

**MINUTES OF THE
SALT LAKE CITY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT
13 April 2023
BOARD MEETING**

Presiding: Carlton Christensen, Board Chair 2023

Time: 12:40 p.m.

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

Trustees Present: Carlton Christensen, Chair
Dr. Shireen Mooers, Vice-Chair
Van Turner (Arrived at 12:45 p.m. after Item 2)
Neil Vickers, Ph.D.

Trustees Excused: Amanda Barth

Others Present: Ary Faraji, Ph.D., Executive Director
Gregory White, Ph.D., Assistant Director
Aleta Fairbanks, CPA, CFO
Bradley Sorensen, Urban Field Supervisor (Attended during Item 4)

1. Roll Call:

Trustee Christensen called the meeting to order at 12:40 p.m. It was confirmed that the meeting was being recorded, and the Trustees had no conflicts of interest.

2. Approval of the 16 March 2023 Minutes of the Board of Trustees:

The Board Members were provided an opportunity to review the pending minutes of March's regular Board Meeting prior to this meeting. Trustee Mooers stated regarding 5. Discussion and Approval of Policies and Procedures Amendments, a request was made to use gender neutral language in the Policies and Procedures. ("their" replaces "his/her", "them" replaces "him/her", and "they" replaces "he/she"). Trustee Vickers made a motion to approve the 16 March 2023 Board Meeting Minutes. This motion was seconded by Trustee Mooers, and it carried with all in favor.

3. Presentation of the March 2023 Financial Statements and Approval of Bills for Payment:

Copies of March's Financial Statements had been distributed to the Trustees before the Board Meeting. CFO Fairbanks reviewed the Financial Statements with the Trustees; all expenditures were presented, with special attention being paid to items over \$1,000. Documentation for all payments had been reviewed when the checks were signed; the Balance Sheets and a folder containing all of the supporting invoices were also circulated. Trustee Mooers made a motion to approve the March 2023 Financial Statements and the bills for payment; her motion passed unanimously after being seconded by Trustee Vickers.

4. Discussion and Approval to Purchase a Westinghouse 20,000-Watt Generator for UAS:

Urban Field Supervisor Sorensen, who also supervises the Drone Program, explained how drone batteries only last ten minutes in the field. Charging batteries in the field using a generator requires about 9,000 for each one, and he is often in need of at least two batteries being charged tandemly. Because the 20,000-watt generator will enable the batteries for both drones to receive fast charges in the field, it will allow more acreage to be treated in a timelier fashion. Westinghouse is currently a sole source provider for this large capacity generator, and the District would like to purchase the generator as soon as one is available. After a lengthy discussion, Trustee Vickers made a motion to approve purchasing the sole source Westinghouse 20,000-Watt generator, Trustee Turner seconded the motion, and it passed with all in favor.

5. Discussion and Approval for an Amendment to Project Management Services with MOCA Systems:

MOCA is requesting an additional \$36,000 for Phase 2, which will cover proposal reviews and architect/engineer selection, contract execution, schematic design completion, and an updated budget/schedule. Phase 2 should be completed by the end of September, 2023. After further discussion, Trustee Vickers made a motion to approve the Amendment to Project Management Services with MOCA Systems. This motion was seconded by Trustee Mooers, and the motion carried with a unanimous vote.

6. Update on Architectural Services:

On 12 April 2023, Executive Director Faraji, Assistant Director White, Urban Field Supervisor Sorensen, and Trustee Vickers met with representatives from MOCA Systems, MHTN Architects, and Naylor Wentworth Lund Architects for a pre-proposal meeting. Construction plans and concerns about the property were discussed. Architectural proposal completion and interviews have been scheduled for 3 May 2023, an architect will be selected by 8 May 2023, and the proposal contract execution will hopefully take place on 1 June 2023.

7. Update on Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Visit:

CDC's Lyle Petersen, the Director of the Division of Vector-Borne Diseases in the National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases, and around ten other individuals will be visiting the District on 12-13 July 2023. We are delighted that they are interested in learning more about our operations and mosquito control, and we will discuss issues that impact vector control nationally. Our plans are to form three small groups that will experience laboratory activities (trapping / sorting / mosquito identification / mosquito colonies), rural activities in our prime mosquito habitats, and our urban programs (bicycle – catch basins / ponds / tree-holes). The CDC has shown an interest in knowing how they can help us, and they may also be interested in learning about our participation in the University of Utah's Community Engaged Learning (CEL) and Science Research Initiative (SRI) programs. This is especially an important event, for some of the visitors also serve on the CDC grant committee and will acquire a better understanding about how we can fulfill the grant obligations.

8. Update on Audit:

CFO Fairbanks explained that K&C CPAs began auditing the District's financials and procedures on Monday, and the audit is going well. Steven Rowley, Partner, and Nathaniel Corry, Staff Auditor, have expressed an appreciation that the inventory and financial documentation is well organized. They believe that they will wrap up their on-site work later today.

9. Update on Biologist Hiring:

The Trustees were given a list with the names and accomplishments of the eight applicants for the Biologist position. The top applicant is Nathan Byers, who is a Postdoctoral Fellow for the CDC. He has a B.Sc in Biochemistry and a Ph.D. in Molecular Biology. He is well-published, has extensive molecular experience, and works IMM in support roles for CDC. He is an interesting presenter, enjoys research, and is excited to devote his talents to mosquito control and intervention. His molecular experience will relieve Assistant Director from doing viral testing and will allow him more time to focus on operational activities. Nathan Byers has accepted the job offer and will begin working for the District on 12 May 2023.

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

- **Lakefront Waterfowl Club, Saturday, 18 March 2023**

Hosting the Southshore Water Management Association and the Northpoint Consolidated Irrigation Company's meetings led to a request to hold the Lakefront Water Fowl Club's meeting at our facility on Saturday 18 March 2023. Operations

Supervisor Hardman came in to assist the Club. We feel that hosting these user groups is good for the community and will also enhance positive relationships.

- **DSLASA, 23 March 2023**

Trustees Liddle and Vickers attended the Davis-Salt Lake Spray Authority's quarterly meeting, which was held at the District. DSLASA also has a contract in place for K&C CPAs to audit their records.

- **Anastasia Mosquito Surveillance and Control Workshop, 28-30 March 2023**

Executive Director Faraji, Education Specialist Rehbein, and Laboratory Director Bibbs attended and presented at this workshop. They were pleased with the quality of the workshop; people from all over the world were present. They were extremely impressed with the newly-completed museum. Director Rui-De Xue, Ph.D. and his staff have done a remarkable job soliciting free products and services that have amplified the positive impact of the museum. We plan to take advantage of their work by utilizing some of their relationships once we begin working on our museum.

- **PacVec COE, 6-7 April 2023**

Trustee Vickers, who attended and spoke at the Pacific Southwest Center of Excellence in Vector-Borne Diseases Annual Meeting (in person), indicated that he enjoyed the conference. There were short "lightening talks", and Laboratory Director Bibbs gave a very informative presentation (virtually). Emily Calhoun, a Utah State University student who has been doing some research with the District through a training grant, also gave a nice presentation on her work.

- **Utah Public Health Association (UPHA), 13 April 2023**

UPHA invited Education Specialist Rehbein to participate in a women's panel discussion yesterday, and she gave a presentation on our District at their annual conference this morning.

- **Florida Fly In, 18-20 April 2023**

Executive Director Faraji and Education Specialist Rehbein will be attending this conference at Lee County Mosquito Abatement District. Education Specialist Rehbein will also spend time with the outreach and education staff of Lee County.

- **UMAA Spring Workshop, 12 May 2023**

The District will host this year's UMAA Spring Workshop. Several employees of Utah's mosquito districts will attend the Spring Workshop to receive training on sexual harassment, poison control and chemical safety, mosquito biology, public relations and laws, etc.

- **AMCA Washington Conference, 15-17 May 2023**

The AMCA Washington Day is the legislative day when we get to meet with our federal representatives on Capitol Hill in Washington D.C. and discuss issues that impact public health and vector control. Executive Director Faraji, CFO Fairbanks, Education Specialist Rehbein, and Trustees Vickers and Mooers will be participating in this event. The CDC, EPA, and the FAA will also be attendance.

- **Ouelessebougou Utah Alliance - Mali Project, 12 June 2023**

Assistant Director White and Operations Supervisor Hardman will be flying to Mali, Africa on 12 June 2023 to assist the Ouelessebougou Alliance with mosquito abatement efforts. Gunter Muller, Bamako University, and Richard Loomis, Ouelessebougou Alliance, will also provide support and assistance.

11. Executive Director's Report:

The Board Members were given a brief update on the following: 1) We currently have two summer seasonal employees, and another will join the ranks on 1 May 2023. So far, we have hired 18 seasonal workers, and we would like to hire an additional 25. 2) Jenna Crowder from the Department of Agriculture has asked us to hire a part-time employee to help her with her bee project in collaboration with the District. 3) We have received a contract for this year's Western Integrated Pest Management Center grant. A formal MOU will be presented to the Board next month. 4) Two Utah Department of Corrections employees will unfortunately have to retake their pesticide license testing. They will continue studying and will try again later. 5) We have had more HVAC problems: the boiler in our main room has gone out. We have contacted North Star HVAC, and they will look for the parts we need. 6) When Executive Director tried to apply for Amazon's 5% credit card, they asked for his personal information as a guarantee for payment if the District defaults. Amazon does have an option with American Express, but not all entities accept American Express. Executive Director Faraji and CFO Fairbanks have an appointment to meet on 25 April 2023 to discuss Corporate Card options with American Express. We will also look into obtaining corporate cards with Capital One. 7) Assistant Director White did an excellent job speaking with Fox News on 12 April 2023. 8) Executive Director Faraji spoke with another news outlet today (City Cast), and he has made arrangements for Education Specialist to do a digital podcast / interview next week. 9) Larval mosquitos have already been collected from the field (*Aedes dorsalis*). We began setting traps this week. *Culiseta inornata* (80%) and *Culex tarsalis* (20%) comprised the majority of the trapped mosquitoes. This means that we already have host-seeking mosquitoes!

12. Probable Agenda Items for 25 May 2023 Board Meeting:

- Construction / RFP Update
- Executive Director's Report

- Grants Update
- Personnel Update

13. Public Comment:

There were no members of the public present at this time.


14. Adjournment:

Trustees Turner and Mooers made and seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:36 p.m., which passed unanimously. The 25 May 2023 Regular Monthly Board Meeting will be held at 12:30 p.m.



Ary Faraji, Executive Director

30 MAY 23
Date



Dr. Shireen Mooers, Vice-Chair

5/25/2023
Date