

**MINUTES OF THE
SALT LAKE CITY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT
16 September 2021
BOARD MEETING**

Presiding: Neil Vickers, Ph.D., Board Chair 2021

Time: 12:30 p.m.

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

Trustees Present: Neil Vickers, Ph.D., Chair
Van Turner, Vice-Chair
La Vone Liddle
Dr. Dagmar Vitek

Trustees Absent: Carlton Christensen

Others Present: Gregory White, Ph.D., Assistant Director
Aleta Fairbanks, CPA, CFO
Andrew Dewsnap, IT/GIS Specialist

1. Roll Call:

Trustee Vickers called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. It was confirmed that the meeting was being recorded, and no conflicts of interest were declared by the Trustees.

2. Approval of the 19 August 2021 Minutes of the Board of Trustees:

Prior to this meeting, the Trustees were provided an opportunity to review the pending minutes of August's regular Board Meeting, and the requested modifications had been completed. Trustee Liddle made a motion to approve the 19 August 2021 Board Meeting Minutes; Trustee Turner seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3. Presentation of the August 2021 Financial Statements and Approval of Bills for Payment:

August's Financial Statements had been distributed to the Trustees preceding 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. Copies of the balance sheets and all of the documentation for August's payments were circulated. Trustee Liddle made a motion to adopt the August 2021 Financial

Statements and to approve August's bills for payment. This motion passed unanimously after being seconded by Trustee Vitek.

4. Discussion and Approval for Payment of Publication Charges to PLoS NTD:

The Public Library of Science Neglected Tropical Diseases (PLoS NTD) is an academic, peer-reviewed open-access scientific journal devoted to the study of neglected tropical diseases. This journal publishes a lot of mosquito-related research and, because it is an open source, membership to read the articles is not required and its information is accessible to the public at no charge. Previously, Executive Director Faraji set up the research, conducted the experiments, and worked with some collaborators to help analyze the data for this article. It took a while to analyze the data and undergo peer review, but now the article has been published. This article, "Do tigers hunt during the day? Diel activity of the Asian tiger mosquito, *Aedes albopictus* (Diptera: Culicidae), in urban and suburban habitats of North America" was also included in the Board Packet. Trustee Vickers was familiar with PLoS NTD and explained how important it is for scientists to have valuable and affordable research readily available. Trustee Turner made a motion to approve full payment of the \$2,420.00 PLoS NTD invoice and recommended having a separate line item in the budget for scientific research publications. Trustee Liddle seconded the motion, and it carried with all in favor.

5. Updates on Tax Increase Procedures:

The County is now charging a fee to include property tax increase notices with its regular property tax billings. The District's approximate cost will be \$19,000, which includes a \$500 administration fee, a \$200 printer set up fee, and \$0.12 per letter. If the insert puts the tax notice over the postage weight limit, there will be an additional \$0.03 charge per notice. The Trustees were given a sample of the notice that will be sent out to Salt Lake City residents.

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

- **DSLASA Board Meeting, 9 September 2021, Ogden Hangar, Ogden, UT**

Trustees Liddle and Vickers gave brief reports on the DSLASA Board Meeting. One main issue facing DSLASA is the legality of Ogden-Hinckley Airport charging DSLASA to pave the common area directly adjacent to the hangar. Also, it was noted that pesticide costs have increased significantly.

- **UMAA Annual Meeting, 24-26 October, Park City, UT**

Plans are being made to hold the UMAA Annual Meeting in Park City in October; Assistant Director White, who will be the next UMAA President, is responsible for the program this year. This year's key note speaker will be L. Scott Benson, MD, PhD, MPH,

who works with the Family & Preventive Medicine Department at the University of Utah. He will be speaking on international travel and how mosquitoes and arboviruses from around the world are affecting the health of Utahns. Randall M. Larsen, an attorney with Gilmore & Bell, will conduct a training session on RDA's and their effects on special districts. LeGrand Bitter, Executive Director of the Utah Association of Special Districts, will also be conducting the required annual trustee training. This meeting will be in a hybrid format, including in-person and virtual opportunities. Trustee Liddle is the only Board Member who will be attending the UMAA conference. Unfortunately, because mileage to Park City is under 50 miles, overnight lodging cannot be provided.

- **ESA, 31 October – 3 November 2021, Denver, CO**

Because Executive Director Faraji will be attending the Entomological Society of America's conference this year, he will be unable to attend UASD's annual meeting.

- **UASD, 3-5 November 2021, Provo, UT**

Currently, Assistant Director White is the only person from our District who will be attending this conference. Utah Retirement Systems has informed Trustee Vitek, who is retiring 1 October, that she must not participate in any District-related activities for sixty days, or her pension will be affected. She is very interested in attending this conference and also completing her required trustee training. (CFO Fairbanks decided to contact LeGrand Bitter, UASD's Executive Director, to see if this is an option. He works closely with the legislature, and he may be aware of a statute that is specific to trustee service rather than having to follow the general laws covering employees.)

- **AMCA IBM, 10-12 November 2021, Jacksonville, FL**

Executive Director Faraji will be attending American Mosquito Control Association's Interim Board Meeting in Jacksonville, Florida. The AMCA officers will be checking out the facility and seeing what other preparations need to be made in order to have AMCA's 2022 Annual Meeting run smoothly.

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

The Board Members were given a few updates, which included the following: 1) We are down to one full-time and two part-time seasonal employees in the lab, one seasonal urban employee, and four seasonal rural employees. We are grateful to have their help, but this skeleton crew makes surveillance and performing mosquito control more of a challenge. 2) Invasive *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes have appeared in Moab again this summer. Operations Supervisor Hardman met someone half way to deliver some additional mosquito traps, batteries, and two backpack sprayers to Moab MAD. Also, a board member living in a town near St. George was wondering why a mosquito was biting him during the day rather than at dusk or dawn. He took a picture of the mosquito and sent it to his manager, who identified it as an *Aedes aegypti* mosquito. The location was near a bed and breakfast which is frequented by travelers. It was assumed that the mosquito emerged from some nearby debris, most likely

discarded by travelers, that became flooded during the recent rains. Traps were set, and the mosquitoes were definitely concentrated in that area. ULV fogging was conducted, and water sources were treated. The incident occurred at a higher elevation, and it is hoped that the colder temperatures, plus their abatement efforts and cleaning up the debris, will eliminate the possibility of invasive mosquitoes becoming established. 3) West Nile virus has continued to be detected in a great number of our mosquito pools. Hopefully, the cold front that is arriving next week will decrease mosquito development, assist in stabilizing the infection rates in mosquito populations, and help reduce the threat of human contracted WNV cases. 4) Assistant Director White presented a surveillance update including West Nile virus testing results. There have been 174 positive WNV mosquito pools so far this year, which remains considerably higher than the five-year average. So far, Utah has a total of 15 WNV cases and one death. Our District has contributed five human cases; three of these cases are neuroinvasive, and we have had no deaths. More detailed information on mosquito abundance, species composition, West Nile virus activity, and general research and field projects was also presented.

8. Probable Agenda Items for 21 October 2021 Board Meeting:

- Executive Director's Report
- Research Projects Update
- Tax Increase Update
- 2022 Proposed Budget

9. Public Comment:

No members of the public were present.

10. Adjournment:

Trustees Vitek and Liddle made and seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:36 p.m. A box lunch will be available before the 21 October 2021 regular monthly board meeting, which will begin at 12:30 p.m.



Ary Faraji, Executive Director

21 OCT 21
Date



Neil Vickers, Chair

10/21/2021
Date