

Crook County Vector Control District Meeting Minutes for 02-10-2026

On 02-10-26, the Crook County Vector Control District (CCVCD) Board members met at the Crook County Library (175 NW Meadow Lakes Drive, Prineville) in the Juniper room.

Before the meeting could convene, Mr. Alderman began asking questions about things that would be discussed during the meeting per the agenda. The discussion grew heated, as Mr. Alderman insisted on his right to question outside the meeting parameters, and board members remained silent. Zoom was opened at 12:55, and the meeting was called to order at 1:01. Present were Tom Green, Jeff Benkosky, Bob Hindman, Tom Teaford, Ken Fahlgren, Chair, Mgr Cliff Kiser, and Sec. Stephanie Fahlgren.

There were two **additions to the Agenda**: to follow the Manager's Report, there will be discussion for *Contractor's Responsibilities*, and an *Upcoming meeting with the County Board of Commissioners* on February 18.

Minutes for the 10-14-25 meeting were presented. Bob Hindman moved to approve the minutes, and Tom Green seconded the motion. Those voting in favor were Jeff Benkosky, Bob Hindman, Tom Green, Tom Teaford and Ken Fahlgren. There were no dissenting votes, and the motion passed.

Report on Fund Investments: Ken Fahlgren reported his calls to the State Treasurer for clarification about Special Districts joining the State Pool for investments, but these calls were unanswered, and unreturned. This leads back to our County Treasurer. We may qualify for LGIP (Local Govt Investment Pool) for better return (2-4%). These funds are insured, and an application process needs to begin. There was discussion about how much to invest. Cliff reports 2 Reserve accounts hold funds not expected to be needed in this year's anticipated operating expenses. Bob moved that we move \$100,000 to open an account, and the motion was seconded by Tom Teaford. Voting in favor were Jeff Benkosky, Bob Hindman, Tom Green, Tom Teaford, and Ken Fahlgren. There were no dissenting votes, and the motion passed.

Manager's Report

In a report about the Nat'l Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), it is suggested that the Vector Board appoint a person to be designated by the Board to serve as NPDES Responsible Officer, to serve as such, and be the liaison to the DEQ. Tom Teaford moved to make Cliff Kiser the Designated Officer, and the motion was seconded by Bob Hindman. Cliff reports that the only change this might create could be more reporting. Voting in favor of the motion were Bob Hindman, Tom Teaford, Tom Green, Jeff Benkosky, and Ken Fahlgren. There were no dissenting votes and the motion was approved.

Discussion moved to repairs/maintenance needed. Our GPS system (Mesa 3) will age out of support/updates. Replacement system Mesa 4 costs \$3,504, and the MesaPro cost is \$3,623. There was discussion about the cost of the new GPS Systems being less than we paid for our current system, which has lasted nearly 10 years. Cliff recommended we upgrade to MesaPro, which has a larger screen, and is better for outdoor use. Tom Green moved that we upgrade to MesaPro, and Jeff Benkosky seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion were Bob Hindman, Tom Teaford, Tom Green, Jeff Benkosky, and Ken Fahlgren. There were no dissenting votes, and the motion was approved.

In other repair/maintenance discussions, the 6X6 has been taken to Tom Moore, local owner of "One More Repair". It is waiting for parts for steering issues. We have been careful to maintain the 6X6, as these vehicles are no longer in production, and they have been the best vehicle for our application needs. Other districts use 6X6 Argo – an amphibious vehicle, which is prone to other issues, and which drives very slowly.

The truck has an appointment at King's Auto for AC repair.

Contractor's Responsibilities: We are learning the Cliff should not be carrying the Vector District Debit card, but instead, should be either using his own (and filing for reimbursement) or having expenses billed to the Vector District directly. In discussion, there are seldom times that Cliff uses the Debit card. These are mostly small purchases, usually office supplies. Most purchases are already billed directly, and are paid for through our Accountant, Mike Mohan. In the meantime, Ken will hold the Debit card.

Upcoming meeting with County Administration: The County has requested that Vector Board Chair and Manager attend the County Board meeting on February 18, 2026. In the past, these meetings were held annually but have not taken place for several years. This is an chance for the Vector Board to update the County on status of projects, and concerns for the future. Our Budget, and reports are filed annually, but this will be an opportunity to discuss recent concerns about the Lease on our office/workspace (currently on County Fairgrounds property), and answer questions the County may have of us. The meeting will be held 2/8/26, at 9:00 a.m. in the County Annex. Ken encouraged us to think of this as an opportunity to better our relationship with the County and invited all board members to attend.

Update of Fairgrounds Lease: The County's move to curtail our Lease from 25 years to 5 years has been difficult and has created uncertainty. As a result, we now have a budget line item for a building fund. A recent meeting with Ken Fahlgren, Commissioner Susie Hermrick, and Will Van Vactor has resulted in a 10-year lease. This will probably be discussed at the 2/18 meeting.

Good of the Order: Tom Teaford asked Cliff about recent training.

From Cliff: We belong to three associations we belong to:

1. AMCA – American Mosquito Control Assoc,
2. NWMVCA – North West Mosquito and Vector Control Assoc. This provides training to maintain applicator's license, and specific help and information for our region.
3. ORVCA – meets 2 or 3 times yearly, provides applicator's license trainings.

Cliff and Joie Voss-Kiser attended NWMVCA. They were able to attend classes and network with other applicators. They learned about changes in West Nile treatment and funding. We are fortunate to be in an area with little impact from West Nile, although we budget for necessary treatment, should we need it, as some districts have been catastrophically affected by outbreaks. Ken questioned travel expenses, and Cliff answered that the District pays for memberships, and Cliff pays for the trip (food, travel, etc).

Public comment: There was none, neither from those present, or online. There being none, the meeting was adjourned at 2:05.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Fahlgren, Secretary.