

**MINUTES OF THE
SALT LAKE CITY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT
15 February 2024
BOARD MEETING**

Presiding: Dr. Shireen Mooers, Chair

Time: 12:31 p.m.

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

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

Trustees Excused: Amanda Barth, Vice-Chair

Others Present: Ary Faraji, Ph.D., Executive Director
Gregory White, Ph.D., Assistant Director
Aleta Fairbanks, CPA, CFO

1. Roll Call:

Trustee Mooers called the meeting to order at 12:31 p.m. and confirmed that the meeting was being recorded. No conflicts of interest were declared.

2. Approval of the 18 January 2024 Minutes of the Board of Trustees:

The pending minutes of January's regular Board Meeting had been distributed to the Board Members prior to this meeting, and no modifications were necessary. Trustee Turner made a motion to approve the 18 January 2024 Minutes of the Board of Trustees; the motion was seconded by Trustee Vickers and carried with a unanimous vote.

3. Presentation of the January 2024 Financial Statements and Approval of Bills for Payment:

January's Financial Statements had been given to the Trustees for review before the Board Meeting. CFO Fairbanks reported that the \$8,548.67 reimbursement had been

received from the Gates Foundation and DSLASA had reimbursed the District \$57.99 for publishing its December Public Meeting Notice. DSLASA's \$10,000.00 contribution for 2024 assessment had been transferred, which was down from 2023's \$25,000 and 2022's \$31,000 cost. All expenditures were presented, with special attention being paid to items over \$1,000.00. Documentation for the payments was reviewed when the checks were signed, and the credit card statements, supporting invoices/receipts for all payments, and Balance Sheets were made available for review. After all questions about the financials had been answered, Trustee Vickers made a motion to approve the January 2024 Financial Statements and the bills for payment; this motion was seconded by Trustee Turner, and it passed with all in favor.

4. Discussion and Approval to Surplus and Sell the 1996 Lite-Foot Track Vehicle:

The District has not utilized the 1996 Lite-Foot Track Vehicle for the last few years, and MAD-Davis has shown an interest in purchasing it. We still have our other Lite-Foot Track Vehicle; and, in the event we ever need it, MAD-Davis has agreed to let us use the 1996 Vehicle. Trustee Christensen suggested that the two Districts should create a memorandum of understanding to officially recognize this agreement. Trustee Christensen made a motion to move forward with selling the 1996 Lite-Foot Track Vehicle with its trailer to MAD-Davis for \$20,000.00. His motion carried unanimously after being seconded by Trustee Vickers.

5. Discussion and Approval for Purchase of a Multipurpose Welder:

After researching the attributes of different welders, the staff settled on acquiring the Esab 205ic aluminum welder for the shop. IT/GIS Specialist Dewsnap and Rural Field Supervisor Salt obtained four price quotes, with each quote nearly identical at \$4,099.00. However, Baker Gas also includes a \$700 gift card that can be used to purchase some of the consumables, such as tungsten, welding rod, cart, etc., that will be needed after upgrading to a newer machine. Trustee Christensen made a motion to purchase the Esab 205ic welder from Baker Gas for \$4,099.00; this motion was seconded by Trustee Turner and passed with all in favor.

6. Update on Financial Advisor:

The previously-approved contract has been executed. The last time Zions Public Finance helped us with bonding, it cost around \$5.00 per \$1,000.00 value. Brian Baker actually reduced the price to around \$4.00 per \$1,000.00 value. The tax increase component is not a part of this contract. Zions Public Finance will be able to provide us with financing options once the architect finalizes the schematic designs and we actually have a much better idea concerning our project's construction costs. The acquisition of a helicopter for increased larval applications using Bti and eventual phasing out of the larvicide airplane applications will also be part of these evaluations.

7. Discussion and Approval for Hiring Bond Counsel:

The RFP for Bond Counsel was included in this month's Board Packet; Zions Public Finance emailed the RFP to three bond counsel companies, and it has been posted on our website. Zions Public Finance is assisting us with selecting our Bond Counsel, and Trustee Christensen also agreed to sit on the Bond Counsel Selection Committee. Submittals are due 23 February 2024, and they will be narrowed down to two by 26 February 2024. Interviews will be held after 2:00 p.m. on 28 February 2024. Trustee Vickers made a motion permitting Executive Director Faraji to begin contract negotiations pursuant to the Committee's selection input. Trustee Turner seconded the motion, and it unanimously passed.

8. Legislative Updates:

Ryan Lusty, Manager of the Magna Mosquito Abatement District, prepared the 2024 UMAA Legislative Report that was in this month's Board Packet. Ryan serves as our liaison and representative on the Utah Association of Special Districts. SB 135 – Advanced Air Mobility and Aeronautics Amendments, which proposed to phase out foreign-made drones and components, was discussed. It was a concern for us until the verbiage was modified. We are now allowed to fly our drones that were purchased from foreign countries as long as our unmanned aircraft systems aren't operated for the inspection of critical infrastructure. The Trustees recommended purchasing new unmanned aircraft in the future from manufacturers that are not located in the prohibited foreign countries. Discussing a few less-important bills was premature; they will only impact our policies and procedures if they become law this year.

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

The Trustees were invited to make comments and/or ask questions about the following training/meetings:

- **Mosquito & Vector Control Association of California, 22-25 January 2024**

Assistant Director White attended and presented at this year's MVCAC Conference. He reported that he felt a lot of respect for our District and the work that we are conducting. There was a good exchange of ideas, and he was asked a lot of questions about his presentation.

- **CDC Vector Week, 5-9 February 2024**

Executive Director Faraji attended the CDC Vector Week; he was disappointed that there was very little presence from the mosquito and vector community. He called out the CDC on insecticide resistance and the lack of availability of active ingredients. The CDC has taken action on hiring education and outreach specialists; however, the major areas where assistance is needed by the vector control community is still not being addressed. The new national campaign is centering around "Fight the Bite", with a lot of emphasis on using repellents. No attention was given to our current concerns

centered around efficacy of adulticide applications and the safety / risk assessment of these applications. Perhaps Utah associations can band together and produce a state-wide campaign that will garner some national attention. He was able to meet with Brian Foy about the CSU grant and discuss some ideas we want to pursue for the upcoming evaluations.

- **Wyoming Mosquito Management Association, 12-13 February 2024**

Education Specialist Rehbein provided a virtual presentation for this association.

- **West Central Mosquito & Vector Control Association, 20-22 February 2024**

Several members of our staff will be attending / presenting at this meeting in Colorado Springs.

- **American Mosquito Control Association, 4-8 March 2024**

Trustee Vickers and members of our staff will be attending / presenting at this conference. The AMCA is also sponsoring Trustee Mooers' attendance because of a memorial tribute to her father, Dr. Mir Mulla.

- **Anastasia Mosquito Control District Workshop, 25-28 March 2024**

Laboratory Director Bibbs and Molecular Biologist Byers will both be giving presentations at this workshop.

- **Davis-Salt Lake Aerial Spray Authority, 28 March 2024**

Trustees Vickers and Turner were reminded about this meeting.

- **Pacific-Southwest Center of Excellence, 3-5 April 2024**

Salt Lake City may possibly be hosting the PacVec meetings in 2026.

- **ESA Pacific Branch, 14-17 April 2024**

Executive Director Faraji will be attending and presenting at this meeting. Additionally, the Pacific Branch meetings will be held in Salt Lake City during 2025, and they have inquired about our facility serving as a field trip site during that event. We may also participate by assisting with local arrangements and hosting during those meetings.

- **Florida Fly In, 16-18 April 2024**

- **SLCMAD/CSU/RaHP Vec Workshop 6-10 May 2024**

- **UMAA Spring Workshop, 10 May 2024**

- **AMCA Washington Days, 13-15 May 2024**

10. Executive Director's Report:

The Board Members were given a brief update and/or discussed the following: 1) Education Specialist Rehbein presented on Capitol Hill to the Senate and House Representatives asking for money to further assistance to the Prison. They were impressed by the "skull" picture of about 1,000,000 mosquitoes. Heather Anderson also introduced us to Representative Jennifer Dailey-Provost. 2) Clarke Mosquito Control has expressed an interested in assisting with the Mali Mosquito Control Project. 3) Education Specialist Rehbein and Assistant Director White were both awarded Western IPM grants for mosquito education/public outreach and attract/kill mosquito methodology, respectively. We partnered with Wyoming, which enhanced the possibility of receiving the grants. 4) This month's Director's Report includes the cover pages of three of our published research papers. Trustee Barth also provided updates on her activities, including her work with the "Fly Panel" during a forum on Great Salt Lake Issues, hosted by Friends of Great Salt Lake at the University of Utah. This meeting discussed the proposal to add the brine fly as a Species of Greatest Conservation Need because of its essential role in the GSL ecosystem/food web. She is also organizing a partners' meeting for the WAFWA Western Monarch & Native Insect Pollinator working, which will highlight collaborative efforts to implement the Western Monarch Conservation Plan and to discuss the next steps regarding a Threatened or Endangered listing decision for the monarch butterfly and developing regional conservation strategies for other target pollinator groups. She is also coordinating the first ever "Pollinator of the Year" campaign to promote the 2024 Pollinator of the Year: the flower fly!

11. Probable Agenda Items for 21 March 2024 Board Meeting, 12:30 p.m.:

- Executive Director's Report
- Construction Updates
- Grants Updates
- Bond Counsel Contract

12. Public Comment:

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

13. Adjournment:

Trustees Vickers and Turner made and seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:40 p.m., which passed unanimously. The next Board Meeting will begin at 12:30 p.m. on 21 March 2024.

Ary Faraji, Executive Director

Date

Dr. Shireen Mooers, Chair 2024

Date