

**MINUTES OF THE  
SALT LAKE CITY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT  
15 October 2020  
ELECTRONIC BOARD MEETING**

Presiding: La Vone Liddle, Chair

Time: 12:31 p.m.

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

Trustees Present: La Vone Liddle, Chair (Attended Remotely)  
Neil Vickers, Ph.D., Vice-Chair (Attended Remotely)  
Carlton Christensen (Attended Remotely)  
Van Turner (Attended in Person)  
Dr. Dagmar Vitek (Joined Remotely, 12:55 p.m., Item 5)

Others Present: Ary Faraji, Ph.D., Executive Director  
Gregory White, PhD., Assistant Director  
Aleta Fairbanks, CPA, CFO  
Bradley Sorensen, Urban Field Supervisor (Joined, 2:25 p.m., Item 9)

**1. Roll Call:**

Trustee Liddle called the meeting to order at 12:31 p.m. Executive Director Faraji verified that the meeting was being recorded and no conflicts of interest were declared.

**2. Public Comment:**

There were no public comments.

**3. Approval of the 17 September 2020 Minutes of the Monthly September Board Meeting:**

The Board Members were provided an opportunity to review the pending minutes of September's regular Board Meeting prior to the meeting, and all modifications had been completed. Trustee Vickers made a motion to approve the 17 September 2020

Board Meeting Minutes; Trustee Turner seconded the motion, and it carried with all in favor.

**4. Presentation of the September 2020 Financial Statements and Approval of Bills for Payment:**

Copies of September's Financial Statements had been disseminated prior to the Board Meeting. CFO Fairbanks reviewed the Financial Statements with the Board; all expenditures were presented, with special attention being paid to those expenditures in excess of \$1,000. Documentation for all expenditures had been provided when the checks were signed. Trustee Christensen made a motion to adopt the September 2020 Financial Statements and to approve September's bills for payment. This motion passed unanimously after being seconded by Trustee Vickers.

**5. 2020 Budget Amendments and 2021 Tentative Budget Discussion and Approval:**

The budget amendments and tentative budgets were presented in October because State statutes stipulate that these budgets should be made available to Board Members at least 30 days prior to being adopted in December. When preparing the budgets, CFO Fairbanks found out something that will affect the timing of our next tax increase: some of the District's tax dollars are being withheld and given to the Inland Port Authority. Because we were not made aware of this fact previously, Executive Director Faraji has asked the County Assessor and Utah State Tax Commission to provide us with more information. We are providing mosquito abatement services for that area, and it would be advantageous if we could negotiate a reduction in the percentage of the District's participation in the Inland Port development. The Board felt that it may be productive for Executive Director to sit down and talk with Jack Hedge, the Inland Port Authority Executive Director, and Trustee Christensen mentioned that he could set up a meeting and agreed to accompany him.

CFO Fairbanks reviewed 2020's Budget Amendments and 2021's Proposed Budgets with the Trustees. Questions about the budgets were addressed, and the Board Members were asked to let us know if there are any further comments, recommendations, or questions. The 2020 Budget Amendments and 2021's Proposed Budgets were unanimously approved upon a motion made by Trustee Vickers and seconded by Trustee Christensen.

**6. Update on Environmental Remediation for Old, Old Facility:**

The District just received a letter from the Department of Environmental Quality indicating that the DEQ is in agreement with our request to discontinue groundwater monitoring at our old, old facility's location. A copy of this letter was emailed out to the Board Members.

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

- **UASD & UMAA Board Member Training**

The 2020 UASD and UMAA conferences have been canceled, which means that the Trustees must complete their required training on their own before the end of this year. CFO Fairbanks had emailed out specific instructions to each Trustee on how to obtain this training. She thanked Trustees Little and Christensen for taking the initiative to complete their training already and for emailing their certificates to her. She asked the other Trustees to please complete their training before November's Board Meeting. Help will be provided if anyone requests assistance.

- **PVCA, 8 October 2020, Online**

On behalf of the AMCA, Executive Director Faraji made a presentation on 8 October 2020 during the Pennsylvania Vector Control Association's online training. Not feeling how the participants are responding makes gauging how to deliver a presentation problematic, and it feels like you are only speaking to yourself.

- **ADAPCO West Education Event, 21 October 2020, Online**

On 21 October 2020, Executive Director Faraji provided a presentation for ADAPCO's West Education Event on the District's non-target studies conducted in 2019.

- **Infectious Disease Epidemiology, University of Utah, 27 October 2020, Electronic**

Executive Director Faraji holds an Adjunct Professor position at the University of Utah in the Public Health and Biology Departments. He provided a 1.5-hour lecture on mosquitoes, mosquito-borne diseases, and epidemiology for graduate students on 27 October 2020.

- **AMCA IBM, 11-13 November 2020, Salt Lake City, Utah**

AMCA's Interim Board Meeting will be held in Salt Lake City from 11-13 November this year. The Board is meeting with the management firm and local representatives to go over all of the conference arrangements for March 2021.

- **AMCA Annual Conference, 1-5 March 2021, Salt Lake City, Utah**

We are anticipating holding AMCA's Annual Conference in March of next year, but these plans may need to be modified. The Trustees expressed concern about holding this conference as previously scheduled and asked Executive Director Faraji to find out if any extra protective measures will be taken to safeguard the attendees.

**8. Update and Approval for 2020 SLCMAD Board Calendar:**

November's Board Meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, 12 November 2020, but Executive Director Faraji will not be available for this meeting because he will be

conducting the AMCA Interim Board Meeting that day. Trustee Christensen made a motion to move the 12 November 2020 board meeting to 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, 19 November 2020. This motion was seconded by Trustee Vitek and carried with a unanimous vote. Executive Director Faraji will update the Board Calendar and publish the final version on the Utah Public Notice Website.

## 9. Executive Director's Report:

The Board Members were given a few updates, which included the following: 1) We have wrapped up the Tiki torch trials that tested the repellent efficacy of the BiteFighter torch fuels containing citronella and cedar oil. Our findings have shown that the Tiki torches with both the 0.2% citronella and those with 0.8% cedar oil and a 5% citronella solution actually attracted more mosquitoes than the untreated control area. Therefore, our data proves that Tiki torches with citronella and cedar oil are not as effective in spatially repelling mosquitoes as BiteFighter is claiming. Instead, it appears that the light from the flame, and the potential heat, may actually attract mosquitoes. 2) The preliminary writeup showing the analysis of the non-target insect populations following our aerial adulticide applications has been completed. No decline in insect abundance or diversity was evident, and the results will be submitted to a peer-reviewed journal for publication. We are looking to have it published in a more general, non-biased ecological journal that is widely distributed. Then we will be able to show this article to environmental groups to support our position that we are not harming other insect life during routine mosquito control. 3) The peer review on the University of Mississippi's research on the Spartan Eradicator product using salt as an active ingredient to kill mosquitoes has been completed. We were successful in stopping the sale of this "snake oil" product in Utah, and we are trying to get this information out to the private and public sectors. We are looking to get the paper distributed in the *Journal of Medical Entomology*. The online website for *Entomology Today* will also feature it as a special paper which will hopefully garner the attention of the EPA as well as other respected organizations. 4) We recently had a significant increase in service requests, which was mostly due to unusual temperatures. Temperatures usually drop in September, which reduces mosquito flight activity and prevents mosquito dispersal into the City. However, we experienced some warm nighttime temperatures this year, which resulted in more mosquitoes venturing into the City and many residents suffering from a deluge of this unusual abundance. We created a new aerial block that covered most of the affected urban areas on the west side, and we requested two aerial adulticide applications. 5) We will be accepting applications for our Biologist position during October; we will conduct interviews and hire someone during early November. 6) The heating system in the administrative building has not been resolved. Two pumps are still leaking, and it's unknown what's causing this problem. Koch Mechanical, the architects, and our owners' representatives are also aware of the issue and are assisting us in resolving it. 7) We are working with the landscaper to replace the dead trees and grass. 8) Our Maintenance Operator, Francisco Hernandez, is returning to Mexico to take care of some issues with his elderly mother. We'll cover his health insurance, but his wages and pension will only be paid on the leave hours he has accrued. He will not be paid for any excess hours that he does not have coverage for. 9) Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the District's Holiday Luncheon has been canceled; the employees will have a small celebration among themselves. 10) A digital copy of the article on our District in the West View publication was sent to the Trustees before the meeting. The article was informative and well done by the reporter. Perhaps we could advertise and

provide periodic updates during mosquito season in this publication. 11) Assistant Director White gave an updated surveillance report and presentation for the entire mosquito season. He covered the urban, rural, and industrial surveillance areas using graphs comparing the current year's activity to the 5-year averages. Concerning arbovirus surveillance, 888 pool samples and 57,117 mosquitoes were tested. West Nile virus was only found in eleven of the samples. The majority of the testing was conducted at the District. Fortunately, we experienced tremendously low levels of WNV activity. This was indicative not only in our District, but the entire State and also surrounding regions. This may be a direct result of highly-reduced *Culex pipiens* populations, as documented in our vector surveillance program. 12) Bradley Sorensen, Urban Field Supervisor and licensed helicopter pilot, joined the meeting at 2:25 p.m., gave a presentation on estimated helicopter costs, and answered relevant questions. The Board will be provided further information during the November meeting, in preparation for a final decision on helicopter operations during our December public hearing.

**10. Probable Agenda Items for 19 November 2020 Board Meeting:**

- Executive Director's Report
- Surveillance / Control
- Facility Update
- Personnel Update
- Utah Inland Port Authority/Jack Hedge Meeting
- Budget Discussion / Tax Increase Decision

**11. Adjournment:**

Trustees Turner and Christensen made and seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:50 p.m. The 19 November 2020 Regular Monthly Board Meeting will be held at 2:00 p.m., and this meeting will be held electronically.

  
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Ary Faraji, Executive Director

21 Nov 20  
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Date

  
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La Vone Liddle, Chair 2020

11/21/2020  
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Date