**South Salt Lake Valley Mosquito Abatement District**

**Board Meeting Minutes**

**August 14th, 2023 at 2:00 pm**

The Board of Trustees of the South Salt Lake Valley Mosquito Abatement District, Salt Lake County, State of Utah, met in person and via an electronic board meeting via Zoom with an anchor location established at the District offices at 7308 Airport Road, West Jordan, Utah.

The following board members were present Don Christensen (West Valley), Ty Brewer (Holladay), Jeff Gaston (Bluffdale), Kristie Overson (Taylorsville), Steve Shields (Herriman), Linda Price (White City), Florence Reynolds (Sandy), Paul Glover (Midvale), Ilene Risk (Salt Lake County), Silvia Catten (Millcreek), Laverne Snow (Murray), Tish Buroker (Riverton), Gene Drake (West Jordan), and Brad Gilson (Draper), Matt Holton (Cottonwood Heights)

The following board members were absent: Jeff Bossard (Brighton), LeAnne Huff (South Salt Lake), Tamara Zander (South Jordan),

Also attending were Brian Hougaard, Dan McBride, Resident Steve Van Maren

1. Welcome. Chair Catten duly called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
2. Citizen Comments. No comments from citizens were present.
3. Board Conflicts of Interest Disclosures. No board members had any agenda conflicts to disclose.
4. Approve Minutes. Price moved to approve and adopt the July minutes. Buroker seconded the motion. The motion carried with all in favor.
5. Hiring of a New District Manager: Chair Catten explained the process the District has taken in hiring a new District Manager. Hougaard explained that it was posted at the Department of Workforce Services, the Utah Association of Special Districts, and the Utah Mosquito Abatement Association. Catten explained that the Hiring Committee received two applications which were reviewed. Only one applicant was found to have the required qualifications. This applicant, Dan McBride, was found to be highly qualified and the committee recommended his promotion to District Manager. Snow asked if there was another interview. Catten explained that, after deliberation and reviewing the other applicant, it was felt that the required skills and experience were not present with the other applicant. Brewer asked if we would be backfilling McBride's position. Catten said that the role would be filled. Brewer moved to enter into closed session to discuss the the character and competence of Mr. McBride, Snow seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken:

**AYE:** Brewer, Buroker, Catten, Christensen, Drake, Gilson, Glover, Overson, Price, Reynolds, Risk, Shields, Snow, Holton

**NAY:** None

**ABSTAIN**: Gaston

**ABSENT**: Bossard, Huff, Zander

MEETING MOVED INTO CLOSED SESSION at

2:24 p.m. Mr. McBride and Resident Van maren were excused

from this portion of the meeting

Holton moved to exit the closed session, Price seconded the motion, and the motion passed with all in favor. The meeting was moved back into open session. Snow moved to approve the recommendation to offer the District Manager position to Dan McBride on the condition of future compensation discussions. Holton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

1. Dan to Attend NWMVCA-WALS Presentation. Hougaard explained that this is not a voteable discussion item but wanted to inform the Board that McBride has been asked to present to the Northwest Mosquito and Vector Control Association in conjunction with Valient BioSciences. The presentation would entail McBride's work with the WALS Trial. Valient BioSciences is paying hotel and conference fees, and the District would pay for travel and per diem. Catten asked for a summary of the work that has been done. McBride explained that it involves utilizing wide-area larviciding products he trialed with Valient BioSciences. Hougaard explained that McBride will also present the same information at the UMAA meeting in October. The Board gave its support but did not take a vote.
2. Conditions of the District. Hougaard reported on the following items.
	* Mosquito-Borne Diseases: The District has eight positive pools, Salt Lake County has 16, and Utah has 82 positive pools. One positive human case in Utah, with 126 positives in the country.
	* 392 acres treated with 71,081 mosquito adults in all traps
	* 2023 Conferences
		+ UMAA Annual Meeting – Oct 29-31st (Snowbird, UT)
		+ UASD Annual Conference – Nov 1-3 (Layton, UT)
	* Audit Committee
	* Safety Report. Four Minor incidents were reported, including two bee stings, a cactus-to-skin contact, and human waste contact while a technician was spraying near a unhoused encampment.
	* Discussion- Hougaard started the conversation with an update on mosquito-borne diseases nationwide. Hougaard explained that several hotspots exist in the country for West Nile, including a significant prevalence of West Nile cases in Arizona. Buroker asked how that is possible with Arizona being consistently in the 100-degree weather. Hougaard explained that abandoned pools and catch basins are often the culprits. McBride also stated that orange and citrus groves often have abundant water sitting long enough to cause mosquito issues. Buroker asked how pooling mosquitoes work. Hougaard explained by the minimum infection rate, based on mosquitoes in groups of 1000, but that our testing does not necessarily show density. Hougaard explained that the number of pools is consistent with previous years. Hougaard asked if any citizens had reached out to the cities about mosquitoes. Catten says that there is much discussion on social media. Overson stated that people are "buzzing" about mosquitoes. McBride read a letter that Scott Sommer, who received a 20-year award, gave to the District and specifically to the Board.
3. Items for the September Board Meeting-Catten explained that next month is in-person.
4. Approve Bills. The bills were presented for approval and payment. Christensen moved to pay the bills. Gilson seconded the motion. The motion carried with all in favor.
5. Adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 3:18 p.m.