Mosquito control board votes to continue health benefits

Tim Daly, ABC10 News 8:26 p.m. PDT March 17, 2014

STOCKTON - Trustees of the San Joaquin **County Mosquito and Vector Control District** voted Monday to continue receiving full health benefits, despite a tax watchdog group calling for the end of that practice. Although the group meets once a month, trustees voted a few years ago to receive the health care benefits, a decision that was criticized last year by a civil grand jury. "At this agency, public service has morphed into a sense of entitlement. It flies in the face of civic duty," David Renison with the San Joaquin Taxpayers Association said. "I think you're honorable people doing a good job, but you have it wrong when you vote yourself a benefit that taxpayers have to pay for," Gary Malloy, another taxpayer group member, said.

But trustees resented having the issue come up at Monday's meeting.

"It's sad to have people in this audience and have cameras and reporters reporting something like this," trustee Michael Manna said.

"You have bigger fish to fry than pick on us," trustee Jay Colombinai said. "We're doing our job. You ought to be ashamed of yourselves."

Ten trustees then voted on the motion of discontinuing the benefits. With the vote split down the middle, the motion failed, and the benefits continue.

An 11th member of the group left the meeting not long before the vote.

"Employees Have Been Poisoned by Massive Use of Unreported Formaldehyde. Denied Their Rights For Informed Medical Treatment. Employees Are Fired FOR WORK COMP INJURIES AND Are Always DENIED. When OSHA Investigated my complaint Eddie lied and said we were trained in the use of Formaldehyde."

