

**MINUTES OF THE
SALT LAKE CITY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT
20 January 2022
BOARD MEETING**

Presiding: Van Turner, Board Chair 2022

Time: 12:33 p.m.

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

Trustees Present: Van Turner, Chair
Carlton Christensen, Vice-Chair (Attended virtually and in person)
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

1. Roll Call:

Trustee Turner called the meeting to order at 12:33 p.m. It was confirmed that the meeting was being recorded, and no conflicts of interest were declared. No members of the public were present.

2. Passing of the Gavel and Board Elections:

Trustee Turner began the meeting by expressing the Board's appreciation for the service and leadership that Trustee Vickers had provided during 2021. Not only had it been another COVID pandemic year, but it was wrought with many additional challenges. The partnership with the Ouelessebouyou Alliance, consulting contracts and environmental concerns, grant applications, research projects, Air Force public relations, and the tax increase were a few of the additional undertakings that his guidance helped us navigate. Trustee Turner voiced a heartfelt "thank you" and took a moment to present Trustee Vickers with a plaque depicting his excellent leadership during 2021. Trustee Vickers warmly accepted the plaque, agreed that it had been a tough year, and indicated it was his pleasure to work with a Board that functioned well together. He also thanked the staff for their professionalism, amicability, and ability to organize the District.

After Trustee Vickers presented Trustee Turner with the Board's official gavel, Executive Director Faraji provided the Trustees with a historical list depicting term-appointment / expiration dates and the years served as Chair. Because the Board Bylaws stipulate that the "Vice-Chairperson automatically ascends to the office of Chairperson at the end of the Chairperson's term", Trustee Turner officially became the Board Chair for 2022. However, nominations were open for Vice-Chair. Trustee Liddle made a motion that Trustee Christensen serve as Vice-Chair during 2022. This motion was seconded by Trustee Vickers, and it carried with all in favor. Executive Director Faraji also informed the Board that he has reminded Salt Lake City about the need for advertising for the upcoming vacancies on the Board and he hopes that this process will be begin relatively soon.

3. Approval of the 16 December 2021 Minutes of the Board of Trustees:

The Trustees had received a copy of all of the pending minutes prior to the meeting, and Trustee Liddle made a motion to approve the 16 December 2021 Board Meeting Minutes. Her motion passed unanimously after being seconded by Trustee Vitek.

4. Approval of the 16 December 2021 Public Hearing Minutes of the 2021 Budget Amendments and 2022 Proposed Budget:

Trustee Vickers made a motion to approve the 16 December 2021 Public Hearing Minutes of the 2021 Budget Amendments and 2022 Proposed Budget. Trustee Liddle seconded the motion, and it carried with all in favor.

5. Approval of the 16 December 2021 Public Hearing Minutes of the 2022 Proposed Tax Increase:

Trustee Vitek made a motion to approve the 16 December 2021 Public Hearing Minutes of the 2022 Proposed Tax Increase; the motion was seconded by Trustee Vickers, and it passed unanimously.

6. Presentation of the December 2021 Financial Statements and Approval of Bills for Payment:

Copies of December's Financial Statements had been distributed to the Trustees before the Board Meeting. CFO Fairbanks reviewed the Financial Statements with the Board; all expenditures were presented, with special attention being paid to items over \$1,000. Documentation for all expenditures had been provided when the checks were signed, and a folder containing this information was circulated. Trustee Vickers made a motion to adopt the December 2021 Financial Statements and to approve December's bills for payment. After being seconded by Trustee Vitek, the motion passed unanimously.

7. Discussion and Approval to Purchase a Cap for Truck 27 (UAS):

Urban Field Supervisor Sorensen is responsible for the unmanned aerial system, and he has requested approval to purchase a topper for truck 27 in order to protect the drones from theft as well as inclement weather. He obtained two bids for price comparisons, and Jordan Camper provided a bid for \$3,175. We have had several transactions with Jordan Camper in the past, and we have been pleased with the service we have received. A motion to approve purchasing a topper for truck 27 from Jordan Camper was made and seconded by Trustees Liddle and Vitek, respectively. The motion carried with all in favor.

8. Discussion and Approval of 2022 ESRI GIS Renewal Contract:

In the past, the ESRI GIS renewal contract has been brought before the Board for approval. However, the ESRI GIS contract fee has actually been included and already approved with the annual budget. Because ESRI is a single-source provider and the expense is a routine quote that is essential to operating the District, this will probably be the last time the ESRI GIS expense will be presented to the Board for separate approval. The Board was in agreement with this approach. Trustee Vickers made a motion to approve the ESRI GIS contract; the motion was seconded by Trustee Liddle, and it passed unanimously.

9. Update on Auditor Services:

Last month the Board discussed our auditor's request to increase his audit fee to \$8,700. The Trustees found this increased fee to be reasonable because the scope of the audit has changed significantly by adding \$22,000,000 in assets as well as the Local Building Authority with its two bonds. The only concern was that there could possibly be a purchasing policy issue. Our legal counsel reviewed the audit agreement and provided us with some options. Rather than issuing a request for proposals a year early, we decided to follow her recommendation to use the "small purchase of professional services" to retain the current auditor's services for the remaining year. Under this policy, we are allowed to enter a contract by direct negotiation without issuing an RFP. Then, a new RFP will be issued for an audit covering the next five years: 2022 – 2026; according to best practices, we do not plan on re-hiring Child Richards CPAs & Advisors to complete our audits for the next five years. If interested, up to two Trustees were invited to serve on a committee to help with the selection of a new auditing firm.

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

- **Florida Fly-in, 11-13 January 2022, St. Augustine, FL**

Executive Director Faraji and Urban Field Supervisor (UAS and Helicopter Pilot) Sorensen both attended this conference. While they were in St. Augustine, they were able to visit the near-by Anastasia Mosquito Control District that is run by Dr. Rui-De

Xue. They were extremely pleased and surprised by the advances that Anastasi MCD has accomplished in the past two years. They have built a dormitory, very similar to ours, in addition to acquiring certification for Good Laboratory Practices, working with invasive species (including malaria vectors), building a new museum/library, building an entire sterile insect technique facility, in addition to semi-field mosquito adult bioassay cages, a new helicopter hangar with three pieces of equipment, and a multipurpose building complete with wind tunnels, olfactometers, and lasers for droplet analysis.

- **Dr. Ilia Rochlin (Suffolk County MVCD, NY), 26-28 January 2022, SLCMAD Dormitory**

Dr. Rochlin worked with the District on the manuscript that was published by EcoSphere, and he is assisting us with another research project covering our sugar alcohol studies. He will be coming out to work on the sugar alcohol paper as well as some other research projects that we have planned for this upcoming season. He will be staying in our dormitory for two nights.

- **Dr. Chris Bibbs (Central Life Sciences), 26-28 January 2022, SLCMAD Dormitory**

Central Life Sciences has created a new formulation of an adulticide, and official trials and evaluations need to be conducted for the EPA. Dr. Bibbs is also staying in our dormitory while he devises some experimental designs for our District. We will be assisting Central Life Sciences with some field trials for different mosquito species this summer, and we will be charging them for our services. The intent of these studies is to evaluate this new adulticide formulation, which will provide us other options to utilize against mosquitoes should we detect insecticide resistance and/or other concerns surrounding adulticides.

- **MVCAC, 7-9 February 2022, Sacramento, CA**

The Mosquito and Vector Control Association of California has asked Assistant Director White to conduct a presentation during its meetings. If any of the Trustees would like to attend this meeting as well, please let Executive Director Faraji know.

- **AMCA Annual Conference, 28 February – 4 March 2022, Jacksonville, FL**

American Mosquito Control Association's Annual Conference will be held in Jacksonville this year. Trustee Vickers, Executive Director Faraji, and Assistant Director White will all be presenting symposium talks. This is a very beneficial and informative meeting, and all of the Trustees were encouraged to participate if at all possible. The Anastasia Mosquito Control District is about a thirty-minute drive from the conference; Anastasia's program is quite similar to ours, and visiting this District is quite inspirational.

- **Arbovirus Surveillance & Control Workshop, 29-31 March 2022, St. Augustin, FL**

Anastasia will also be conducting an annual workshop at their facilities in March. This is a good opportunity to meet with CDC partners and ask for vector surveillance/control funding, which is similar to what they are accomplishing for the Centers of Excellence. If the Trustees are unable to attend the AMCA Meetings, they may want to participate in this Workshop. Visiting the Anastasia Mosquito Control District is worth the trip, in itself.

- **National Conference on Urban Entomology, 15-18 May 2022, S L C, Utah**

This conference will be held at the Salt Palace Convention Center in SLC. Although the District will have nothing to do with implementing this meeting, Executive Director Faraji was asked if the District could host a social event in the evening and inform the attendees about our operations.

11. Executive Director's Report:

The Board Members were given a few updates, which included the following: 1) We are submitting a paper for publication in Lancet Public Health Landscapes. 2) Maintenance Operator Hernandez is now working full time for the District. 3) One seasonal employee, Forrest Young, has been retained to assist us with the scoping literature review needed to complete Dr. Daniel Mendoza's research project. He is a Masters student at the University of Utah, and he is also using this project for his practicum as part of his research thesis. He will be leaving us at the end of January. 4) Ella Branham has been rehired as a Laboratory Technician who works fewer than twenty hours each week. She assists with insect curation, mosquito colony maintenance, and trap/equipment maintenance and preparations. 5) The pesticide orders for 2022 are in place. 6) Assistant Director White is working on the pesticide report for the Department of Water Quality and also 2021's inventory. 7) Councilman Dugan met with staff to learn more about our operations and toured the facility. He is interested in talking with the landowners about water dissemination in an effort to reduce the need for mosquito control, and he has asked for a list of landowners. 8) The Deployed War-Fighter Protection (DWFP) Program is a DOD-sponsored research program administered by the Armed Forces Pest Management Board (AFPMB). It is tasked with the development and testing of management tools for pest and vector species that transmit diseases to the deployed war fighters. Unfortunately, our grant pre-proposal was not invited for a full submission; however, the AMCA has been invited to submit a full proposal for their grant, which will also involve us. EPA reviews are currently being conducted, and the EPA is utilizing agriculture models. DWFP is interested in the droplet penetration in relationship to these models. 9) The pesticide permit is up for renewal with the Department of Water Quality. Pesticide applications are currently being regulated by the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) and the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). FIFRA provides federal regulation of pesticide distribution, sale, and use. All pesticides distributed or sold in the United States must be registered/licensed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The NPDES permit translates the general requirements of the Clean Water Act into specific provisions tailored to the operations of each person discharging possible pollutants. The Department of Water Quality (DWQ) oversees the pesticide permit for Utah, and it is unclear exactly what paperwork on the

acres treated annually that the DWQ will ask the District to provide. Assistant Director White is working on assembling this data. The DWQ has received several emails asking the DWQ to NOT reissue pesticide application permits, and it plans to hold a public hearing this year. We will have all of Utah's mosquito abatement districts and others attend the public hearing to render scientifically-correct data and experiences that can paint a true picture of the imperative need for mosquito control. 10) Don Hall, from the DWQ, visited the District and was quite impressed with the work we are doing. We will follow up by scheduling another meeting with DWQ officials and invite other mosquito abatement districts to join us. 11) Assistant Director White presented a surveillance update illustrating 2021's trap totals and five-year trap averages in the three surveillance zones. The update included West Nile virus testing results: Last year, 1,119 pools were tested and 220 of the pools were positive for WNV; this is considerably higher than the five-year average. Our District had five neuroinvasive human cases and no deaths. More detailed information on mosquito abundance, species composition, and West Nile virus activity was also presented.

12. Probable Agenda Items for 17 February 2022 Board Meeting:

- Executive Director's Report
- Northpointe Ranches Annexation Update
- Grant Updates

13. Public Comment:

There were no public comments.

14. Adjournment:

Trustees Vitek and Vickers made and seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:27 p.m., which passed unanimously. A box lunch will be available before the 12:30 p.m. Monthly Board Meeting on 17 February 2022.



Ary Faraji, Executive Director

17 FEB 2022
Date



Van Turner, Chair 2022

2-17-22
Date