

**Southwest Mosquito Abatement and Control District
Board of Trustees Meeting**

May 14, 2026

The Southwest Mosquito Abatement and Control District Board of Trustees meeting was held on May 14, 2026, at the Mosquito Abatement District building at 1460 South Sandhill Dr., Washington City. Chair Jarett Waite convened the meeting at 4:01 pm.

Present:

Lawrence Barlow, Hildale
Todd Sands, Toquerville
Jarett Waite, Santa Clara
John Valenti, La Verkin
Lynn Excell, Hurricane
Doneva Hecker, New Harmony
Gene Garate, Virgin
Viktoryia Yahorava, Squire (accountant)
Andy Efstratis, Rockville

Excused:

Victor Iverson, Washington County
Enterprise representative
Jeffrey Allen, Leeds
Mike Scott, Ivins

Administration:

Sean Amodt, SWMACD District Admin
Karen Noffsinger, SWMACD Office & HR Admin
Kesler Hansen, SWMACD Operations Admin

Electronic (Google Meet):

Pat Campbell, Springdale
Austin Anderson, St. George
Bret Henderson, Washington City
Jenna Vizcardo, Apple Valley

Item #1: Roll Call

Roll call was done for those present in the office and online. No public was present in person or online. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by Chair Jarett Waite.

Item #2: Budget Items

Karen Noffsinger reviewed the expenses through March 2026. She noted that the Professional Services budget line is slightly higher than expected because the District paid for the annual financial audit early in the year. She also explained that the Surveillance and Education budget lines are above the expected percentage due to the purchase of new surveillance equipment, implementation of the new public education program, conference registrations, travel, and training expenses. Karen also reported that the Capital Facilities Fund has earned approximately \$11,455 in interest this year, which continues to be reserved for future capital projects. Lawrence Barlow made a motion to approve the expenses through March 2026 as presented, Lynn Excell seconded the motion. All in attendance voted "Aye."

Viktoryia Yahorava with Squire (formerly Hinton Burdick) presented the 2025 financial audit. She reported that the District received an unmodified (clean) audit opinion, the highest level of assurance available. The audit found no material weaknesses in internal controls, and the District remained in a strong financial position with continued growth in assets, low liabilities, and positive operating results. Viktoryia thanked District staff for their cooperation throughout the audit process. Lynn Excell made a motion to approve the 2025 financial audit as presented, Gene Garate seconded the motion. All in attendance voted "Aye."

Item #4: Policy and Action Items

Karen Noffsinger presented the District's annual Fraud Risk Assessment. She reported that the District received a perfect score of 395 out of 395 after adding an acknowledgment of the Utah Ethics Act to the employee compensation form. She reviewed the District's internal controls, separation of duties, and the policies in place to minimize fraud risk. Lawrence Barlow made a

motion to approve the Fraud Risk Assessment as presented, Doneva Hecker seconded the motion. All in attendance voted "Aye."

Sean Amodt presented information regarding the purchase of a new District vehicle. He explained that the District continues to transition to smaller pickup trucks that are better suited for residential mosquito control work while still providing adequate cargo capacity for equipment. Todd Sands made a motion to approve the purchase of a new District vehicle for an amount not to exceed \$40,000, Gene Garate seconded the motion. All in attendance voted "Aye."

Sean Amodt also presented a new job description for the seasonal, non-benefited *Aedes aegypti* Surveillance Technician position. He explained that increasing service requests related to the invasive *Aedes aegypti* mosquito have created the need for a specialized seasonal position focused on surveillance, public education, inspections, source reduction, and mosquito control. The new job description more accurately reflects the duties performed by this team and will be added to the District's personnel policies for future hiring. Lynn Excell made a motion to approve the *Aedes aegypti* Surveillance Technician job description as presented, John Valenti seconded the motion. All in attendance voted "Aye."

Item #5: Manager's Report

Sean Amodt presented the current mosquito surveillance report. He introduced several recently hired seasonal employees and reported that surveillance activities began earlier than usual due to warmer spring temperatures. The District has expanded trapping efforts throughout the county and continues to monitor mosquito populations and test mosquito pools for mosquito-borne diseases. There have been no positive West Nile Virus (WNV) pools detected so far this season.

Sean reported that the District has significantly increased larval control efforts, particularly through the treatment of storm drains using long-lasting larvicides to reduce mosquito breeding before peak season. He explained that this proactive approach has reduced the need for widespread adult mosquito fogging, allowing the District to focus on targeted treatments in response to service requests.

Sean also reviewed the District's GIS system, which allows staff to map mosquito habitats, treatment locations, surveillance sites, and storm drains while recording field activities in real time. The system continues to improve operational efficiency and helps prioritize treatment areas throughout the county.

Sean highlighted ongoing education and training efforts, including statewide mosquito control workshops and partnerships with Utah Tech University. Students recently completed projects analyzing mosquito trap placement and developing predictive mapping tools to help forecast mosquito activity. Sean also shared updates on emerging mosquito control technologies and encouraged Board members to continue referring residents with mosquito concerns to the District.

Item #6: Board Member Comments or Questions

Board members discussed the importance of educating the public about the free mosquito control services provided by the District. Members encouraged residents experiencing mosquito problems to contact the District so staff can investigate and provide appropriate treatment.

Item #7: Adjourn

The next scheduled meeting will be held on August 13th, 2026, at the Mosquito Abatement District office, at 4:00 pm.

Chair Waite dismissed the meeting at 4:56 pm.

Approved minutes signed by Executive Board Member:

Name: _____ Title: _____