

**MINUTES OF THE
SALT LAKE CITY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT
19 February 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: Gregory White, Ph.D., Assistant Director
Aleta Fairbanks, CPA, CFO
Bradley Sorensen, Aerial Operations Supervisor (Attended
Items 1 - 5)

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. Approval of the 15 January 2026 Minutes of the Board of Trustees:

The draft minutes of January's regular Board Meeting had been distributed to the Board Members previously, and no modifications were necessary. Trustee Mooers made a motion to approve the 15 January 2026 Minutes of the Board of Trustees; the motion was seconded by Trustee Barth, and it carried unanimously.

3. Presentation of the January 2026 Financial Statements and Approval of Bills for Payment:

The Trustees were provided copies of January's Financial Statements earlier in the week. CFO Fairbanks noted that UMAA's facility rental agreement payment for \$9,627.00 had been received. Interest income of \$79,871.47 was distributed between the General Fund and Capital Projects Fund, and a total of \$258,243.14 was expended from the General and Capital Projects Funds. 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 Barth made a motion to approve the January 2026 Financial Statements and bills for payment; Trustee Mooers seconded the motion, and it passed with all in favor.

4. Discussion and Approval for Adoption of New PEHP Policies Regarding Retirement Plans:

Utah Retirement Systems (URS) has spent several years creating a new online program for establishing and managing employees' retirement benefits. CFO Fairbanks explained that, on 30 March 2026, the URS's 44-year-old system will be replaced by a modern, flexible, and secure record-keeping program for payroll reporting and employment records known as the Advanced Utah Retirement End User System (AUREUS). Participating employers can now offer a greater variety of retirement plans because AUREUS supports 401(k) and Roth 401(k), 457(b) and Roth 457(b), Roth IRA, and Traditional IRA options. Our District currently allows all of these options except for the Roth 401(k) and Roth 457(b) plans. Board approval is required so our employees can select any of these plans they are interested in. After some discussion, Trustee Mooers made a motion to approve adding the Roth 401(k) and Roth 457(b) options to the existing Salt Lake City Mosquito Abatement District's available retirement plans. Her motion passed unanimously after being seconded by Trustee Barth. It was decided that the exact Policies and Procedures wording will be approved at a later date.

5. Update on Construction:

Aerial Operations Supervisor Sorensen, who has been heavily involved with the phase two construction, gave the Trustees an update on the construction progress. 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. We are responding quickly to every issue so that we are not responsible for any holdup. The larval vaults are still having issues; precast boxes appear to be a better option, for the bases that were poured in place are leaking and must now be removed. The lab building is making good progress; the insectary is close to being completed. Enbridge will

install a gas meter once it receives clearance from Salt Lake City. Half of the roof has been installed on the hangar, and the furniture is scheduled to be installed on 23 March 2026.

6. Legislative Updates:

Ryan Lusty, the Director of the Magna Mosquito Abatement District, is Utah's mosquito industry representative with the Utah Association of Special District (UASD). Assistant Director White highlighted several legislative bills with the Trustees, including Ryan Lusty's insights. The Juneteenth holiday language has been modified; it will now be celebrated on the 19th of June. The fate of several bills will not be decided until the 2026 legislative session ends. A report will be provided on 27 March reflecting the final actions taken by Governor Cox.

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

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

Assistant Director White attended and presented at the Mosquito and Vector Control Association of California Conference this year. This is one of his favorite meetings because it is very informative.

- **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.

- **DSLASA, 19 March 2026, SLCMAD, SLC, UT**

Aerial Operations Supervisor Sorensen will be attending the Florida Fly In

- **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 facility. We will be holding student presentations and a tour will be conducted at our District on Friday 10 April 2026.

The Trustees were encouraged to visit the District's events on the 10th 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.

8. Executive Director's Report:

January's Director's Report had been previously distributed to the Trustees. In addition, the following items were discussed: 1) Assistant Director White informed the Trustees that his last day working for the District will be 25 February 2026, for Mosquito Abatement District – Davis has hired him to be its Executive Director when Gary Hatch retires. It has been his pleasure working with our Board Members, and he thanked everyone for the opportunity to work for our District. 2) Executive Director Faraji will take some time before seeking a new Assistant Director; he is analyzing the different skills and talents that will best suit our District's current needs. 3) We are starting to interview for this year's seasonal workers and interns.

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

- Executive Director's Report
- Construction Update
- Personnel Update
- Policies and Procedures Revision -- Retirement Plans

11. Public Comment:

No public was present.

12. Adjournment:

At 2:10 p.m., Trustees Barth and Mooers made and seconded a motion to adjourn the 19 February 2025 Board Meeting of the Salt Lake City Mosquito Abatement District. The motion passed with all in favor.

Ary Faraji, Executive Director

Date

Neil Vickers, Chair 2026

Date