**South Salt Lake Valley Mosquito Abatement District**

**Board Meeting Minutes**

**March 11th, 2024 at 2:00 pm**

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

The following board members were present Tish Buroker (Riverton), Silvia Catten (Millcreek), Gene Drake (West Jordan), Paul Glover (Midvale), Kathie Johnson (South Jordan), Kristie Overson (Taylorsville), Linda Price (White City), Florence Reynolds (Sandy), Ilene Risk (Salt Lake County), Laverne Snow (Murray), and Greg Wilding (Bluffdale).

The following board members were absent: Jeff Bossard (Brighton), Ty Brewer (Holladay), Don Christensen (West Valley), Brad Gilson (Draper), Matt Holton (Cottonwood Heights), LeAnne Huff (South Salt Lake), and Steve Shields (Herriman).

Also attending were Dan McBride, Scott Sommer, Eric Gardner, and resident Steve Van Maren

1. **Welcome**. Chair Catten duly called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone at 2:04 pm.
2. **Citizen Comments**. No citizens commented.
3. **Board Conflicts of Interest Disclosures**. No board members disclosed any conflicts of interest.
4. **Approve Minutes**. Overson moved to approve the minutes of the February board meeting. Glover seconded the motion. The motion carried with all in favor, Risk was absent for the vote.
5. **AMCA Conference Report** Staff members McBride, Sommer, and Belnap attended the annual meeting of the American Mosquito Control Association in Dallas, TX. McBride and Sommer reported on attendance and shared notes from Belnap. Highlights mentioned included an education day, innovations in mosquito control operations, and related science and technology, arboviral disease monitoring, data sharing, use of social media, legislative issues, and federal regulations. McBride and Sommer to participate on AMCA state and local advisory committee and education committee respectively. In response to a question from Catten McBride explained some focus of the AMCA annual meeting included building public health capacity in Dallas. Snow encouraged collaboration with local public health agencies including contact with public information officers at the county and state level.
6. **Legislative Review.** McBride reviewed implications of bills passed or considered in the 2024 Utah legislative session including HB 10 Public Fund Amendments that will make a summary of the District PTIF fund available through the state auditor, HB 11 Water Efficient Landscaping Requirements that may influence future landscaping decisions and projects, HB 13 Infrastructure Financing Districts that allows developers to create special districts to obtain financing through bonds, HB 35 Metro Township Modifications that converts metro townships into municipalites, HB 36 Open and Public Meetings Act Amendments that prohibits board members from disucussing matters relevant to the board outside of board meeting, HB 58 International Licensing Amendments concerning granting of reciprocal licenses, HB 184 Vehicle Owner Registration Requirements allowing digital versions of off-highway vehicle registration information, HB 257 Sex-based Designations for Privacy, Antibullying, and Women’s Opportunities regulating restroom design for new construction projects and reporting of criminal conduct, HB 404 Public Entity Restrictions, a bill that did not pass but may prompt proactive adjustments in sourcing equipment for the District (Wilding commented that other entities already have similar restrictions). HB 460 Government Employee Conscience Protection Amendments did not pass but similar future legislation may require the District to accommodate employees with conscientious objections (Buroker, Wilding, and Reynolds commented on hiring implications and reasonable accommodations), SB 29 Truth in Taxation Modifications that will require justification for a tax increase to be provided to the public (Buroker commented that the District has not raised taxes for several years), SB 86 Local Government Bonds Amendments that caps boonds issued by local government entities at $90 million, and SB 135 Advanced Air Mobility and Aeronautics Amendments that regulates certain aircraft.
7. **Employee Handbook Review**. Snow expressed an opinion that the Employee Handbook seems excessively long and difficult to understand and suggested a summary be prepared explicitly outlining acceptable and prohibited behavior. Catten commented that as a guide or resource a thorough employee handbook may be helpful and a shorter version may not be needed. Overson noted that a specific and detailed handbook can be protective both for the District and employees.. Buroker suggested that some receiving documentation at the time of hire may be expected.

McBride explained that suggested changes to the Employee Handbook currently under consideration were minor wording adjustments to improve clarity rather than changes to policy. Suggested changes included clarifying which employees may be considered exempt from Fair Labor Standards Act overtime and minimum wage requirements, explicitly including personal information as an example of confidential information, social media guidelines when specific cities may be implicated, consequences of moving violations involving bicycles and other vehicles, and definitions of transitive and created data.

Snow commented that some sections seem ambiguous, subjective, and unenforceable and recommended that District staff look into additional clarifying language that can be enforced and may remove vagueness. Catten recommended that such clarifying language be considered in a future draft of the Handbook.

Buroker moved to approve the Employee Handbook with suggested changes, Overson seconded the motion, and the motion passed with all in favor.

1. **Conditions of the District**. McBride noted District activities including educational presentations in elementary schools, recruitment for seasonal employees, maintenance, and inspections for mosquito larvae.

Staff and board members are invited to review the Procedures Manual, followed by the Purchaing Policy, and Safety Manual.

McBride mentioned an upcoming American Mosquito Control Association conference in Washington D.C., and meetings of the Utah Mosquito Abatement Association and the Utah Association of Special Districts in the fall and reviewed attendance guidelines.

Board members required to complete training will be notified and are encouraged to complete training early.

Safety goals since the February board meeting were met.

1. **Pesticide Resistance/Efficacy Presentation.** McBride reviewed principles of pesticide resistance related to mosquito control and explained results of bioassays conducted at the District to monitor resistance to pesticide. He mentioned advantages of conducting bioassays in-house and discussed expansions of laboratory capacity under consideration. Risk and Snow noted the value of data specific to the District as mosquito populations and pesticide use differ even in neighboring districts.
2. **Board Meeting Items for April 10th Meeting.** Open and Public Meeting Act training was suggested for inclusion in the April 10th board meeting.
3. **Approve Bills**. A fee for a late payment was mentioned and explained. Buroker moved to approve the bills, Risk seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
4. **Adjourn**. Glover moved to adjurn the meeting and the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 pm.