

**MINUTES OF THE  
SALT LAKE CITY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT  
16 June 2022  
BOARD MEETING**

Presiding: Van Turner, Board Chair 2022

Time: 4:03 p.m.

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

Trustees Present: Van Turner, Chair  
Carlton Christensen, Vice-Chair (Attended virtually; left at 5:53 p.m.  
during item 12)  
La Vone Liddle  
Neil Vickers, Ph.D.  
Dr. Dagmar Vitek

Others Present: Ary Faraji, Ph.D., Executive Director  
Gregory White, Ph.D., Assistant Director  
Aleta Fairbanks, CPA, CFO  
Brad Sorensen, Urban Supervisor (Joined at 5:20 p.m. for item 9;  
left when the meeting was recessed at 5:57 p.m. for the Public Hearing)  
Erin Winterton, Child Richards CPAs & Advisors (Left after item 2)

**1. Roll Call:**

Trustee Turner called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m. It was confirmed that the meeting was being recorded, and no conflicts of interest were declared.

**2. Presentation, Discussion, and Approval of Audit for Year Ending 31 December 2021:**

Erin Winterton, representing Child Richards CPAs & Advisors, presented the completed audit of the District's financial statements for the year ending 31 December 2021. She stated that the District was receiving an unmodified clean report, which is the highest and best opinion possible. Also, there were no findings concerning internal controls or state legal compliance, which is to be complimented.

Trustee Christensen made a motion to accept and approve the audit for the year ending 31 December 2021, as presented; the motion was seconded by Trustee Vickers and passed with a unanimous vote.

**3. Approval of the 26 May 2022 Minutes of the Board of Trustees:**

The Trustees had received a copy of the pending minutes prior to the Board Meeting, and no modifications were necessary. Trustee Liddle made a motion to approve the 26 May 2022 Board Meeting Minutes. Her motion was seconded by Trustee Vitek, and it carried with all in favor.

**4. Presentation of the May 2022 Financial Statements and Approval of Bills for Payment:**

May's Financial Statements had been distributed to the Trustees earlier in the week. CFO Fairbanks reviewed the Financial Statements with the Board and noted that Zions Bank had reimbursed the District for the overcharged service fees. All expenditures were presented, with special attention being paid to items over \$1,000. Documentation for all payments had been closely reviewed when the checks were signed, and a folder containing all of the supporting invoices was circulated among the Trustees. The Balance Sheets were also made available. Trustee Liddle made a motion to approve the May 2022 Financial Statements and the bills for payment; her motion passed unanimously after being seconded by Trustee Vickers.

**5. Discussion and Approval of Updated Salary Ranges and Cost of Living Adjustment:**

A previous board discussion identified how inflation and the outdated salary ranges were affecting the ability to attract the necessary talent required for the present job openings, and a spreadsheet comparing proposed salary ranges at 85% CPI and 100% CPI over the last several years had been distributed to the Board. Trustee Vickers, Trustee Christensen, and some staff members had established a salary range committee that examined different concerns and made recommendations regarding salary ranges.

The increasingly high rate of inflation has become a concern, and the Trustees were given a packet that included April 2022's U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index Overview Table for the Mountain Plains showing a 9.8% change from April 2021 to April 2022. This is a 3.8% increase over the 6% COLA that was authorized last December. A spreadsheet applying the past COLA rates to establish new Base Salary Ranges was also included, as well as a spreadsheet depicting actual salaries for 2021, the previously-established 2022 salaries, and a mid-year 3.8% COLA recommendation. The 3.8% mid-year COLA request, which included the two new hires, amounted to a \$19,663.17 expense for salaries plus \$4,945.87 in benefits.

After some discussion, the Trustees were uncomfortable giving the two new hires the additional 3.8% mid-year COLA adjustment, particularly since one of the new hires has not even started employment with the District. Trustee Vickers made a motion to approve the 3.8% COLA request for all of the employees except the newly-hired Laboratory Director and the Education Specialist. His motion was seconded by Trustee Christensen, and it passed unanimously.

**6. Discussion and Approval for Education Specialist Dr. Rehbein to Continue Working on Western IPM Grant:**

Dr. Rehbein has received a Western IPM Grant on the "Management of the Invasive *Aedes aegypti* Mosquito in Moab, Utah through an Integrated Pest Management Approach Highlighting Educational Campaigns and Citizen Science Involvement." This invasive mosquito is extremely difficult to control, and we are supportive for her to continue her work with *Aedes aegypti* in Moab. Her expertise from a pesticide safety aspect as well as her public outreach engaging the general public goes hand-in-hand with the duties we want her to perform for our own District. We would like the District to cover her salary one day a week to enable her to assist with this project. Once the program is operating smoothly, bi-weekly or once-a-month visits may suffice. (The District is not providing mileage reimbursement.) The Trustees commented that Dr. Rehbein is conducting some very important work which clearly brings value to the industry as well as our District, but they did not want anyone to take advantage of the situation. They tasked Executive Director Faraji with providing some deadlines and/or extensions, as needed to successfully complete the project.

A motion to cover Education Specialist Rehbein's salary up to one day a week in order for her to continue working on the Western IPM Grant was made by Trustee Liddle. This motion was seconded by Trustee Vickers, and it carried with all in favor.

**7. Resolutions Acknowledging Exemplary Service of Trustee Liddle and Trustee Vitek:**

The amount of quality service that Trustees Liddle (21 years) and Trustee Vitek (14 years) have consistently provided has been immensely appreciated by staff and the other Trustees. It is with sorrow we have to bid them farewell. Trustee Turner read their resolutions; Trustee Christensen made a motion to approve the resolutions, and it was seconded by Trustee Vickers. The motion passed upon a roll call, as follows: Van Turner, Board Chair – aye; Carlton Christensen, Board Vice Chair – aye; Dr. Neil Vickers, Trustee – aye; and Dr. Dagmar Vitek, Trustee – aye. Trustee Turner presented them each with a plaque indicating the great value their service has provided to the District and the residents of Salt Lake City. They have unselfishly provided guidance to the District, and their experience and knowledge have been very useful to the staff and the other Trustees. They will most certainly be missed!

**8. Update on the Ouelessebouyou Alliance/Mali Mosquito Control Project and Permission for Executive Director Faraji to Attend and Present at the Pan African Mosquito Control Association:**

Assistant Director White and Operations Supervisor Hardman had recently met with Richard Loomis, and Dr. White provided the Trustees an update on the progress of the container being shipped to Ouelessebouyou. A few challenges still need to be resolved, and the shipping container may not make it to Mali before the end of the wet season.

Executive Director Faraji received an invitation letter to present at the 8<sup>th</sup> Pan African Mosquito Control Association (PAMCA) Annual Conference being held 26-28 September 2022 in Kigali-Rwanda. PAMCA is working on a memorandum of understanding towards implementing a more Western approach to mosquito surveillance and abatement, and his attendance at this year's PAMCA conference will continue to provide impetus to the MoU, strengthen the collaborative efforts, and create avenues for shared knowledge and best practices on vector surveillance and control for the benefit of the African continent at large. African nations are currently interested in phasing out the traditional approaches for malaria control using insecticidal treated bed nets and residual indoor insecticide applications. These methods have led to increased insecticide resistance, with no major decline in malaria transmission and mosquito control. These nations are currently ready to utilize integrated methods undertaken by western districts such as ours in order to bring relief for local residents. Additionally, during his presidency, Executive Director Faraji was responsible for establishing a memorandum of understanding between PAMCA and the American Mosquito Control Association in 2021. That partnership provided an additional 60 attendees for our national conference and opened the doors for dialogue and sharing of ideas and an expectation for members of AMCA to also reciprocate attendance at PAMCA. Our District has also previously hosted four members of PAMCA at our facility and dormitories. Trustee Vickers made a motion to approve Executive Director Faraji's participation in and presenting at the Pan African Mosquito Control Association Annual Conference in September. This motion was seconded by Trustee Liddle and passed with a unanimous vote.

**9. Discussion and Approval to Hire an Owner's Representative:**

The District sought bids from Utah's pre-qualified and approved vendor list with the State of Utah Division of Purchasing and General Services, and Construction Control Corporation, Big D, and MOCA systems submitted proposals to be our owner's representative for developing the back acreage. Urban Supervisor Sorensen is also a helicopter pilot, and he was invited to join Executive Director Faraji and Assistant Director White while they interviewed these three companies. The Trustees had been provided with copies of the three proposals, and a discussion ensued. The conversation eventually leaned towards the most affordable proposal that divided the project into two phases, which will help us make sure we have everything we want before we go out for a final bid. Trustee Christensen made a motion to accept MOCA's phase one proposal, with the option to extend to phase two, if desired. Upon being seconded by Trustee Liddle, the motion carried with all in favor.

**10. Update on Salt Lake City Council Board Appointments:**

The Salt Lake City Council Members interviewed Shireen Mooers and Amanda Barth during their 7 June 2022 Work Session, and now these two candidates are waiting to be officially appointed to our Board of Trustees. They may possibly be appointed in time to attend our 14 July 2022 Board Meeting.

**11. Update on Auditor Registry:**

Salt Lake City Mosquito Abatement District and the Local Building Authority of the Salt Lake City Mosquito Abatement District have both met the annual registration requirements under UCA §67-1a-15 by registering with the Lieutenant Governor's Office.

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

- **DSLASA, 9 June 2022, Mosquito Abatement District - Davis, Kaysville, Utah**

The DSLASA meeting was held in person, and the auditors found four findings: an invoice did not have a signature to show the payment was authorized by 2021's Executive Director Hatch, unrestricted funds were over the maximum 25% of the total general fund revenues by \$243,758, the records officer did not complete the training in 2021, and the annual Fraud Risk Assessment was not completed or presented to the board. Perhaps CFO Fairbanks can assist with some guidelines for DSLASA to follow during 2022.

- **International Congress of Entomology, 17-22 July 2022, Helsinki, Finland**

The International Congress of Entomology is held every four years; the last meeting was held in Orlando, Florida, and the meeting was attended by over 7,000 individuals. The current meeting has been canceled two years in a row because of COVID-19, but it's beginning to look like the International Congress of Entomology meeting in Finland will actually be held this year. Executive Director Faraji has been able to replace several speakers in his symposium with other members in general attendance giving talks on mosquito biology and/or control. He will make plans to attend the meeting, unless it is canceled by the organizers.

Trustee Christensen left the meeting at 5:53 p.m.

- **Utah Mosquito Abatement Association Annual Conference, 23-25 October 2022**

Please plan on attending the Utah Mosquito Abatement Association Annual Conference in October this year. Due to a change in the State law, the District will now be able to provide hotel stays for the Trustees even if the travel is under 50 miles.

In order to go to the public hearing, the meeting was recessed at 5:57 p.m. through a unanimously-approved motion made by Trustee Liddle and seconded by Trustee Vickers.

The meeting was officially reconvened at 6:32 p.m. with a motion made by Trustee Liddle and seconded by Trustee Vickers. The motion carried with all in favor.

**13. Discussion and Approval of 2022 Amended Budget:**

No further discussion on the 2022 Amended Budget was necessary since it was discussed in full during the public hearing. The 2022 Amended Budget was approved unanimously after a motion to approve the budget was made by Trustee Liddle and seconded by Trustee Vickers.

**14. Discussion and Approval of Resolution for 2022 Certified Tax Rate and 2023 Proposed Budget:**

Trustee Vitek made the following motion: "Be it resolved that a certified tax rate of 0.000166 for the year 2022 be adopted to meet the Salt Lake City Mosquito Abatement District property tax budget revenue requirements of \$6,538,004. The trustees also voted to accept a higher tax rate for additional revenues, should an adjustment be made through State and County authorities". She also added a motion to approve the 2023 Proposed Budget. Her motions were seconded by Trustee Liddle, and they carried with all in favor.

**15. Executive Director's Report:**

The Board Members were given a few updates, which included the following: 1) Assistant Director White was acquainted with a person who expressed a desire to work with our drones this summer, and she arrived from California this week. All of our seasonal workers are now on board. We have a great crew this year! The seasonals behave well and are knowledgeable as well as enthusiastic. 2) We have had one person take advantage of the \$100 bonus for referring someone who is actually hired for the mosquito season. We are now able to meet as a group at 7:00 a.m. each morning, so we have decided to NOT promote the regular attendance bonus incentive that we had discussed with the Board previously. 3) We had a visit from Henry Nahalewski, the Pesticide Program Manager from the Department of Agriculture, and he wanted to talk about any concerns we may have about the Department of Water Quality and our Pesticide Permit. He toured our facility, and he was extremely impressed with the cleanliness and organization of our facility and how our operations are professionally conducted. He asked if he could use our District as a training site to demonstrate what other programs should be striving for. 4) The Centers of Excellence for the CDC have been notified about their funding, and the PacVec was funded once again for another five-year term. We are working with Dr. Jay Gan and his PhD student out of the University of California Riverside. They are coming out the first week in July to discuss deposition studies with naled, and we can hopefully tap into PacVec funding for this project. Active sampling before, during, and after aerial adulticide applications will be performed to gauge deposition and quantification of this product within our spray blocks. They will also look at water samples, soil samples, and vegetation samples (leaves) in order to provide some actual empirical evidence concerning product residue levels, if any. 5) We are still working on a site visit by the CDC, and Executive Director Faraji has completed a preliminary form that will allow the EPA to also visit our

facility. 6) While Executive Director Faraji was in Washington DC, he was in a meeting with members of the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials. They were enthused about Executive Director Faraji's comments to the EPA and the CDC about having someone dedicated to assisting us in public health when we are approached with complaints by environmental groups. They are looking to partner with the AMCA to bring these additional issues to the CDC and EPA. 7) We are hoping to establish a national campaign for mosquito and vector control that can be funded at the national level and then distributed to the states to help promote safe public health and the benefits of mosquito control. This will be conducted as a true partnership with other associations and entities such as ASTHO, above.

Assistant Director White provided a surveillance report comparing the five-year averages for the rural, industrial, and urban zones with what has occurred so far this year. We plan to begin virus testing at the end of June. He also discussed a few of our research projects: adulticide resistance testing, new adulticide formulation evaluations, larvicide resistance testing, new product catch basin trials, ULV deposition trials, honey bee trials, and bloodmeal analysis research (conducted primarily by Emily Calhoun, who is Dr. White's PhD student from Utah State University).

Urban Field Supervisor set up the new unmanned aerial systems drone (DJI Agras-T30) for the Trustees to look at.

**16. Probable Agenda Items for 14 July 2022 Board Meeting:**

- Executive Director's Report
- Surveillance/Control Updates
- Research Projects Updates
- Possible Report on Virus Activity

**17. Public Comment:**

No public attended the meeting.

**18. Adjournment:**

Trustees Vitek and Vickers made and seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 p.m., which passed unanimously. A box lunch will be available before the 12:30 p.m. Monthly Board Meeting on 14 July 2022.



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Ary Faraji, Executive Director

14 JUL 22  
Date



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Van Turner, Chair 2022

7-14-22  
Date