

**MINUTES OF THE
SALT LAKE CITY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT
January 16, 2014
BOARD MEETING**

1. Roll Call:

Presiding: La Vone Liddle, Board Chair 2013
Maureen Wilson, Board Chair 2014

Time: 12:30 PM

Place: 2020 North Redwood Road, Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

Trustees Present: Maureen Wilson, Chair 2014
La Vone Liddle, Chair 2013
G.E. 'Deac' Thomas
Dr. Dagmar Vitek
Todd Erskine

Trustees Excused: None

Others Present: Sammie Lee Dickson, Manager
Sally Beagley, District Secretary

Chair Liddle opened the meeting, took a roll call and then passed control of the meeting to the 2014 Board Chair, Maureen Wilson. Chair Wilson presided over the remainder of the meeting.

2. Approval of the December 19, 2013, Minutes of the 2013 Budget Amendments and 2014 Budget Hearing:

Trustee Liddle made a motion to accept the Minutes of the 2013 Budget Amendments and 2014 Budget Hearing held on December 19, 2013, as presented. Trustee Vitek seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous vote.

3. Approval of the December 19, 2013, Minutes of the December Monthly Board Meeting:

Trustees Liddle and Erskine offered the following corrections to the pending minutes: item #6, first paragraph, change '2014' to '2013' in three places, and, item #9, title and first paragraph, change '2013' to '2014.' Trustee Liddle made a motion to accept the December 19, 2013, Minutes of the December Board Meeting with the above corrections. Trustee Erskine seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous vote.

4. Presentation of December 2013 Financial Statements and Approval of Bills for Payment:

Manager Dickson reviewed the December financial statements with the Board. All expenditures in excess of \$500 were reviewed. A review was also made of any budget line items that were over the expected percentage of spending for this time of the budget year. Since this is the last financial statement of the year, expenditures of line items would be expected to be close to 100% of the budgeted amount.

Expenses for December totaled \$69,554.85 with \$69,554.85 from the General Fund and \$0.00 from the Capital Projects Fund. Trustee Vitek made a motion to accept the December financial statement and to pay the bills as presented. The motion was seconded by Trustee Thomas and passed with a unanimous vote.

5. Personnel:

Manager Dickson sent a job offer letter for the Assistant Manager / Biologist position following the December Board Meeting. On December 23, 2013, Ary Farajollahi signed the job offer accepting the terms of employment that were specified. Mr. Farajollahi will not be joining the District until July 1, 2014. Since he will be arriving so late in the mosquito season, the District will not be hiring interns this year. The intern program will continue in the 2015 mosquito season.

At the December Board Meeting, Manager Dickson had proposed promoting Field Supervisor Hardman to Interim Assistant Manager with a temporary increase in salary equal to his current step 12 but moving from Lane C to Lane E on the District's salary step table. At that time, Trustee Erskine pointed out that it was the manager's prerogative to promote, hire and fire the people under him, but it was the Board's duty to set salaries. Also, personnel salaries were not an agenda item on the December meeting and could not be considered.

Manager Dickson proposed to the Board that Interim Assistant Manager Hartman's salary be increased from the current \$45,856 to \$52,263 for the time that he holds the Interim Assistant Manager position. When the new Assistant Manager / Biologist starts work for the District, Mr. Hardman's title will revert to Field Supervisor and his salary will go back to \$45,856 per year. Trustee Erskine made a motion of a temporary salary increase for Interim Assistant Manager Hardman to \$52,263 for the period that he holds that title and job description. The motion was seconded by Trustee Liddle and passed with a unanimous vote.

6. Report on Attended and Reminder of Upcoming Meetings:

The AMCA Annual Meeting will be held in Seattle, WA, February 2-6, 2014. The District will be represented by Chair Wilson, Trustee Vitek, Manager Dickson and staff members Feragen and Beagley.

The Interim Assistant Manager Hardman will be attending the West Central Mosquito & Vector Control Association Annual Meeting to be held in Westminster, CO, March 26-28, 2014.

The Utah Mosquito Abatement Association Annual Workshop will be held on Saturday, April 12, 2014, at the ULGT offices in North Salt Lake,

7. **Manager's Report:**

December was a good time for staff to use up a lot of compensatory and vacation time. However, the office staff has been busy with the yearly inventory and depreciation schedules for the upcoming annual financial audit, redesigning and producing the data for the annual report, determining what pesticides and how much to purchase, cleaning assignments for everything from dusting to shampooing the carpets and designing research projects for the next mosquito season. Shop personnel continue to prepare, repair and refurbish vehicles and ATV's.

The Education Specialist, who was on active military duty during much of the fall, has just started making his elementary school presentations doing four this week.

Hiring for seasonal workers will begin in February.

Manager Dickson has been collaborating with the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Utah Division of Epidemiology with the Health Department, U. S. Geological Service and US Department of Interior on the death of at least 42 Bald Eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) and more than 20,000 eared grebes from WNV during the past few weeks. Half of North Americas' eared grebes (*Podiceps nigricollis*), approximately one million birds, stopover at the Great Salt Lake each winter on their migration south. The grebes lose their flight feathers and remain on the lake for some time, each consuming about 30,000 brine shrimp (*Artemia franciscana*) per day. Grebes are unable to walk on land and must remain in the water to survive. It is not unusual for large numbers of grebes to die in and around the Great Salt Lake each winter from landing on dry ground or from bird cholera. In November 2013, there was a die off of grebes. The Utah DWR tested some birds thinking it was the usual case of cholera or botulism. To everyone's surprise it was WNV. In December the weather around the Great Salt Lake turned unusually cold for about 3-4 weeks. Most of the fresh water bodies in the wetland froze solid. This created a problem for the approximately 1,200 bald eagles that gather near Farmington Bay each winter which tend to feed on the vast numbers of carp. Since the eagles were not able to get to the carp, they started feeding on the dead grebes. It appears that the eagles were infected with WNV from eating the grebes. The mystery is when, where and how were the grebes infected with WNV since no mosquitoes would have been seeking blood meals in November or December. It is unknown as to what any of this means for the human population. The District hopes to work with the above agencies in the coming months to answer the many questions as to where were the grebes

infected and how, is there a mutated WNV, will the season for WNV start early since the virus may be here all winter, etc.

8. Probable Agenda Items for the February 20, 2014, Board Meeting:

The following items will be placed on the February 20, Board Meeting Agenda: legislative issues and bids on pesticides.

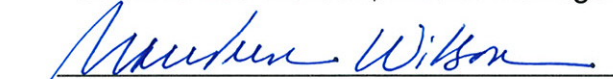
The February 20, 2014, Board Meeting will be preceded by a box lunch at noon with the meeting to begin at 12:30 PM at the District office.

9. Adjournment:

Trustee Erskine made a motion to adjourn the January Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Thomas and passed with a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 1:32 PM.


Sammie Lee Dickson, District Manager

2/20/2014
Date


Maureen Wilson, Board Chair 2014

02/20/2014
Date


La Vone Liddle, Board Chair 2013

02/20/2014
Date