

**MINUTES OF THE  
SALT LAKE CITY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT  
15 June 2023  
BOARD MEETING**

Presiding: Dr. Shireen Mooers, Vice-Chair

Time: 4:08 p.m.

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

Trustees Present: Dr. Shireen Mooers, Vice-Chair  
Amanda Barth (Arrived at 4:18 p.m. during Item 3)  
Van Turner  
Neil Vickers, Ph.D.

Excused: Carlton Christensen, Board Chair 2023

Others Present: Ary Faraji, Ph.D., Executive Director  
Aleta Fairbanks, CPA, CFO

**1. Roll Call:**

Trustee Mooers called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m. It was confirmed that the meeting was being recorded, and the Trustees had no conflicts of interest.

**2. Approval of the 25 May 2023 Minutes of the Board of Trustees:**

The Board Members were provided an opportunity to review the pending minutes of May's regular Board Meeting prior to this meeting. Trustee Vickers made a motion to approve the 25 May 2023 Minutes of the Board of Trustees; the motion was seconded by Trustee Turner and passed with a unanimous vote.

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

Copies of May'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 \$1,000.00.

Of special interest, it was noted that the Prison had reimbursed the District \$40 to cover the cost of pesticide license testing for two of their employees, TimeClock+ had returned \$47.12 in sales tax that had been inadvertently charged for services, and \$57.14 had been received for a Zoom class action settlement. 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 Turner made a motion to approve the May 2023 Financial Statements and the bills for payment; his motion passed unanimously after being seconded by Trustee Vickers.

**4. Update on CDC Grant “Rockies and High Plains Vector-Borne Diseases Center (RaHP-VEC)”:**

The CDC has awarded the RaHP-VEC \$6,068,841 grant to Colorado State University, and we are a subcontractor of that grant. The District’s portion will be \$1,013,795 over five years. We are also the principal for a similar grant that was submitted along with some other Utah entities; although we haven’t received a rejection letter yet, it will be surprising if we are awarded this grant. Applying for this grant could allow us to be put on an Allocated But Unfunded (ABU) list that would put us in position to receive some money at the end of the year if CDC ends up with a surplus of funds.

**5. Update on Utah State Entity Registry:**

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

**6. Discussion and Approval for Helicopter Rental Surveillance Services”:**

Several CDC personnel will be visiting the District 12-13 July to learn more about our operations and mosquito control. Our District’s goal is to phase out larval treatments (larvicides) from fixed-wing planes and to begin utilizing helicopter applications which will allow us to only treat where the mosquito larvae exist. We have been discussing conducting an aerial overview tour of the wetland habitats with our full-time crews and Board for some time now, and we have been able to procure a company that is willing to provide six hours of helicopter service for \$8,200. This may be a good opportunity to also invite CDC to overview the larval habitats from the air. The Trustees discussed the pros and cons of having a few of the CDC personnel join them as they view our mosquito habitat via helicopter. It was suggested that this opportunity should be extended to only key CDC personnel, and we should not be held financially responsible if the flights are cancelled due to weather complications. The Trustees are available on 13 July; if three or more Trustees are in attendance, a quorum will be present, the public meeting will be advertised, and minutes will be prepared for any business that is conducted prior to adjourning for the fieldtrip. Trustee Vickers made a motion to approve pursuing an agreement with Utah

Transport Helicopters for helicopter surveillance services up to \$10,000 in conjunction with the CDC visit. This motion was seconded by Trustee Turner, and carried with all in favor.

**7. Discussion and Approval for Executive Director to Attend and Present at the Pan-African Mosquito Control Association Annual Conference, 17-21 September 2023:**

Executive Director Faraji requested permission to attend, present, and run a symposium at the Pan-African Mosquito Control Association Conference this year. When he was the President of the American Mosquito Control Association, he set up a Memorandum of Understanding between the AMCA and Pan-African Mosquito Control Association (PAMCA). This MOU led to over 60 participants from PAMCA to attend the AMCA meetings that year. Interest in Integrated Mosquito Management has been increasing in Africa, and part of the agreement to increase innovation exchanges was that AMCA members would also present and share their expertise at the PAMCA meetings. A list of the presenters in Executive Director Faraji's symposium was included in the board packet. In addition to the conference, he also asked for permission to attend a meeting with representatives from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation either prior to or immediately after the conference. Granting agencies and African partner countries are at a point where larval control measures may now be incorporated into their programs. This would allow vector control entities to manage insecticide resistance much more efficiently than the current overuse of insecticidal treated bed nets and indoor/outdoor residual spraying using the same active ingredient. As leaders in integrated mosquito management with a large emphasis on larvicidal control and larval source management, it is beneficial for the District to share these experiences with others. Trustee Turner made a motion to approve Executive Director Faraji's request to present and participate in the PAMCA meetings; his motion passed unanimously after being seconded by Trustee Barth.

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

- **DWQ/DEQ, 1 June 2023**

Don Hall, the Environmental Scientist from the Utah State Department of Water Quality, under the Department of Environmental Quality, had asked the District to host the Section Retreat of their organization so that they could learn about integrated mosquito management. This meeting enhanced the District's relationship with the DWQ in addition to allowing the DWQ to better understand the science and care that goes into our daily operations.

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

Through outreach by the Ouelessebouyou Alliance, KSL aired a story covering Assistant Director White's and Operations Supervisor Hardman's trip to Mali, Africa to assist the Ouelessebouyou Alliance with mosquito abatement efforts. Along with the Anastasia Mosquito Control District, Dr. Gunter Muller (Bamako University) and Richard

Loomis (Ouelessebougou Alliance) are also providing support and assistance to those helping with this effort.

- **Utah Aeronautics, 20-22 June 2023**

Urban Field Supervisor Sorensen will be attending the Utah Aeronautics Conference on 20-22 June 2023 in Layton, Utah.

- **UT Public Health Labs, 21 June 2023**

Executive Director Faraji has been invited to speak at the Utah Public Health Labs; he will be talking about our operations, our research projects, and the internships we have made available.

- **DSLASA, 22 June 2023, SLCMAD**

The next DSLASA Board Meeting will begin at 5:00 p.m. at the District on 22 June 2023; its audit will be presented at this meeting. Trustee Vickers reminded the Board Members that he will be unable to attend the meeting because he will be out of town.

- **Utah Air National Guard Employees' Support for the Guard Reserve (ESGR), 28 June 2023**

Participants in the ESGR invited Executive Director Faraji to experience a refueling flight on a C-130 on 28 June or 12 July 2023. Unfortunately, schedules do not line up, and the invitation has been declined.

- **CDC, 12-13 July 2023**

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 six 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. In addition to the helicopter surveillance showing our mosquito habitat, we also plan 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 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.

- **Utah Mosquito Abatement Association Annual Conference, 29-31 October 2023**

UMAA's Annual Conference will be held at Snowbird this year, and CFO Fairbanks will make hotel reservations right away so that no SLCMAD participant will be stranded without hotel accommodations.

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

The Board Members were given a brief update on the following: 1) Education Specialist Rehbein and Maintenance Operator Hernandez have been working on a garden at the back of the property and will also prepare a community garden at the front of the facility. Dr. Rehbein has been working with Trustee Barth on best management plans for the design of this habitat, with a special emphasis on pollinator-friendly flora that may provide additional nectar/pollen sources for native insects. Trustee Barth has provided valuable advice and contacts, in addition to a seed starter pack. 2) We will be reducing water consumption by xeriscaping some of the grass areas at the front of the facility. 3) We held a kick-off meeting with the architects, who walked the entire site and discussed some of the concerns over water retention, catch basins in the back, water seepage at the foundations of the buildings, and landscaping issues. We will continue having meetings at 2:00 p.m. each Wednesday, and the Trustees were invited to join these meetings, two at a time. 4) Nearly all of the seasonals are currently working. Two undergraduates from the Salt Lake Community College will begin their ten-week internship on 5 June 2023, and one of these students is staying in our dorm. In addition, our two-week high school interns will be on site during CDC's visit so the CDC can see the PHEFA program they are sponsoring in action. 5) Surveillance is showing that there is an abundance of mosquito populations. We had 20,000 mosquitoes near the Great Salt Lake Audubon property, and we are trapping higher than average numbers of mosquitoes in other areas as well. 6) We have two publications that have been accepted and four others are out for review. 7) Education Specialist Rehbein has been diligently working to train prison personnel. We purchased ten NZI biting fly traps and six H-Trap professional horse fly traps and lures in order to help control the prison's biting midges, deerflies and horseflies. 8) Staff has started meeting weekly with the architects, and the Trustees were invited to also attend these meetings, when possible. 9) U.S. Bank has finally approved our new credit cards. With timely payments, the rebate will still be under 2%, but it will be much higher than the .07% we received from Zions Bank. 10) Executive Director Faraji has invited several academic experts to write articles to be published in the Journal of Medical Entomology on lesser-known arboviruses. Nine articles have been accepted and the tenth article is currently being reviewed. The Journal of Medical Entomology will be publishing a whole issue dedicated to these uncommon arboviruses. 11) The District has been assisting Central Life Sciences with field trials providing data on a new insecticide formulation for use against adult mosquitoes. The Environmental Protection Agency requires field data from several regions, and against three genera of mosquitoes, in order to consider efficacy of a new product which may lead to eventual pesticide label development. However, our field data so far is not showing promising results. These trials may be duplicated once again this summer. 12) Executive Director Faraji received an email from Brian Moench, from the Utah

Physicians for a Healthy Environment, asking how much money the District had paid for scientific research conducted by Dr. Daniel Mendoza. After previously receiving concerns from UPHE regarding aerial spraying, Dr. Daniel Mendoza was hired as an independent consultant to conduct environmental and literature research regarding the drift, deposition, and risk assessment of aerial adulticide applications using naled. Dr. Mendoza is a Research Assistant Professor of Atmospheric Sciences with the University of Utah. The District was initially complimented for this hiring, and it is important to note that Dr. Mendoza is one of many consultants who the District contracts with as needed in order to gather and analyze data for the betterment of our surveillance and control operations. 13) The Board Members suggested increasing public outreach with an improved website that could answer public questions and address public concerns to the most commonly asked topics. The Trustees were in favor of looking into hiring an outside source to make website enhancements. 14) The Trustees were shown a graph depicting the increased drone treatments that have been accomplished so far this year. Drones are able to reach some habitats that can't be accessed by fixed-wing or even helicopter applications.

**10. Discussion and Approval of 2023 Amended Budget:**

CFO Fairbanks explained the reasoning behind the proposed line-item amendments to the 2023 General Fund Budget. The Trustees were satisfied with the explanations and felt the modifications were justified.

In order to go to the public hearing, the meeting was recessed at 5:59 p.m. through a unanimously-approved motion made by Trustee Barth and seconded by Trustee Turner.

The meeting was officially reconvened at 6:34 p.m. with a motion made by Trustee Barth and seconded by Trustee Vickers. The motion carried with all in favor.

No further discussion on the 2023 Amended Budget was necessary since being discussed during the public hearing. The 2023 Amended Budget was passed unanimously after a motion to approve the budget was made by Trustee Vickers and seconded by Trustee Turner.

**11. Discussion and Approval of Resolution for 2023 Certified Tax Rate and 2024 Proposed Budget:**

By law, the certified tax rate must be set in June of each year. Trustee Turner made a motion to approve the certified tax rate of 0.000159 for the year 2023, bringing in the revenue of \$6,819,257, and also to approve the 2024 Proposed Budget. His motion was seconded by Trustee Barth, and it carried with all in favor.

**12. Probable Agenda Items for 20 July 2023 Board Meeting:**

- Executive Director's Report
- Grants Updates
- Website Update
- Personnel Update

**13. Public Comment:**

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

**14. Adjournment:**

Trustees Vickers and Barth made and seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 p.m., which passed unanimously. The 20 July 2023 Regular Monthly Board Meeting will begin at 12:30 p.m.

  
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Ary Faraji, Executive Director

20 JUL 23  
Date

  
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Carlton Christensen, Chair 2023

20 July 2023  
Date