

**MINUTES OF THE  
SALT LAKE CITY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT  
17 October 2024  
BOARD MEETING**

Presiding: Dr. Shireen Mooers, Chair

Time: 12:32 p.m.

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

Trustees Present: Dr. Shireen Mooers, Chair  
Amanda Barth, Vic-Chair  
Luz Escamilla (Attended virtually; joined the meeting during Item 2)  
Van Turner

Trustees Excused: Neil Vickers, Ph.D.

Others Present: Ary Faraji, Ph.D., Executive Director  
Gregory White, Ph.D., Assistant Director  
Aleta Fairbanks, CPA, CFO  
Curtis Tonks, Utah Local Governments Trust (Left after Item 2)

**1. Roll Call:**

Trustee Mooers called the meeting to order at 12:32 p.m. and confirmed that the meeting was being recorded. No conflicts of interest were declared.

**2. Presentation, Discussion, and Approval for Vehicle Insurance Policy (General Liability versus Collision/Comprehension):**

Executive Director Faraji introduced Curtis Tonks, our Utah Local Governments Trust representative, and briefly summarized the District's past comprehensive insurance loss and the decision to add collision insurance on all of the District's vehicles. Executive Director Faraji and Curtis Tonks had discussed the fact that the cost of full coverage may not be prudent once the vehicle's resale value has declined considerably. Curtis Tonks was prepared to answer questions, and he provided estimated costs for full coverage and then dropping comprehensive/collision insurance on the vehicles over varying periods of time.

The Trustees had a lengthy discussion defining what losses the different categories of insurance cover and also considering vehicle resale values, insurance premiums, and replacement costs. Curtis Tonks recommended only carrying general liability after the vehicles reach five to seven years of age. Trustee Turner made a motion to carry full coverage (general liability, comprehensive, and collision insurance) on the vehicles for seven years of age and to reduce the insurance to general liability thereafter. Trustee Barth seconded the motion, and it passed with all in favor.

**3. Approval of the 19 September 2024 Minutes of the Board of Trustees:**

The pending minutes of September's regular Board Meeting had been distributed to the Board Members previously, and all modifications had been completed. Trustee Barth made a motion to approve the 19 September 2024 Minutes of the Board of Trustees; the motion was seconded by Trustee Turner and carried unanimously.

**4. Presentation of the September 2024 Financial Statements and Approval of Bills for Payment:**

The Trustees had received copies of September's Financial Statements earlier in the week. CFO Fairbanks noted receiving payments from the following entities: Utah Local Governments Trust (Truck #7 collision settlement and Trust Appreciation & Recognition Program award), US Bank (credit card rebate), Wasatch Metal Recycling (brass and aluminum scraps) PEHP (long term disability reserve refund), and RaPH VEC Grant (year 1 payment). Interest income of \$65,807.41 was distributed between the General Fund and Capital Projects Fund, and \$331,081.11 had been expended. All expenditures were presented, with special attention being paid to items over \$1,000.00. Documentation for the payments was reviewed when the checks were signed, and the credit card statements, supporting invoices/receipts for all payments, and Balance Sheets were made available for review. Trustee Turner made a motion to approve the September 2024 Financial Statements and bills for payment; Trustee Barth seconded the motion, and it passed with all in favor.

**5. 2024 Budget Amendments and 2025 Proposed Budget Discussion and Approval:**

Copies of the 2024 budget amendments and proposed 2025 budgets were presented to the Trustees this month because State statutes stipulate that these budgets should be made available to Board Members at least 30 days prior to being adopted in December. CFO Fairbanks reviewed 2024's Budget Amendments and 2025's Proposed Budgets with the Trustees. Reasons for all modifications were provided, and the Trustees were asked if they had any comments, recommendations, or questions. The 2024 Budget Amendments and

2025 Proposed Budgets were unanimously approved upon a motion made by Trustee Barth and seconded by Trustee Turner.

**6. Update on Construction:**

The excavation work has been placed on hold because Salt Lake City has not yet approved the plans and issued a permit. Trustee Mooers reported that MHTN Architects let her know that progress has been made on the District's water issues.

**7. Update on Tax Increase Procedures:**

Trustees Mooers, Turner, and Vickers were warmly thanked for attending the Salt Lake City Council Meeting, along with members of staff. The presentation was well received by the Council. It covered the many facets of the District's operations and addressed the need for a property tax increase. Adding this presentation to our website was recommended.

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

Executive Director Faraji briefly reviewed the following meetings:

- **Utah Mosquito Abatement Association, 28-30 October 2024**

This meeting provides the Trustees with their required annual training as well as informs them about several different aspects of mosquito control. Trustees Barth, Mooers, and Vickers are planning on attending the UMAA meetings in October. Trustee Escamilla will complete her required training online, and Trustee Turner will obtain his training at the Utah Association of Special District's conference in November. A few staff members will also attend UMAA's meetings this year.

- **University of Utah (Dr. Longino Bio/Ento Class), 5 November 2024**

Executive Director Faraji will be providing a presentation to Dr. Longino's Bio/Ento Class on 5 November 2024.

- **University of Utah (Dr. Benson Public Health Class), 6 November 2024**

Executive Director Faraji will be providing a presentation to Dr. Benson's Public Health Class on 6 November 2024.

- **Utah Association of Special Districts, 6-8 November 2024**

Executive Director Faraji, Assistant Director White, and CFO Fairbanks will be attending the UASD convention at the Davis Conference Center in Layton.

- **Entomological Society of America (EntSoc), 10-13 November 2024**

Trustee Vickers does not need financial support from the District for this meeting because he will be attending and presenting on his data from the University of Utah. Executive Director Faraji and Trustee Barth will also be attending this meeting; the District will cover Trustee Barth's registration for this meeting. Executive Director Faraji will also visit with Maricopa County Vector Control to see their *Aedes aegypti* surveillance and control measures.

- **American Assoc. of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene, 13-17 November 2024**

Assistant Director White and Molecular Biologist Byers will be attending this conference in November.

- **Illinois Mosquito and Vector Control Association, 21-22 November 2024**

Education Specialist Rehbein has been invited to attend this conference, and they will cover her registration and hotel costs.

- **Louisiana Mosquito Control Association, 10-12 December 2024**

Executive Director Faraji has been asked to be the Keynote Speaker at Louisiana Mosquito Control Association's 67<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in December.

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

The Director's Report, which included surveillance and control data, had been previously distributed to the Trustees. In addition, Executive Director Faraji discussed the following items: 1) Trustee Escamilla was instrumental in arranging a visit with Commissioner Anderson, Department of Public Safety, and Colonel Rapich, Utah Highway Patrol, on 2 October 2024. We explained our current operations, discussed our future expansions, and showed them the area we are allocating for their use, should they be interested. We know these gentlemen are extremely busy, and they took the time to visit because of Trustee Escamilla's invitation to do so. 2) We had five or six individuals from Highway Patrol, the Department of Public Safety, stay in our dormitories during their training at Salt Lake International Airport for helicopter activity. Their week-long stay will only cost them \$400, which is our cost for cleaning the dorms. 3) A colleague from Kenya will also be coming and staying in the dormitory following the Trop Med meetings in November. 4) We collected 2,000 mosquitoes on Monday night, which is a fairly high number for this time of the year. We are looking forward to the colder temperatures that have been forecasted. 5) We still have a few seasonal employees on board who are completing projects and assisting with the mosquito colonies. 6) The AMCA Research Fund has invited Molecular Biologist Byers to submit a full grant on environmental DNA that can be collected from water samples to test for the presence of mosquitoes. 7) Vectech, which is a company that is

trying to automate mosquito identification, has asked us to partner with them on a National Institutes of Health (NIH) R21 grant.

**11. Probable Agenda Items for 21 November 2024 Board Meeting, 12:30 p.m.:**

- Policies and Procedures Review
- Board Bylaws Review
- Executive Director's Report
- Construction Updates
- Personnel Updates
- Grant Updates
- Projects / Research
- Surveillance/Control Updates

**12. Public Comment:**

**No public was present at this time.**

**13. Adjournment:**

Trustees Barth and Turner made and seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:07 p.m., which passed unanimously. The next Board Meeting will begin at 12:30 p.m. on 21 November 2024. A box lunch will be available at noon.

  
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Ary Faraji, Executive Director

11/21/24  
Date

  
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Dr. Shireen Mooers, Chair

11/20/24  
Date