

**MINUTES OF THE  
SALT LAKE CITY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT  
15 January 2026  
BOARD MEETING**

Presiding: Neil Vickers, Chair

Time: 12:37 p.m.

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

Trustees Present: Neil Vickers, Ph.D., Chair  
Van Turner, Vice-Chair  
Amanda Barth  
Dr. Shireen Mooers

Trustees Excused: Luz Escamilla

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

**1. Roll Call:**

Trustee Vickers called the meeting to order at 12:37 p.m. and confirmed that the meeting was being recorded. No conflicts of interest were declared.

**2. Acknowledgement and Recognition of 2025 Board Chair, Amanda Barth:**

Trustee Vickers expressed the Board's appreciation for the service Trustee Barth had provided last year. He acknowledged the privilege of presenting Trustee Barth with a plaque depicting her leadership as Board Chair during 2025.

**3. Approval of the 18 December 2025 Minutes of the Board of Trustees:**

The pending minutes of December's regular Board Meeting had been distributed to the Board Members previously, and no modifications to the draft minutes were necessary. Trustee Barth made a motion to approve the 18 December

2025 Minutes of the Board of Trustees; the motion was seconded by Trustee Mooers and carried unanimously.

**4. Approval of the 18 December 2025 Public Hearing Minutes of the 2025 Budget Amendments and 2026 Proposed Budget:**

Trustee Barth made a motion to approve the 18 December 2025 Public Hearing Minutes of the 2025 Budget Amendments and 2026 Proposed Budget. Her motion passed with all in favor after being seconded by Trustee Turner.

**5. Presentation of the December 2025 Financial Statements and Approval of Bills for Payment:**

The Trustees were provided copies of December's Financial Statements earlier in the week. CFO Fairbanks noted that the second \$149,687.00 payment for abatement services was received from the Department of Corrections, South Salt Lake Valley MAD had reimbursed the District \$6,555.77 for our services during the year, and a \$2,274.00 premium rebate was received from PEHP for 2025. She also mentioned that the District received a \$14,500.00 external payment from Central Life Science for some contracted work on a methoprene (insect growth regulator) resistance project. Interest income of \$75,445.03 was distributed between the General Fund and Capital Projects Fund, \$323,326.54 was expended from the General Fund, and \$4,500,000.00 had been transferred to the Capital Projects Fund. Monies from this fund will be used to complete construction after the bond money is depleted. The Trustees discussed several expenses, including helicopter insurance and HVAC repairs. 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. Trustee Mooers made a motion to approve the December 2025 Financial Statements and bills for payment; Trustee Barth seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

**6. Update on Construction:**

After meeting with Cooper Eckman, President and Owner of Eckman Construction, progress on the construction project has dramatically increased. The main body structure of the hangar is completed, and the laboratory's interior is taking shape. The cabinetry has been installed, but we're waiting on the countertops as well as the gas and electricity. The majority of the larval bioassay vaults have not been poured, and the single prototype that they completed is leaking. Now Eckman Construction is prioritizing the critical building areas that are imperative for hosting the upcoming PacVec/RahpVec and UMAA meetings and to also conduct the 2026

mosquito season. While the weather has been favorable, there are concerns about delays and associated costs.

Salt Lake City required us to flush our fire hydrants for two days, three hours each day. The water system flushing revealed ground water issues, but the team is working to resolve these issues. Fortunately, according to design, the excess water is successfully flowing from the back of the property, to the front, and then to the street.

**7. Update from AMCA in Response to Submitted Letter Regarding Conflict of Interest with Presidential Position:**

AMCA received our letter stipulating our concerns with a “for-profit” individual representing the AMCA’s “non-profit” initiatives and our request that AMCA look into modifying its bylaws or policies in order to eliminate future conflicts of interest in leadership positions. A copy of AMCA’s response was included in this month’s Board Packet. AMCA’s Board has determined that this is a priority issue and has tasked their Bylaws Committee to strengthen and enforce the rules governing conflicts of interest. As decided at our 20 November 2025 Board Meeting, the District will temporarily obtain Individual Memberships in place of acquiring a Sustaining Membership until AMCA resolves this issue.

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

- **Wyoming Mosquito Management Association, 20-22 Jan 2026, Casper, WY**

Laboratory Director Bibbs will be driving to and presenting at the Wyoming Mosquito Management Association Conference in Casper, WY.

- **MVCAC, 2-5 February 2026, Rancho Mirage, CA**

Assistant Director White will be attending and presenting at the Mosquito and Vector Control Association of California Conference this year.

- **FL Fly In/Anastasia Workshop, 2-5 March 2026, St. Augustine, FL**

Aerial Operations Supervisor Sorensen will be attending the Florida Fly In, and Laboratory Director Bibbs will be attending and presenting in the Anastasia Workshop following the Fly In.

- **CDC Vector Week, 10-13 March 2026, Ft. Collins, CO**

So far, no arrangements have been made to attend this conference. Executive Director Faraji has been asked to attend and participate at this meeting, but attendance will be contingent upon other activities at that time.

- **AMCA, 23-27 March 2026, Portland, OR**

Executive Director Faraji, Molecular Biologist Byers, Education Specialist Rehbein, Assistant Director White, and Laboratory Director Bibbs will be attending and providing presentations at this year's AMCA Conference. The American Mosquito Control Association's Annual Conferences are always enlightening and afford multiple opportunities for collaboration and networking. The Trustees were asked if they would also like to attend these meetings.

- **PacVec/RahpVec/SLCMAD, 8-10 April 2026, Salt Lake City, UT**

Trustee Vickers has been working to organize a joint meeting between the Pacific Southwest Center of Excellence and the Rockies and High Plains Vector-Borne Disease Center. The University of Utah will be hosting the meeting, and it will run from the afternoon of 8 April 2026 through the morning of 10 April 2026. The District will host the meetings on the last day at our facilities. Student presentations and a tour will be conducted at our facility on Friday 10 April 2026.

The Trustees were encouraged to visit the District's events on the 10<sup>th</sup> and to also register for/attend the University of Utah's activities, including the reception in the Natural History Museum.

- **PAB-ESA, 13-16 April 2026, Spokane, WA**

Executive Director Faraji may attend this meeting, however, arrangements to attend this meeting have not been made yet.

- **New Mexico MCA, 20-22 April 2026, Albuquerque, NM**

Executive Director Faraji has been asked to deliver the keynote address in this conference.

- **AMCA Washington Days, 12-14 May 2026, Washington, DC**

The Trustees were encouraged to take advantage of the opportunity to participate in AMCA's legislative lobbying efforts on Capitol Hill.

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

December's Director's Report had been previously distributed to the Trustees. In addition, Executive Director Faraji discussed the following items: 1) Salt Lake City Council has confirmed that Trustees Barth and Mooers will be reappointed

to the Board after their first terms end at the end of this year. Trustee Vicker's second term on the Board will end 31 December 2026, and the Trustees were asked to consider names of people who would be good board members so they can be forwarded to the Salt Lake City Council. 2) The Science Research Initiative program (SRI) has been successful; we have five University of Utah students currently spending time with us. It's an opportunity for the District to enrich students' learning experiences by having the participants work on actual projects that can hopefully become peer-review papers. 3) The recent Salt Lake Tribune article with a map of the homeless shelter location was shared with the Trustees. Attempts to contact the architect regarding site access and coordination for mosquito control and mitigation measures at the new homeless shelter will continue.

**10. Probable Agenda Items for 19 February 2026 Board Meeting, 12:30 p.m.:**

- Executive Director's Report
- Construction Updates
- Personnel Updates

**11. Public Comment:**

No public was present.

**12. Adjournment:**

At 1:14 p.m., Trustees Mooers and Barth made and seconded a motion to adjourn the 15 January 2025 Board Meeting of the Salt Lake City Mosquito Abatement District. The motion passed with all in favor.

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Ary Faraji, Executive Director

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Date

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Neil Vickers, Chair 2026

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Date