

**MINUTES OF THE  
SALT LAKE CITY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT  
21 August 2025  
BOARD MEETING**

Presiding: Amanda Barth, Chair

Time: 12:34 p.m.

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

Trustees Present: Amanda Barth, Chair  
Neil Vickers, Ph.D., Vice-Chair  
Luz Escamilla (attended virtually during agenda items 1 – 3)  
Dr. Shireen Mooers  
Van Turner (left after agenda item 6)

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

**1. Roll Call:**

Trustee Barth called the meeting to order at 12:34 p.m. and confirmed that the meeting was being recorded. No conflicts of interest were declared.

**2. Approval of the 17 July 2025 Minutes of the Board of Trustees:**

The Board Members had been given a draft copy of the 17 July 2025 minutes of the Board of Trustees prior to the meeting, and no modifications were necessary. Trustee Mooers made a motion to approve the 17 July 2025 Minutes of the Board of Trustees; the motion was seconded by Trustee Vickers and carried with a unanimous vote.

**3. Presentation of the July 2025 Financial Statements and Approval of Bills for Payment:**

The Trustees had received copies of July's Financial Statements earlier in the week. CFO Fairbanks noted receiving several payments in July, including grant payments and \$149,687.00 from the Utah Department of Corrections. Trustee Escamilla had also reimbursed the District \$1,000 with the scholarship money she had received from AMCA for attending Washington Days. All expenditures were presented, with a total of \$652,418.38 being expended from the General and Capital Projects Funds. The Capital Projects Fund also transferred \$689,099.50 to the Local Building Authority for August's bond payments. Special attention was paid to expenses 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 a few questions were answered, Trustee Vickers made a motion to approve the July 2025 Financial Statements and bills for payment; Trustee Mooers seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

#### **4. Discussion and Approval for Electrical Upgrades with Wasatch Electric:**

Wasatch Electric has submitted a \$3,750.00 bid to install light circuits in the Fish Hatchery, to change a shop breaker, and to provide an emergency circuit in the Dormitories to maintain power during power outages. Executive Director Faraji explained why these upgrades are necessary. Wasatch Electric is familiar with our facility and has performed work for us in the past. He then asked the Trustees for comments about the email he had forwarded to them from a concerned citizen who had expressed a concern about the quality of Wasatch Electric's work at other locations. After some discussion, it was noted that the District's electrical work will be conducted indoors and leaving a clean environment will be mandated. The safety hazards, property damage, and potential liability issues mentioned in the email were due to outdoor electrical pole installations. Executive Director Faraji agreed to pass on the email's property damage complaints to Wasatch Electric. They will hopefully look into the issue and respond by cleaning up the site properly. Trustee Vickers made a motion to approve Wasatch Electric's \$3,750.00 quote to perform the electrical work. His motion was seconded by Trustee Turner, and it carried with Trustee Barth also in favor. Trustee Mooers abstained from voting, and Trustee Escamilla had left the meeting during this discussion.

#### **5. Discussion and Approval for Updates on the 2025 Board Calendar:**

Executive Director Faraji and Assistant Director White will both be working out of the office and unable to attend October's previously-scheduled board meeting. Conflicting schedules precluded several other meeting options. It was finally decided to hold October's board meeting right after the Utah Mosquito Abatement Association's annual meeting. Trustee Mooers made a motion to move October's board meeting from 16 October 2025 to 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, 29 October 2025. The meeting will be held at the Sheraton Park City, shortly after the

UMAA conference concludes. The motion was seconded by Trustee Vickers and passed unanimously.

**6. Update on Construction:**

A report from our Owner's Representative, MOCA, was included in this month's board packet. We have been very pleased with the MOCA's performance in overseeing the construction. Construction is behind schedule: there has been a long delay in fabricating the hangar. We were displeased when we were informed the hangar would be delivered in February 2026, for our helicopter will be available in early November. Phone calls were made, and the manufacturer quickly indicated the hangar could be ready by November. Acquiring the hangar from another company is also an option; the pricing is relatively similar. Earthwork has been slow; tapping into the City's water until it is approved by the Salt Lake City inspector. The earthwork has blocked off the exit from the west side of Vehicle Storage 1 for two months, and now earthwork has begun on the south side of Vehicle Storage 1. Eckman has put the earthwork company on notice: they have two weeks to rectify the issues. A separate company will be conducting the earthwork for the hangar. The twenty-five larval bioassay vaults (LBV's) manufactured by a third party were not accepted, for they were not made to the specifications. The architects and contractor have been trying to define who is responsible for the miscommunication, and we are not willing to finance the entire cost of this debacle. A proposal for around \$57,000 to form and pour the LBV's on site has been put together, and it has been decided to split this additional cost three ways.

We have ordered some tables and padded chairs for \$19,254, which will come out of the contract we have with CCG for the furniture, fixings, and equipment (FFE). We have also purchased some round tables and folding chairs from Lifetime. UMAA has agreed to pay for half of the CCG order for these indoor chairs and also all of the Lifetime order for outdoor chairs because these items will be used when their annual training is conducted at our facility.

Trustee Turner asked to be excused from the remainder of the meeting.

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

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

Executive Director Faraji, 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. Executive Director Faraji has also been asked to participate in a panel symposium as well as a podcast on careers in entomology.

- **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. The Trustees were also encouraged to attend these meetings.

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

Executive Director Faraji, Laboratory Director Bibbs, and possibly Molecular Biologist Byers are planning to attend and present at this year's ESA conference. Executive Director Faraji will be completing his term as President of the Medical, Urban, and Veterinary Entomology section of the ESA at this meeting.

## **8. Executive Director's Report:**

The Trustees were given the following updates: 1) July's Director's Report also included a Deseret News article about our drone operations. 2) We have had a few positive pools showing that St. Louis encephalitis virus activity is present in our District this year. We helped the Public Health Department create a news release to get information about this new activity out to the public. 3) West Nile virus (WNV) is already prevalent in Salt Lake City and continuing to increase. 4) We had good results using the new adulticide product, ReMoa Tri. Our testing has shown increasing resistance to Dibrom, so we will begin alternating Dibrom and ReMoa Tri for our adulticide applications moving forward. 5) We applied for two additional grants through the National Institutes of Health (NIH). One is with Brian Foy on the age grading of mosquitoes and ivermectin as a potential insecticide that can be used in bird feeders to reduce WNV activity. The other grant is with Mike Banfield on a new larvicide formulation. 6) We have also been approached by Carroll-Loye Biological Research to evaluate a new larvicide formulation based on a yeast-encapsulated essential oil that has been developed by a researcher from the University of New Mexico. 7) We had our annual Mosquitathon on 8 August 2025. Unfortunately, MAD-Davis won the competition for the second year in a row. 8) 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! 9) University classes have begun, and most of our seasonal workers have returned

to school. We luckily have a few remaining seasonal employees who are assisting with imperative abatement operations.

**9. Probable Agenda Items for 18 August 2025 Board Meeting, 12:30 p.m.:**

- Executive Director's Report
- Website Update
- Construction Update
- Personnel Update
- Surveillance Update
- Research Update

**10. Public Comment:**

No public was present.

**11. Adjournment:**

Trustees Mooers and Vickers made and seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:50 p.m.; the motion passed unanimously.

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Ary Faraji, Executive Director

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Date

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Amanda Barth, Chair 2025

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Date