

**MINUTES OF THE
SALT LAKE CITY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT
23 April 2020
ELECTRONIC BOARD MEETING**

Presiding: Maureen M. Wilson, Chair

Time: 12:35 p.m.

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

Trustees Present: Maureen M. Wilson, Chair (Attended Remotely)
La Vone Liddle, Vice-Chair (Attended Remotely)
Carlton Christensen (Attended Remotely)
Neil Vickers, Ph.D. (Attended Remotely)
Dr. Dagmar Vitek (Attended Remotely)

Others Present: Ary Faraji, Ph.D., Executive Director
Gregory White, Ph.D., Assistant Director (Attended Remotely)
Aleta Fairbanks, CPA, CFO
Brian Baker, Zions Public Finance (Attended Remotely, 1:56 pm – 2:09 pm)

1. Roll Call:

Trustee Wilson called the meeting to order at 1:12 p.m. The voice recorder remained turned on, and no conflicts of interest were declared.

2. Public Comment:

There were no public comments.

3. Discussion on Executive Order from Governor Herbert Suspending Enforcement of Certain Provisions of the Open and Public Meetings Act:

It was noted that Governor Herbert issued an Executive Order declaring a state of emergency due to the novel coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). Utah Code § 53-2a-209(4) authorizes the governor to suspend by executive order enforcement of a statute

that is directly related to and necessary to address a state of emergency, and his Executive Order allows a public body governed by the Open and Public Meetings Act to hold an electronic meeting during the COVID-19 pandemic even if the public body has not adopted a resolution, rule, or ordinance governing the use of electronic meetings.

4. Discussion and Approval of Proposed Changes to Bylaws:

Executive Director Faraji brought **Article V. MEETINGS, E. Electronic Meetings, Item 6** of the Board Bylaws to the attention of the Board Members. It reads: "6. The enforcement of certain provisions of the Utah Open Public Meetings Act (52-4-207) may be suspended during a state of emergency, as declared through federal, state, or local authorities". Trustee Liddle made a motion to accept the By-Laws of the Board of Trustees with the addition of Item 6, as stipulated. This motion carried with all in favor after being seconded by Trustee Vitek.

5. Approval of the 26 March 2020 Minutes of the March Monthly Board Meeting:

The Trustees had received a copy of March's Monthly Board Meeting prior to the Board Meeting, and no modifications were required. Trustee Liddle made a motion to approve the 28 March 2020 Board Meeting Minutes as presented; Trustee Vickers seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

6. Presentation of the March 2020 Financial Statements and Approval of Bills for Payment:

Copies of March's Financial Statements had been disseminated previously. CFO Fairbanks reviewed the Financial Statements with the Board; all expenditures were presented, with special attention being paid to items over \$1,000 and any out-of-the-ordinary expenditures and receipts. Copies of the balance sheets had been included in the Board Packet, including those of the up-dated General Fixed Assets Accounting Group. All journals have been completed and the District is ready for the 2019 audit to begin. Trustee Vickers made a motion to adopt the March 2020 Financial Statements and approve March's bills for payment. After being seconded by Trustee Vitek, the motion carried with all in favor. A copy of all of the credit card statements over \$1,000 were emailed to all of the Trustees immediately after the Board Meeting.

7. Board Member Appointments Update:

No communications have been received from the Salt Lake City Council Office. Trustee Christensen placed a call to see if there were any concerns, and he was told that the Salt Lake City Council will move on the appointments when it has taken care of some more pressing issues.

8. Discussion on COVID-19 and Impact on Tax Increase:

Given the negative impact the pandemic has had on the economy, assuming it will take a while for the economy to recover, and not wanting to be an additional burden on the public, the Board and staff felt it is not advantageous to pursue a tax increase at this time. When Trustee Vitek was asked what the Salt Lake County Health Department anticipates with respect to the virus; she responded that they expect a second wave to occur in September or October of this year. After a while, COVID-19 will be like West Nile virus, and people will get accustomed to it and not worry as much. The Board and staff certainly do not want to impose any additional financial burdens on our residents, no matter how small the amount, and the tax increase discussion will be revisited towards the end of 2020.

9. Discussion and Approval of Sale of Old Facility Located at 2020 North Redwood Road:

Salt Lake City would like to use our old facility as a quarantined area for first responders and has made an offer to purchase the property "as is" for \$2,020,000.00. The Trustees debated the pros and cons of accepting Salt Lake City's appraised value or financing an additional appraisal. The offer stipulates a closing no later than 31 May 2020, and the Board finally decided to accept Salt Lake City's offer. The Board felt that working with the City amicably on this transaction will hopefully bolster our relationship with them and further strengthen our partnership. Trustee Christensen made a motion to approve the sale of the property at 2020 North Redwood Road to Salt Lake City as outlined in the purchase agreement, with the addition that the City pay all closing costs except the recording fees. Trustee Christensen's motion was seconded by Trustee Liddle, and it passed unanimously.

10. Update from Zions Public Finance:

Brian Baker, Vice President of Zions Public Finance, joined the meeting to provide more bonding details and to answer any questions the Board had about refinancing the 2018 Bond Series. He recommended selling the bonds on the market because it is more orderly and will result in lower interest rates. The Local Building Authority will need to be evaluated and assigned a credit rating, so the additional \$2,000,000 from the sale of the old facility will provide more liquidity, flexibility, and look good to the investors, should the Board choose to utilize that money to buy down the bonds.

11. Consideration for Adoption of a Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Salt Lake City Mosquito Abatement District, Utah, Authorizing and Approving the Execution and Delivery of an Amendment to Master Lease Agreement by and Between the District and the Local Building Authority of the Salt Lake City Mosquito Abatement District, Utah (the "Authority"); Authorizing the Issuance and Sale by the Authority of its Lease Revenue Refund Bonds, Series 2020, in the Aggregate Principal Amount of Not More than \$6,500,000; and Related Matters:

Refinancing the 2018 Series Bonds with the historically low interest rates will save the District several thousand dollars a year, and this resolution begins the legal process required to retire and refinance the bonds. A serious discussion analyzing the advantages and disadvantages of buying down the bonds with the proceeds from selling the old facility previously occurred during the Local Building Authority of the Salt Lake City Mosquito Abatement District's Board Meeting. During this meeting, the Board decided to only refinance the 2018 Series Bonds and to retain the property sale proceeds to assist in making bond payments until the economy recovers from the current recession.

Trustee Christensen made a motion to modify the aggregate principal amount to not more than \$8,600,000 and to then approve the Adoption of a Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Salt Lake City Mosquito Abatement District, Utah, Authorizing and Approving the Execution and Delivery of an Amendment to Master Lease Agreement by and Between the District and the Local Building Authority of the Salt Lake City Mosquito Abatement District, Utah (the "Authority"); Authorizing the Issuance and Sale by the Authority of its Lease Revenue Refund Bonds, Series 2020, in the Aggregate Principal Amount of Not More than \$8,600,000; and Related Matters. This motion was seconded by Trustee Vickers, and all of the Trustees voted in favor of the motion.

12. Discussion and Approval of Purchase of UAS Drone Batteries and Charger:

Pesticide applications utilizing the drone have been cut short due to battery life, and efficiencies will increase considerably if more batteries are purchased. Executive Director requested permission to purchase six more DJI Agras MG-1P batteries (at a cost of \$596 per battery) and a DJI Agras MG-1P battery charger with six ports. The quote is \$5,036.00 plus shipping. Trustee Liddle made a motion approving the purchase of six DJI Agras MG-1P batteries and a DJI Agras MG-1P battery charger with six ports for \$5,036.00 plus shipping. This motion was seconded by Trustee Christensen and then carried with everyone in favor.

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

- **AMCA Annual Business Meeting, 22 April 2020, Sacramento, CA (Electronic)**

About 120 participants joined the electronic AMCA Annual Business Meeting, which is a greater participation than in the past. The Board offered their congratulations to Executive Director Faraji, for he is now officially the President of AMCA. Although AMCA was unable to obtain proceeds from the Annual Meeting, the Association is grateful to be solvent; strategic planning is under way, and assignments have been made.

- **Innovative Vector Control Consortium, 1 May 2020, Liverpool, UK (Electronic)**

Executive Director Faraji has been invited to give a webinar on unmanned aerial systems for mosquito control during the Innovative Vector Control Consortium this year.

14. Executive Director's Report:


The Board Members were given a few updates, which included the following: 1) Hogan Construction looked at the windows in the insectaries, and Design West has agreed to cover the costs of replacing the windows. 2) Five persons showed interest in the Maintenance Operator/Assistant Mechanic position, but only two applications were submitted. Both applicants interviewed well, and we decided to offer the job to Francisco Hernandez because of his construction knowledge, familiarity with our new facility, and his mechanic/maintenance experience. He likes the benefits and the consistency of the job, and he agreed to accept the position at the salary offered, beginning on 4 May, 2020. 3) All seasonal positions have been filled, and last week our first large group of seasonal employees joined the team. We will schedule each team to begin working at different times of the day, which will facilitate social distancing. 4) Calibrations have been completed, and the track vehicle has already been out doing field work. 5) Surveillance is under way and mosquito populations are at below average numbers, so far.

15. Probable Agenda Items for 21 May 2020 Board Meeting:

- Facility Update
- Bonding Update
- Audit Update
- Board Member Appointment Update
- Executive Director's Report / Surveillance Report

16. Adjournment:

Trustees Liddle and Vickers made and seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:20 p.m. The 21 May 2020 regular monthly board meeting will be held electronically, which will begin at 12:30 p.m.



Ary Faraji, Executive Director

22 MAY 20
Date



Maureen Wilson, Chair 2020

5/22/20
Date