

**MINUTES OF THE  
SALT LAKE CITY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT  
20 February 2020  
BOARD MEETING**

Presiding: Maureen M. Wilson, Chair 2020

Time: 12:30 p.m.

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

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

Others Present: Gregory White, Ph.D., Assistant Director  
Aleta Fairbanks, CPA, CFO

**1. Roll Call:**

Trustee Wilson called the meeting to order at 12:33 p.m. It was confirmed that the voice recorder was turned on, and no conflicts of interest were declared.

**2. Public Comment:**

There were no public comments.

**3. Approval of the 23 January 2020 Minutes of the January Monthly Board Meeting:**

The Trustees had received a copy of January's Monthly Board Meeting prior to the Board Meeting, and no modifications were required. Trustee Liddle made a motion to approve the 23 January 2020 Board Meeting Minutes as presented; Trustee Vickers seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

**4. Presentation of the January 2020 Financial Statements and Approval of Bills for Payment:**

Copies of January'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, a folder containing documentation for every payment, and the General Fund's reconciled bank statement were also circulated. Trustee Vickers made a motion to adopt the January 2020 Financial Statements and to approve January's bills for payment. After being seconded by Trustee Christensen, the motion carried with all in favor. Trustee Christensen commented on the lower interest rates resulting from the Coronavirus pandemic, and he recommended contacting Brian Baker, Vice President of Zions Bank Public Finance, to see if the District could possibly benefit from this situation.

**5. Board Member Appointments Update:**

We have heard nothing from the Salt Lake City Council concerning Van Turner's application or calendaring his interview. Trustee Christensen has also tendered his application to be re-appointed to the Board. The City will treat re-appointments and new appointments the same, and both positions will more than likely be scheduled for Council deliberations at the same time.

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

- **PacVec, 18-20 February 2020, UC Riverside, CA**

Utah has successfully lobbied to be partnered with UC Riverside and UC Davis in the Pacific Southwest Center of Excellence in Vector-Borne Diseases, and we have coordinated a training grant with the University of Utah. Executive Director Faraji and a collaborator from the University of Utah and IDbyDNA, Dr. Aurelie Kapusta, are currently attending the PacVec meetings, where Dr. Kapusta will be presenting a preliminary report on our next-generation sequencing (NGS) research. We will receive the grant money to cover her travel costs, and we will be billed for the testing once it has been completed. Travel for Executive Director Faraji will also be separately covered through the PacVec (not through the grant).

- **CDC Vector Week 2020, 25-28 February 2020, Ft. Collins, CO**

The CDC Vector Week 2020 is a new symposium program put together by CDC's Division of Vector-Borne Diseases. Executive Director Faraji has been invited to join a few of the higher-ranking CDC personnel at this symposium; he will be presenting and moderating a session on unmanned aerials systems for mosquito control.

- **WCMVCA, 2-4 March 2020, Grand Junction, CO**

Executive Director Faraji is currently the President of the WCMVCA, and he has committed to attending this meeting. However, after reviewing the meeting program, the staff felt it was more important to get the facility and equipment ready for the mosquito season rather than attending this year's meeting, so no one else will be attending this meeting.

- **DSLASA, 12 March 2020, Kaysville, UT**

This is just a reminder that the next DSLASA Board Meeting will be held in March at the MAD-Davis facility. Gary Hatch will be the Executive Director of DSLASA for the next two years (2020-2021).

- **AMCA, 16-20 March 2020, Portland, OR**

Trustees Vitek, Liddle, and Vickers are planning on joining some of the staff at the AMCA conference this year. Executive Director Faraji is currently the President Elect of AMCA, and he will be taking over as President next year.

- **AMCA Washington Conference, 11-13 May 2020, Washington, D.C.**

Please note this conference date on your calendars.

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

The Board Members were given a few updates, which included the following: 1) A C.R. England Trucking vehicle jumped the curb when it turned around on our property, and we suspect it damaged the drip line in addition to harming the landscaping. The incident was recorded on our security cameras, and the trucking company has agreed to cover the cost of repairing the damage. This is the second time a large truck has harmed our property, and we are contemplating adding very large rocks to our landscaping so that truckers will be more careful if they pull through our parking lot. 2) We have hired Standard Cleaning Services to clean our building. They will begin cleaning the administration building every two weeks and will increase the cleaning frequency when the mosquito season begins. They will also service the dormitory, as needed. 3) We are still experiencing difficulty with some faulty pumps that control the heat in the pesticide shed. The subcontractor has put in filters to see if debris is getting into the seals and causing the pumps to leak. The manufacturer of the pumps is also coming to inspect the pumps in action; it may be necessary to replace some of the pumps again. 4) The high humidity problem in the insectary still needs to be resolved. Design West has suggested several solutions, but none have worked. We'll need a permanent fix from our architects prior to releasing our final payment to them. 5) We have started advertising for our seasonal employee positions; if you know of anyone who is interested in a summer job, please have

them access our website and submit an application. 6) Our Biologist, Nadja Reissen, has resigned because she wants to stay home with her baby. We will miss her dearly; she said that she had really enjoyed working for the District and that she was willing to help us out a little, from time to time. Executive Director Faraji is considering having her assist with surveillance data on a part-time basis as needed. 7) Because of Nadja Reissen's resignation, a returning seasonal (Christian Weinrich) has agreed to oversee the summer trapping/surveillance program this summer. He has worked three summers for the District, and he knows the laboratory/trapping procedures very well. He is also able to set up Polymerase Chain Reaction testing for West Nile virus (PCR is a method widely used in molecular biology to rapidly make millions to billions of copies of a specific DNA sample allowing scientists to take a very small sample of DNA and amplify it to a large enough amount to study in detail.) He will begin working on 2 March and start setting up the lab, preparing the lab equipment, and getting the protocols going. He will also be able to assist with mosquito colony maintenance. 8) Executive Director Faraji and Assistant Director White have decided to advertise our opening for a Lab Director position rather than filling the Biologist position at this time. The District is very interested in applying for grants, and we are hoping to hire a talented Lab Director who can scientifically conduct our research, accurately record the results, and also technically script the paperwork that grants require. It may also be more beneficial to hire a Laboratory Director first and allow this individual to be involved in the hiring process for the Biologist at a later date. 9) The heaters are not providing sufficient heat in vehicle storage #1 because they are only able to maintain a temperature ranging from 55 – 58 degrees when the outside temperature is around 20 degrees. And, these heaters can only provide a temperature in the low 60s when the outside temperatures are in the 30s and 40s. We are checking with the contractors to make sure that the heaters were specified correctly and are working appropriately before we claim that the deficiency is a result of poor designing. 10) Spartan Mosquito has been promoting a product that we fear may be a persuasive gimmick, and we have been conducting some research aimed at evaluating the efficacy of the Spartan Mosquito claims. It's our goal to put scientific data together and produce an official report, and we are collaborating with other districts and academia to get this accomplished. We have learned, however, that the producers of the Spartan Mosquito Eradicator have been claiming defamation and legally going after anyone who has challenged the Eradicator's effectiveness. The AMCA has a committee debating the pros and cons of making a stance. 11) Executive Director Faraji has made arrangements for Luis Chavez to stay in the dormitory while he is visiting the District and the Salt Lake Valley environment. Luis Chavez has written several papers that have been published, and he is very interested in understanding our District's operations and conducting some research in our local area. Dr. Chavez is also interested in the Lab Director position. Board members expressed concern at bringing out a potential candidate if the visit was just about the Lab Director position; however, Dr Chavez has recently co-authored a paper on research conducted at SLCMAD and the main goal of the visit is to increase research collaborations between Dr. Chavez and SLCMAD. 12) Senator Fillmore has agreed to change SB 64 so that it requires "reasonable" notification, encouraging posting a notice on social media or a website, prior to making a pesticide application. Notification requirements will be based on population; highly-populated areas will require notifications, and "recommended, but not required" notifications will apply to areas with a lower population.

**8. Probable Agenda Items for 26 March 2020 Board Meeting:**

- Facility Updates
- Tax Increase Outline
- Board Member Appointment Update
- Executive Director's Report
- Operational Update (Differences from the Redwood Road Facility)

**9. Adjournment:**

Trustees Liddle and Christensen made and seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:37 p.m. A box lunch will be available before the 26 March 2020 regular monthly board meeting, which will begin at 12:30 p.m.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Ary Fataji, Executive Director

26 MAR 20  
Date

La Vone Liddle  
La Vone Liddle, Vice-Chair 2020

03/26/2020  
Date