

Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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PRESS RELEASE

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES LOWERS ASSESSMENT BY 50 PERCENT

AND

APPROVES 2011/2012 BUDGET

INDIO, CA: The Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District (District) is pleased to announce that the District's 2011/2012 budget was adopted on June 14, 2011. Under the guidance of the Board of Trustees and the management of General Manager, Branka Lothrop, Ph.D., this new budget will dramatically reduce the District's assessment rate by 50%.

In 2007, the District's assessment rate was \$16.48 and it has been steadily reduced since that time to \$3.06 with this year's 50% reduction. *This latest reduction represents a stunning 82% reduction from the 2007 rate.*

This continuing trend in reducing the assessment rate is a reflection of Dr.

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Lothrop's success with reducing expenditures and the Board's genuine effort toward preparing and adopting a sensible, responsible and balanced budget that is in the public's best interests.

The budget document was created through the hard work and dedication of the Trustees and staff and adheres to the District's vision to be the most financially sound mosquito and vector control organization by budgeting correctly and allocating the fund balance to serve the District's sustainability needs for the foreseeable future.

On March 19, 2011, the District conducted a Strategic Planning Workshop, with the Board of Trustees, management, and representative employees, with the goal to provide a framework for decision making over a three to five year period. The purpose of the Strategic Plan is to help incorporate strategic issues into Board/management planning, decision-making, program monitoring, and performance measurement. One of the outcomes of the Strategic Plan is the new financial plan that meets the District's goal of enhancing the quality of life for our community by providing effective and environmentally sound vector control and disease prevention programs through timely and effective surveillance, research, development, and public awareness. The FY 2011-12 Budget may be viewed on the District website: www.cvmvcd.org. To request additional information or if you have any questions please contact the President of the Board, *Sharon Lock*.

The Coachella Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District is a public health agency, located in Indio at 43-420 Trader Place. To report mosquito problems, neglected pools, standing water, Red Imported Fire Ants, or to request FREE mosquitofish call the District at (760) 342-8287 or (888) 343-9399. You can also visit the District, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 7:30 am and 4:30 pm. For your convenience service requests can also be submitted online at www.cvmvcd.org.