

August, 2022 Edition

## BOARDROOM Brief

**AT ITS VIRTUAL** meeting on July 22, the Board received the year-end financial reports from our accountant, considered a revised FY 22-23 budget, and resumed their discussion of the Government Code Section 56133 legislative amendment proposal.

The Fourth Quarter financial report found that the association is sound financially. It also disclosed an FY 21-22 net balance that was slightly larger than had been expected in April. Consequently, a revised FY 22-23 budget was also presented to the Board to capture the higher carryover, as well as to remove an erroneously duplicated stipend calculation from the Executive Director's salary line for the upcoming year. Those adjustments, along with another that the Board made to the payroll tax line, resulted in a revised FY 22-23 budget. The differences from the original version approved in April were increased carryover and contingency lines, and reductions to the ED salary and payroll tax lines. The revised budget can be found on the Board meeting portion of the website.

The last action item considered was the reconsideration of the legislative proposal from San Diego LAFCo regarding Government Code §56133. As many will recall, the topic has been a continuing one having been discussed and tabled at the January and April Board meetings. In April, the Board sent the proposal back to the Legislative Committee to complete additional research. Ultimately, the Board approved adding the endeavor to the list of CALAFCO projects, as well as approving a White Paper to guide the effort.

Reports were also received regarding CALAFCO U and the fall conference - including Elections. It was noted that Achievement Awards have an upcoming **deadline of AUGUST 12TH** - so get those nomination packets in ASAP!

The next Board meeting is scheduled for October 21st during the conference.

**All agendas, staff reports, and minutes can be found on the CALAFCO website at [www.calafco.org](http://www.calafco.org). Any questions should be directed to the Executive Director at [rlaroch@calafco.org](mailto:rlaroch@calafco.org).**

## SBA 938 Chaptered



Screen shot of Senator Hertzberg presenting SB 938 on the Senate Floor on June 23, 2022

**AS MOST** of you already know, SB 938 (the Protest Provisions bill) has been successfully concluded. It passed the Senate Floor on June 23rd with a 38-0 vote, and was signed by the Governor on July 1st.

Thank you to the many LAFCOs who rushed to get letters submitted to the Governor after that June 23rd passage.

Given that this is the culmination of an effort that began in 2017, special thanks must again go to the Protest Provisions Working Group members for the YEARS of work on this bill.

The Board of Directors - and all of CALAFCO - extends its sincerest thanks and gratitude to **Jo MacKenzie, José Henriquez, Kai Luoma, Steve Lucas, Paul Novak, Holly Whatley** and, of course, **Pamela Miller** (who stayed on to work the bill in a volunteer capacity.)

## Other Legislative Updates

**AB 2957**, the CALAFCO sponsored Omnibus bill has also been successfully completed. It was passed by the Senate on June 9th, and signed by the Governor on June 21, 2022. Thank you to all of the Legislative Committee members and EOs who submitted proposed changes for the bill. Special thanks to Joe Serrano who had the unenviable task of logging all of those changes!

See **OTHER UPDATES** on Page 3



A Message from the

## Executive Director

It's been a busy few months in the office.

We've held two successful and well-received CALAFCO U webinars. Like much of what we do, these could not exist without the volunteerism of our panelists. Thanks to Carolyn Emery (OC), Alison Alpert (BB&K), and Gary Phillips (Bob Murray and Associates) for participating in our June webinar on recruitments and hiring in a post pandemic world. Also, kudos to David Ruderman (Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley) for organizing our July offering regarding R&T 99, with thanks to panelists José Henriquez (Sacramento), Israel Guevara (OC Auditor-Controller) and Holly Whatley (CHW). I hear time and again how much our members appreciate these offerings!

Our next CALAFCO U is scheduled in September, then they will go on hiatus through the conference and holidays. The target month for our first session in 2023 is February. Thanks to Dawn Mittleman Longoria (Napa) who has been my wing person on these. I could NOT have made it without her!!

Jeni and I are now in full conference mode. Registration opened on July 5th and they have been coming in steadily. If you missed the July 31st Early Bird deadline, the next date to watch is **August 31st** which will be the last day to get the Standard Registration Fee. After that it will be Late Fee only.

Sponsorship packets were sent out and we're seeing some new and returning sponsors already! However, I would ask and encourage you all to send a packet to those in your networks as well.

Our conference planning committee is working hard and the program is taking shape. Many thanks to José Henriquez who is spearheading that effort. Look for more specifics to be announced soon.

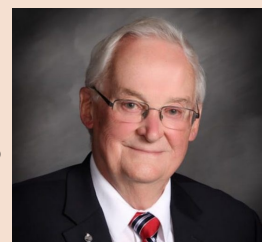
Also, a reminder that **ACHIEVEMENT AWARD NOMINATIONS** are due no later than **August 12th at 5:00 PM** so

See **ED**, column right

## IN MEMORIAM

### JERRY GLADBACH, Los Angeles LAFCo Commissioner

Sad news from Los Angeles LAFCo who lost long-time commissioner, Jerry Gladbach, on July 14th. Commissioner Gladbach was a representative of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency and had held a seat on the L.A. LAFCo where he had served as its Chair for 16 years. Commissioner Gladbach also served as a CALAFCO Director from 2005 to 2013, held the position of CALAFCO Board Chair in 2012, received the Most Outstanding Commissioner Award in 2013, as well as the prestigious and well-deserved Lifetime Achievement Award in 2021.



A resident of the Santa Clarita Valley since 1968, Commissioner Gladbach was a do-er who had also served on boards of the National Water Resources Association and the California Water Agencies Joint Powers Insurance Authority. He was renowned for his knowledge, dedication, kindness, and friendliness and will be missed by all.

CALAFCO sends its deepest condolences to Commissioner Gladbach's family, friends, and co-workers.



### Contra Costa LAFCo bid farewell to **Commissioner Igor**

**Skaredoff** (Contra Costa Resource Conservation District) who served as a Special District member since 2014. During Commissioner Skaredoff's tenure, Contra Costa LAFCo competed numerous Municipal Service Reviews covering fire/emergency medical, reclamation, healthcare, parks & recreation, cemetery, and city services; and acted on over 75 proposals including dozens of boundary changes and reorganizations, and four district dissolutions. Also, during Commissioner Skaredoff's tenure, Contra Costa LAFCo Commissioners were named "Most Effective Commission" at the 2019 annual CALAFCO conference.

See **CONNECTIONS** on Page 4

### **ED**, Continued from left column

get those nominations in to Steve Lucas today!

Another date to note is **September 19th** at 5:00 PM - which is when Director Nominations, Requests for Absentee/Electronic Ballots, and names of voting delegates must be **received**.

And if that wasn't enough, Absentee Ballots are due **October 14th**.

Lastly, a special shout out to Gary Thompson (Riverside) who will be presenting at the CSDA conference in balmy Palm Desert on August 24th. Many thanks, Gary!

Okay, folks, I know that's a lot of dates but you'll also find them all on the Calendar of Events on Page 3.

As usual, please feel free to reach out to me any time that you have any questions or concerns. Enjoy the summer, be safe, and see you at the Conference!!



## Upcoming EVENTS



### CALAFCO 2022 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

October 19 - 21, 2022

Join us at the **Hyatt Regency Newport Beach John Wayne Airport** on



October 19-21, 2022 for our long-awaited, long-overdue Annual Conference! The program planning committee is finalizing what is sure to be a great program. Go

to [calafco.org](http://calafco.org) for more details. See you in Newport Beach!

### 2023 STAFF WORKSHOP

April 26 - 28, 2023

Learn technical topics in a beautiful setting! Don't miss next year's Staff Workshop on the beautiful grounds of Ironstone Vineyards in Murphys, California.



CALAFCO U explores topics of interest to LAFcos and are offered at no cost to our members.

**Sep. 19, 2022:** Two Agencies in Dispute: *LAFco's Role in Assisting in Resolving the Conflict*  
1:00 PM

**TBD, 2023:** The Dirty Dozen: *Things I Wish I Knew About The Act*

### BOARD MEETINGS:

**Oct. 21, 2022** LOCATION: Newport Beach (Conference)

**Dec. 2, 2022** LOCATION: Virtual

### LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

**Sept. 16, 2022** CANCELLED

**Oct. 7, 2022** LOCATION: Virtual

**Nov. 4, 2022** LOCATION: TBD

### OTHER IMPORTANT DATES:

**Aug. 12, 2022** ACHIEVEMENT AWARD NOMINATIONS DUE

**Sept. 19, 2022** BOARD OF DIRECTOR NOMINATIONS DUE

**Sept. 19, 2022** ABSENTEE/ELECTRONIC BALLOT REQUESTS DUE

**Sept. 19, 2022** NAME OF VOTING DELEGATE DUE

**Oct. 14, 2022** ABSENTEE BALLOTS ARE DUE

**Oct. 20, 2022** ELECTIONS

## OTHER UPDATES

*Continued from Page 1*

CALAFCO is currently tracking a total of 29 bills. Included among those are:

**AB 897** (Mullin), establishment of a regional climate network. This bill has stalled and is in its second year.

**AB 1640** (Ward), would authorize the creation of regional climate networks, as well as set up guidelines. Referred to the Senate Appropriations suspense file.

**AB 1773** (Patterson), return of Williamson Act subvention funding. Held under submission in Assembly Appropriations on May 19<sup>th</sup>.

**SB 739** (Cortese), was a gut and amend seeking to create ministerial processes for the annexations of unused golf courses to be used for the development of high rise buildings with 600-700 residences. The author's office notes that it will not be pursuing this bill this year.

**SB 852** (Dodd), is similar to AB 1640 in that it addresses the formation of climate resilience districts, however, this bill focuses on enhanced infrastructure financing to fund public capital facilities including projects that address climate change impacts. Scheduled for third reading in the Assembly on August 8<sup>th</sup>.

**SB 1100** (Cortese), which would amend the Brown Act to include provisions and procedures regarding meeting disruptions has passed both houses and is now in Engrossing and Enrolling.

**SB 1490, 1491, and 1492**, the annual Validation Acts, have now been chaptered.

The legislative season is now nearing a close with August 12<sup>th</sup> being the last day for fiscal committees to meet and report bills. After that, the remainder of the month will be Floor sessions only, with August 25<sup>th</sup> being the last day to amend bills on the floor. August 31<sup>st</sup> is the deadline for each house to pass bills, and the Final Recess will begin upon adjournment on that date.

It is fitting to note at this time that this important work does not happen in a vacuum. The Legislative Committee is composed of 32 members who have committed to give generously of their time and expertise. CALAFCO could not do what it does without them, so our sincerest thanks to the following:

**Board Appointees** - Bill Connelly, Gay Jones, Mike Kelley, Chris Lopez, Jo MacKenzie, Daron McDaniel, Mike McGill, Margie Mohler, Anita Pague, and Josh Susman.

**Staff Voting Members** - Clark Alsop, Gary Bell, Mark Bramfitt, Scott Browne, Carolyn Emery, René LaRoche, Steve Lucas, Kai Luoma, Jennifer Stephenson, and Gary Thompson.

**Staff Alternates** - Rob Fitzroy, Paula Graf, Joe Serrano, and Paula de Sousa.

**Advisory** - Tara Bravo, Crystal Craig, Brandon Fender, Sara Lytle-Pinhey, Priscilla Mumpower, Erica Sanchez, Jim Simon, and Luis Tapia.



## CONNECTIONS

*Continued from Page 2*

**Contra Costa** also welcomed Commissioner Patricia Bristow in June as its new Special District member. Commissioner Bristow currently serves as Board Member on both the Byron-Brentwood-Knightsen Union Cemetery District and the Byron Sanitary District and serves on the Contra Costa County Transportation Authority Citizen Advisory. Commissioner Bristow has lived in Brentwood and Byron her entire life and was a teacher and counselor in the Brentwood Unified School District for 34 years. Her family has farmed in the community for over 100 years.

### NEW Roles

#### **LUIS TAPIA promotes to OC AEO**

Orange County LAFCo announced the promotion of Luis Tapia to the Assistant Executive Officer position. Luis brings a great deal of experience to the role having been with Orange LAFCo since 2016 and is an Advisory member to the CALAFCO Legislative Committee.

#### **NATASHA CARBAJAL hired as Santa Barbara's new Analyst-Clerk**

Santa Barbara LAFCo is pleased to welcome Natasha Carbajal as its new Analyst/Clerk. Natasha had been providing clerking services for

about 10 months while she was with the Santa Barbara Clerk of the Board's Office. She comes to LAFCo with a broad range of skills and abilities, including great local government experience and all around good public service skills. Natasha has a Master of Public Administration from California State University Northridge and a Bachelor of Arts, Sociology from University Channel Islands.

#### **MORGAN BING welcomed as SLO Clerk Analyst**

Morgan Bing has joined San Luis Obispo LAFCo as their new Clerk Analyst. She comes to SLO LAFCo with a Bachelors and Masters degree from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and four years of experience. SLO LAFCo is very excited to have her on their team!

#### **SAFARINA MALUKI becomes Clerk in Monterey**

Monterey LAFCo has welcomed Safarina Maluki as their new Clerk to the Commission/Office Administrator. Safarina has a wide range of responsibilities in support of the Commission and staff, and she looks forward to getting to know her colleagues around the State!

**Congratulations one and all!**

## Associate Member SPOTLIGHT

*The information below is provided by the Associate member upon joining the Association. All Associate Member information can be found in the CALAFCO Member Directory*

### **E MULBERG & ASSOCIATES**

Services include Municipal Service Reviews, Sphere of Influence updates, changes in organization, staff support, CEQA analysis, and assistance with applications to LAFCo.

To learn more about E Mulberg & Associates, visit their website at [www.emulberg.com](http://www.emulberg.com), or contact Elliot Mulberg at [Elliot@emulberg.com](mailto:Elliot@emulberg.com).



### **LOS ANGELES COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICTS**

Provides sewer service to 78 cities and unincorporated areas of LA County. Before a district can provide sewage service to a territory, it must be within its jurisdictional boundaries. Donna Curry administers the annexation program, including processing applications for annexation.

To learn more about LACSD visit their website at [www.lacsd.org](http://www.lacsd.org), or contact Donna Curry at [dcurry@lacsd.org](mailto:dcurry@lacsd.org)

**CALAFCO wishes to thank all of our Associate Members for your ongoing support and partnership. We look forward to highlighting you all in future Newsletters.**

### Vector of the Month: Vectors of West Nile Virus

Orange County supports a unique assemblage of mosquitoes represented by 26 species. The following description presents a brief synopsis of two commonly occurring mosquito species that can transmit West Nile virus (WNV). WNV lives in the wild bird population and is transmitted (vectored) to other birds, and occasionally people, principally by these two mosquito species.

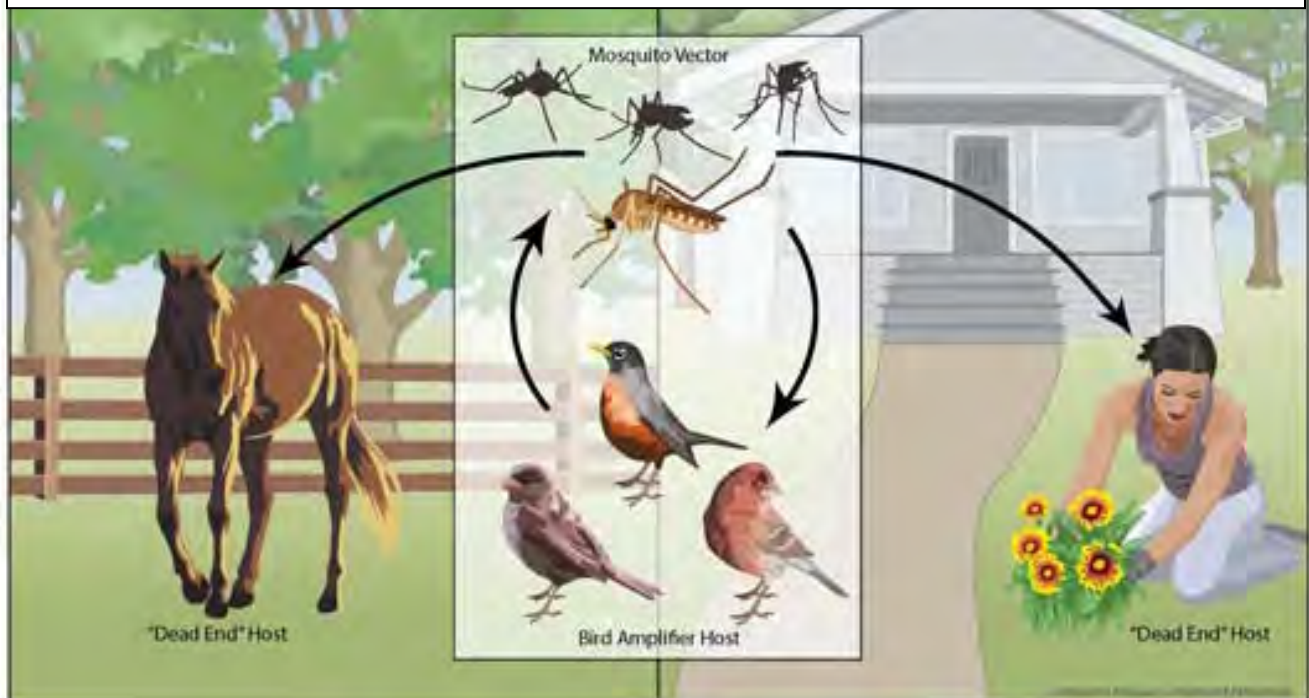
***Culex quinquefasciatus*:** The southern house mosquito has been the species responsible for a majority of the District's mosquito abatement services and related control activities over the years. Females are active nearly year around in the more sheltered areas of the county and will frequently enter houses to seek blood. Larvae are commonly associated with all types of "urban waters" held in sources ranging from swimming pools to flower pots. This species serves as our primary vector of both WNV and St. Louis encephalitis virus (SLEV).

***Culex tarsalis*:** The western encephalitis mosquito is considered by most mosquito biologists to be the principal encephalitis vector throughout much of its range in North America. It is our primary vector of western equine encephalitis virus (WEEV) and primary/secondary vector of WNV and SLEV. Adults are active during the spring, summer, and fall. Though more common in less developed areas, breeding occurs throughout the county in association with most types of clean, standing water sources in channels and marshes.

**Unlikely WNV Vectors:** Although our new invasive mosquitoes, *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus*, are very bothersome, they are not normally part of the WNV disease transmission cycle. This is because they rarely bite birds where the virus resides and prefer to feed on humans. Instead, they are efficient vectors of the viruses that cause dengue fever, Zika, and chikungunya.

### West Nile Virus Transmission Cycle

In nature, WNV cycles between mosquitoes (especially *Culex* species) and birds. Some infected birds can develop high virus levels in their bloodstreams and mosquitoes can become infected by biting these infected birds. After about a week, infected mosquitoes can pass the virus to more birds when they bite. Mosquitoes with WNV also bite people, horses, and other mammals. However, humans, horses, and other mammals are "dead end" hosts and do not develop high levels of virus in their bloodstream; hence, they cannot pass the virus to other mosquitoes.





## **West Nile virus cases reported in San Gabriel, Antelope and San Fernando valleys — and Orange County**

By CITY NEWS SERVICE | [news@socalnews.com](mailto:news@socalnews.com) PUBLISHED: August 26, 2022 at 5:49 a.m.

| UPDATED: August 26, 2022 at 5:50 a.m.



Crews from the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District spray the Sepulveda Dam area early Sept. 27, 2017, to rid it of mosquito larvae as a result of West Nile virus. (File photo by Gene Blevins/Contributing Photographer)

LOS ANGELES — Los Angeles County health officials have confirmed the county's first human cases of West Nile virus this year, saying six cases have been identified since late July.

No specifics about the patients were released on Thursday — but according to the county Department of Public Health, the victims live in the Antelope Valley, San Fernando Valley and San Gabriel Valley.

Most of the patients were hospitalized in late July and early August, and all are recovering, according to the county.

“Mosquitoes thrive in hot weather and residents should follow simple steps to reduce their risk of exposure to mosquito-borne diseases, such as West Nile virus,” county Health Officer Dr. Muntu Davis said in a statement.



A truck with the Orange County Mosquito and Vector Control District sprays a larvicide in the cemetery at Fairhaven Memorial Park in Santa Ana on Thursday, Oct. 1, 2020. The Wide Area Larvicide Spray targets immature mosquitoes in the water. The spray contains a naturally occurring bacterium that kills mosquito larvae before they become adult mosquitos which can carry diseases such as the West Nile Virus. (Photo by Leonard Ortiz, Orange County Register/SCNG)

“Simple measures can reduce mosquitoes and mosquito bites, like protecting yourself and your family with insect repellent and removing standing water outside your home. West Nile virus can lead to hospitalization or death, and, by taking preventative steps now, residents can better protect themselves against infection and the serious neuro-invasive disease caused by this virus.”

According to the state, a total of 18 human cases of West Nile virus had been confirmed in California as of last Friday, including one in Pasadena, which has its own health department separate from the county. Orange County announced a human case earlier this month.

The West Nile virus season typically runs from summer through fall, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. People catch it from a bite from an infected mosquito, which contracts the virus when it feeds on an infected bird.

Most people infected with the virus do not feel sick, but about 1 in 5 who are infected develop a fever and other symptoms, according to the CDC. About 1 in 150 infected people develop a serious, sometimes fatal, illness, CDC data show.

Because there is no human vaccine or cure for West Nile virus, health officials recommend that people use mosquito repellent. The CDC recommends products with the active ingredients DEET, Picaridin, IR3535, or oil of lemon eucalyptus as being safe and effective against mosquitoes that can transmit diseases when used according to the labels.

Other steps residents should take include:

- Eliminating standing water in clogged rain gutters, rain barrels, discarded tires, buckets, watering troughs or anything that holds water for more than a week
- Ensuring that swimming pools, spas and ponds are properly maintained
- Changing the water in pet dishes, bird baths and other small containers weekly
- Requesting mosquitofish from your local vector control district for placement in ornamental ponds
- Reporting neglected (green) swimming pools in your neighborhood to your vector control district