

**MINUTES OF THE
SALT LAKE CITY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT
17 July 2025
BOARD MEETING**

Presiding: Neil Vickers, Ph.D., Vice-Chair

Time: 12:32 p.m.

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

Trustees Present: Neil Vickers, Ph.D., Vice-Chair
Luz Escamilla (Attended during Items 4 – 10)
Dr. Shireen Mooers
Van Turner

Trustees Excused: Amanda Barth, Chair

Others Present: Ary Faraji, Ph.D., Executive Director
Gregory White, Ph.D., Assistant Director
Aleta Fairbanks, CPA, CFO
R. Bradley Sorensen, Aerial Operations Supervisor

1. Roll Call:

Trustee Vickers called the meeting to order at 12:32 p.m. and confirmed that the meeting was being recorded. No conflicts of interest were declared.

2. Approval of the 12 June 2025 Minutes of the Board of Trustees:

The Board Members had been given a draft copy of the 12 June 2025 minutes of the Board of Trustees prior to the meeting, and no changes were requested. Trustee Mooers made a motion to approve the 12 June 2025 Minutes of the Board of Trustees; the motion was seconded by Trustee Turner and carried with a unanimous vote.

3. Approval of the 12 June 2025 Public Hearing Minutes (Budget and CTR):

The pending minutes of June's Public Hearing Meeting had been distributed to the Board Members previously, and no modifications were necessary. Trustee Mooers

made a motion to approve the 12 June 2025 Public Hearing Minutes; the motion was seconded by Trustee Vickers and passed with all in favor.

4. Presentation of the June 2025 Financial Statements and Approval of Bills for Payment:

The Trustees had received copies of June's Financial Statements earlier in the week. CFO Fairbanks noted receiving a \$300 electricity reimbursement from Eckman Construction, a \$1,789.64 first quarter 2025 credit card rebate from US Bank, and a \$14,655.61 payment from the Utah Department of Corrections for the Prison Funding Agreement. All expenditures were presented, with \$406,895.37 being expended from the General Fund. Special attention was 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. Trustee Mooers made a motion to approve the June 2025 Financial Statements and bills for payment; Trustee Escamilla seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

5. Discussion and Approval of the New Resolution for 2025 Certified Tax:

By law, the certified tax rate must be set by 22 June of each year, which we approved last month. However, after last month's Board Meeting, Executive Director received a call from the County letting him know that the 0.000159 certified tax rate providing \$8,399,729.00 was incorrect. The County worked with the State Tax Commission to increase the certified tax rate to 0.000163. In order to receive an additional \$230,104.00, the Trustees needed to approve the updated certified tax rate. Trustee Escamilla made a motion that the following resolution be adopted: "Be it resolved that a certified tax rate of 0.000163 for the year 2025 be adopted to meet the Salt Lake City Mosquito Abatement District property tax budget revenue requirements of \$8,629,833. The trustees also voted to accept a higher tax rate for additional revenues, should an adjustment be made through State and County authorities." This motion was seconded by Trustee Turner, and it passed with all in favor.

6. Discussion and Approval for Purchase of a Carbon Dioxide Pump:

Assistant Director White explained how the District is currently utilizing compressed CO₂ cylinders in its traps because this is less expensive than dry ice. The need for a new CO₂ pump has arisen because the old machine has required a lot of repair and functions slowly. Surveillance suffers when the pump is out of commission, and dependable surveillance is imperative for good mosquito control. The Trustees had previously approved using grant money to purchase a CO₂ pump for Teton County Weed & Pest District from Hydro-Test Products LLC, and our District would also like to purchase a CO₂ pump to facilitate our operations. The useful life of a CO pump should be around five years. Purchasing a CO pump from Hydro-Test Products LLC

unanimously carried after a motion to approve this purchase was made by Trustee Turner and seconded by Trustee Escamilla.

7. Discussion and Approval for Helicopter Insurance:

Aerial Operations Supervisor Sorensen fielded several questions as he discussed the process Curtis Tonks, our Utah Local Governments Trust representative, had undertaken to obtain a good insurance quote covering our helicopter usage. Westchester Fire Insurance Company, rated A++ Superior, Financial Size \$2B+, provided the best quote with annual coverage for \$97,378.00. The quote ran from 1 October 2025 through 1 October 1, 2026. Aerial Operations Supervisor Sorensen was asked to obtain a good estimate for when the District's helicopter will be available, for the Trustees would like the policy to actually begin when the helicopter will be ready. Trustee Mooers made a motion to approve the 17 July 2025 insurance quote from Westchester Fire Insurance Company, as provided by Utah Local Governments Trust, for the 2025 Airbus H125 Helicopter. Her motion was seconded by Trustee Turner, and it carried with all in favor.

8. Update on Construction:

In addition to including a report in this month's board packet from our owner's representative, MOCA, Aerial Operations Supervisor Sorensen gave an update on the progress and issues for the phase 2 construction project. Progress is being made on the Laboratory Building and the Adult Bioassay Cages (ABC) and Larval Bioassay Vaults (LBV) structures. The masonry for the Laboratory Building is complete and they are working on framing, plumbing, and electrical for the interior. The ABC walls and floors have all been poured and some of the steel has been erected. However, the Hangar and Helipad have still not had any progress. A few of the issues being worked on currently are: (1) A problem with the pre cast LBV vault dimensions: the vaults were constructed too tall and not as staff had intended. (2) The storm drain connection to the road is having a conflict with three gas lines running perpendicular to the storm drain line. (3) The same gas lines in the front are also causing an issue with the street light locations. (4) The Hangar footing design is being modified and reworked because of the differing design of the pre-manufactured Steel Building.

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

- **EntSoc Interim Board, 24-26 June 2025, Portland, OR**

Executive Director Faraji attended the interim board meeting of the Entomological Society of America in preparation of the conference scheduled for this coming November. He is the current President of the Medical, Urban, and Veterinary Section of the Association. (The AMCA Annual Meeting will also be held in Oregon next year.)

- **SOVE, 12-17 October 2025, Crete and Thessaloniki (USDA Visit)**

Assistant Director White and Trustee Vickers are speaking at this conference in October. In addition to speaking, Executive Director Faraji will be running a symposium along with Dr. Vickers.

- **UMAA, 27-29 October 2025, Park City, UT**

The Trustees were encouraged to attend the Utah Mosquito Abatement Association meeting in Park City. Trustees will be able to complete all of their required training in the afternoon of 27 October, which leaves them free to attend all of the conference on 28 - 29 October.

- **UASD, 5-7 November 2025, Layton, UT**

Assistant Director White, Executive Director Faraji, and CFO Fairbanks have found the Utah Association of Special Districts annual conference very informative. UASD provides a variety of classes providing legislative updates and other imperative information and guidelines.

- **ESA, 9-12 November 2025, Portland, OR**

Executive Director Faraji, Laboratory Director Bibbs, and possibly Molecular Biologist Byers are planning to attend this year's ESA conference.

10. Executive Director's Report:

The Trustees were given the following updates: 1) Laboratory Director Bibbs gave the Trustees a short presentation on the District's surveillance, where he discussed VectorSurv, surveillance results in the urban and rural areas, and a breakdown of mosquito species. He discussed the current surveillance results and provided five-year average comparisons. 2) We have continued our trials comparing/testing Dibrom and a new adulticide, ReMoa Tri. ReMoa Tri is the world's first mosquito space spray based on a bacterium. It is a novel combination of three active ingredients (abamectin, fenprothrin, and C8910 fatty acid blend) We collected droplets dyed with a fluorescent dye tracer to determine droplet size, droplet density, and how many droplets actually land on a mosquito. We plan to continue conducting these trials rotating between Dibrom and ReMoa Tri nearly every week for the rest of the summer. 3) West Nile virus has now been detected within the District, and insecticide resistance to Dibrom has been identified. 4) Utilizing rotator traps this summer has been a highlight. These traps have allowed us to breakdown the timing when different species have been active during the night. The traps rotate in fifteen-minute increments, helping us determine how environmental differences, such as temperature, affect mosquito behavior. These trials help us decide how to make our mosquito pesticide applications most beneficial. 5) Another minor research activity has been determining if mosquito attraction is reduced

in the presence of dragonflies. The result is “definitely not”; dragonflies do not deter the mosquitoes from actively seeking bloodmeals!

The Trustees were provided with the standard monthly data in June’s Director’s Report. Also included was the Abstract from “Fantastic feasts and where to find them: mosquito (Diptera: Culicidae) sugar feeding and survivorship on endemic flowers of arid scrublands.” This research was conducted with help from the following District’s employees/consultants: Ella J. Branham, Irvane E. Nelson, Ilia Rochlin, Thomas D. Widmer, Nathaniel M. Byers, Ary Faraji, and Christopher S. Bibbs. Their research shows that mosquitoes, like many other insects, are dependent on plant-derived nutrients as adults.

11. Probable Agenda Items for 21 August 2025 Board Meeting, 12:30 p.m.:

- Executive Director’s Report
- Construction Updates
- Personnel Updates
- Surveillance Updates
- Research Updates

12. Public Comment:

No public was present.

13. Adjournment:

Trustees Mooers and Turner made and seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:19 p.m.; the motion passed unanimously.

Ary Faraji, Executive Director

Date

Neil Vickers, Vice-Chair 2025

Date