

**MINUTES OF THE
SALT LAKE CITY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT
17 August 2023
BOARD MEETING**

Presiding: Carlton Christensen, Chair

Time: 12:33 p.m.

Place: 2215 North 2200 West, Salt Lake City, UT 84116

Trustees Present: Carlton Christensen, Chair
Dr. Shireen Mooers, Vice-Chair
Amanda Barth
Van Turner
Neil Vickers, Ph.D.

Others Present: Ary Faraji, Ph.D., Executive Director
Gregory White, Ph.D., Assistant Director
Aleta Fairbanks, CPA, CFO
Bradley Sorensen, Urban Field Supervisor (Attended during Item 6.)

1. Roll Call:

Trustee Christensen called the meeting to order at 12:33 p.m. It was confirmed that the meeting was being recorded, and the Trustees had no conflicts of interest.

2. Approval of the 20 July 2023 Minutes of the Board of Trustees:

The Board Members were provided an opportunity to review the pending minutes of July's regular Board Meeting prior to this meeting, and no modifications were necessary. Trustee Mooers made a motion to approve the 20 July 2023 Minutes of the Board of Trustees; the motion was seconded by Trustee Barth and passed with a unanimous vote.

3. Approval of the Minutes from the 12-13 July 2023 CDC Visit/Field Trip:

Minutes were taken for the CDC visit / field trip because a quorum was present off and on during the day. In addition to the aerial tour and assisting with the Dibrom (naled) aerial deposition study trials, members of the CDC staff observed the urban surveillance and control operations (vector surveillance; biological control; catch basin bike and tree hole practices). They also experienced rural habitats via boat, tracked vehicle applications, unmanned aerial system applications, and visits to the duck clubs, Audubon, Great Salt

Lake, and State Prison sites. Trustee Mooers made a motion to approve the Minutes from the 12-13 July 2023 CDC Visit/Field Trip; Trustee Vickers seconded the motion, and it carried with all in favor.

4. Presentation of the July 2023 Financial Statements and Approval of Bills for Payment:

Copies of July's Financial Statements had been distributed to the Trustees before the Board Meeting. CFO Fairbanks reviewed the Financial Statements with the Trustees; all expenditures were presented, with special attention being paid to items over \$1,000.00. Of special interest, it was noted that Education Specialist Rehbein had been awarded a \$1,000 first-time-attendee stipend for attending the AMCA Washington Days event and Central Life Sciences had reimbursed the District \$21,644 for the costs we incurred while conducting an ULV efficacy trial with product RF2362. Documentation for all payments was reviewed when the checks were signed; a copy of the invoice sent to Central Life Sciences for the aerial ULV efficacy trial, the Balance Sheets, and a folder containing all of the supporting invoices were also circulated. Trustee Vickers made a motion to approve the July 2023 Financial Statements and the bills for payment; his motion passed unanimously after being seconded by Trustee Turner.

5. Update on CDC Grants:

The CDC has awarded the RaHP-VEC \$6,068,841 grant to Colorado State University. We are a subcontractor on that grant, along with Texas Tech University and various health departments, and our portion will be \$1,013,795 over five years. This project was scheduled to begin 1 July 2023, but the grant has not been funded yet. We are now losing the majority of our seasonal employees, so we may be unable to perform some of the services listed in the grant during Year 1. The CDC wants to be more involved in this project; they would like more regularly-scheduled meetings and to provide feedback throughout the grant period. They would also like us to work with the other CDC-funded Centers of Excellence and to provide quarterly reports. We are currently fine-tuning our budget and have modified our statement of work.

We will be the lead on the field evaluations, and we plan on conducting more intensive adulticide surveillance and efficacy trials by placing additional traps within a spray block and non-intervention (control) sites. This will help us tease out the efficacy of these applications and the before/after treatment impact. In addition, we are trying to coordinate with other entities so that we utilize the same methodology for mosquito collections throughout the study. We could possibly provide our less-expensive 3-D printed traps and making sure they are utilizing the same CO₂ delivery system.

We indirectly submitted three different proposals to the American Mosquito Control Association (AMCA) Research Fund: one through Lab Director Bibbs with the University of Central Florida, one supporting Trustee Vickers' proposal, and our own proposal on Unmanned Aerial Systems doing some modeling work for ULV applications. All three of these endeavors were invited to submit full proposals.

6. Updates on Construction Project and Architect:

We have started the process of consolidating our back lot with the front lot. We had a meeting with the Salt Lake City Planning Department, and the storm water discharge ordinances have changed. We are now able to put water into the storm water line at the front of our property, and we will not need to worry about moving the water from the front retention ponds on our property to the back. Our Civil Engineer has stated that he can move eighty percent of the water from the front lot within 24 hours. Urban Field Supervisor Sorensen joined the meeting to discuss the back lot's concept design and potential partnerships with the Utah State Department of Public Safety. A schematic design should be in place by October, and then the next step will be to obtain FAA approval.

7. Report on Attended and Reminder/Approval of Upcoming Training/Meetings:

- **CDC, 12-13 July 2023**

In addition to seeing all facets of the District's operations firsthand, the CDC visitors participated in a naled deposition study that was conducted the evening of 12 July 2023. CDC staff felt this visit was very informative; they were impressed with our organized, clean, and efficiently-run facility.

- **Bug Fest, 12-13 August 2023**

Education Specialist Rehbein and a few seasonal staff manned our booth at the Natural History Museum located at the University of Utah. Trustee Barth also crewed a booth and did a presentation at this sixteen-hour two-day event; Trustee Vickers indicated he'd like to participate next year, and Executive Director Faraji let Trustee Barth know that we would also like to give a talk next year. The District was grateful to Trustee Barth for recommending us for this event.

- **Pan-African Mosquito Control Association, 17-21 September 2023**

Executive Director Faraji will attend, present, and run a symposium at the Pan-African Mosquito Control Association Conference this year. The symposium will concentrate on larval source management, a concept that is very new in Africa and not widely practiced. The Gates Foundation has also invited Executive Director Faraji to participate in a two-day pre-workshop event on larval control for mosquitoes and will offer financial assistance to attend this meeting.

- **DSLASA, 28 September 2023**

DSLASA's opening for bookkeeper has not been posted yet, so no interviews have been conducted. The next DSLASA meeting will be at the Ogden hangar on 28 September 2023. The Trustees were encouraged to attend.

- **Utah Mosquito Abatement Association Annual Conference, 29-31 October 2023**

UMAA's Annual Conference will be held at the Snowbird conference center this year. CFO Fairbanks has already made hotel reservations for all of the Trustees, and she asked everyone to please let her know right away if they will not be attending this conference. Reservation cancellations must be made at least five days in advance.

8. Executive Director's Report:

The Board Members were given a brief update on the following: 1) The lab has been conducting a variety of research and applied projects this summer, and Lab Director Bibbs has six publications under review or already accepted. 2) We have begun losing our seasonal workforce, and we have asked anyone who can find time in their academic schedule to come and help us out a day or two each week until the season ends. Gavin Maes, one of our Public Health Entomology for All (PHEFA) Salt Lake Community College students, has agreed to continue working for us a little during each week, and a few other seasonals have also shown an interest in helping us out and remaining on the payroll. 3) Lab Director Bibbs and a seasonal employee, Irvane Nelson, are attending the American Chemical Society's Annual Meeting this week. Lab Director Bibbs provided a presentation, and Irvane prepared a very popular poster on the project that he has been working on about erythritol and other sugar-active ingredients. 4) The Entomological Society of America (EntSoc) and the CDC have agreed to provide sponsorships so that the PHEFA students will be able to attend and present at the EntSoc Annual Meeting. Education Specialist Rehbein, Executive Director Faraji, and PHEFA employee Devin Curtis will be attending this meeting in Maryland on 5-8 November 2023. 5) Dr. Luc Leblanc, the University of Idaho's curator of the W.F. Barr Entomological Museum, and Dr. Devolent Mtui, a postdoc at the University, stayed a few days in our dorm. They went out in the field and assisted us with a naled deposition trial, and they also visited a few other museums in the area. 6) Assistant Director gave a surveillance update: we are finding West Nile virus in our District now. Most of our WNV pools came from the City around the Ballpark area and are resulting from *Culex pipiens* mosquitoes in our gravid traps; however, we are also starting to detect virus activity in the wetland habitats as well. We had a much higher than average peak earlier in the summer, but mosquito abundance has now stabilized closer to the five-year average. There has been one human case in the Uintah area. The surveillance counts were passed around the table for the Trustees to review. 7) We are still having discussions with staff about improvements to the website and will provide a more detailed report during the September meeting. 8) The Director's Report includes a published article authored by IT / GIS Specialist Dewsnap, Executive Director Faraji, Assistant Director White, and Lab Director Bibbs. The article is, "Do it yourself: fabricating and evaluating a mosquito (Diptera: Culicidae) blood-feeding device to replace a commercial option." This is yet another published work from the District's innovations that are available for all others, and it is also the first authorship paper by IT/GIS Specialist Dewsnap. 9) Education Specialist Rehbein, through assistance by Trustee Barth, has acquired another small grant through the Utah Pollinator Habitat Program which will provide us with 300 pollinator-friendly plants that we can put in our community garden. 10) Voyage Utah interviewed and published, "Check Out Michele Rehbein's Story", which discussed how she got involved in mosquito work, her challenges, and her lessons learned.

11) Dr. Moench, Tena Rohr, and another gentleman who is heavily involved with the prison spent over 2 hours visiting the District on Thursday morning. Unfortunately, they had to leave before seeing the drones, vehicle storage II, insect colonies, and the fish hatchery. There was a lot of discussion about naled treatments and drift, and we had an opportunity to explain how we conduct our applications and sporadically test how/if/where our adult mosquito control products are deposited. Dr. Moench was also concerned over pyrethroid insecticides, contamination in pest control operators, and the Inland Port. He was interested in mosquito issues caused by the water flow and water rights, and he stated that this is something we could definitely partner on. Staff felt that the meeting went as well as could be expected and were delighted to finally have Dr. Moench visit the District.

9. Probable Agenda Items for 17 August 2023 Board Meeting:

- Executive Director's Report
- Grants Updates
- Website Update
- Personnel Update

10. Public Comment:

There were no members of the public present at this time.

11. Adjournment:

Trustees Mooers and Barth made and seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:16 p.m., which passed unanimously. The next Board Meeting will actually begin at 12:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of September: 14 September 2023.

Ary Faraji, Executive Director

Date

Carlton Christensen, Chair 2023

Date