

**MINUTES OF THE
SALT LAKE CITY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT
26 May 2022
BOARD MEETING**

Presiding: Van Turner, Board Chair 2022

Time: 12:30 p.m.

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

Trustees Present: Van Turner, Chair
Carlton Christensen, Vice-Chair (Left at 1:50 p.m. during item 9)
La Vone Liddle
Neil Vickers, Ph.D.
Dr. Dagmar Vitek

Others Present: Ary Faraji, Ph.D., Executive Director
Gregory White, Ph.D., Assistant Director
Andrew Dewsnup, GIS/IT Specialist
Broox Boze, Ph.D. (Joined after the meeting began; left after item 9)
David Brown (Left after item 9)
Daniel Markowski, Ph.D. (Left after item 9)
Daniel Mendoza, Ph.D. (Joined during item 8; left after item 9)
Jonny Vasic, Utah Physicians for a Healthy Environment

1. Roll Call:

Trustee Turner called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. It was confirmed that the meeting was being recorded, and no conflicts of interest were declared.

2. Approval of the 21 April 2022 Minutes of the Board of Trustees:

The Trustees had received a copy of the pending minutes prior to the Board Meeting, and no modifications were necessary. Trustee Liddle made a motion to approve the 24 March 2022 Board Meeting Minutes. Her motion was seconded by Trustee Christensen, and it carried with all in favor.

3. Presentation of the April 2022 Financial Statements and Approval of Bills for Payment:

Copies of April's Financial Statements had been distributed to the Trustees earlier in the week. Executive Director Faraji reviewed the Financial Statements with the Board and noted that approximately \$152,600 was expended during the month and interest is up slightly to .6139%. All expenditures were presented, with special attention being paid to items over \$1,000. Documentation for all expenditures had been closely reviewed when the checks were signed, and a folder containing all of the supporting invoices was made available to the Trustees. Trustee Vitek made a motion to approve the April 2022 Financial Statements and the bills for payment; her motion passed unanimously after being seconded by Trustee Vickers.

4. Discussion and Approval of new Hires:

A previous board discussion identified how inflation and the outdated salary ranges were affecting the ability to attract the necessary talent required for the present job openings, and last month a spreadsheet comparing proposed salary ranges at 85% CPI and 100% CPI over the last several years was distributed to the Board. Trustee Vickers and Trustee Christensen agreed to assist some staff members establish a salary range committee that examined different concerns to make recommendations regarding the salary ranges. Appropriate salary ranges for all of the staff will be further discussed and decided at the next Board Meeting.

Assistant Director White, Executive Director Faraji, and Trustee Vickers were on the selection committee to hire an Education Specialist and a Laboratory Director. Based on conversations with the hiring committee, adjusted salary ranges for the Laboratory Director and Education Specialist were identified. Job offer letters for these two positions were given to the Trustees.

Applications from four very capable individuals were received for the Laboratory Director position, and an offer letter was sent to the most impressive candidate, Dr. Christopher Bibbs. He has an excellent record of grantsmanship and publications, as well as applied and also academic research. He has worked for the Anastasia Mosquito Control District as its Education Specialist and later as its Molecular Biologist. He has recently been performing research and development for Central Life Sciences, producers of many products used in mosquito control, livestock, stored grain, turf/ornamental, and veterinary markets. He has had a lot of experience working with the private and government sectors, including the EPA. He has designed experiments, conducted bioassays, worked on product development, and also has experience in good laboratory practices (GLP).

Three applicants were interviewed for the Education Specialist position, and the top individual is Dr. Michele Rehbein, who is currently the Manager for Moab Mosquito Abatement District. She has a lot experience that relates well to the Education Specialist duties. She has also received a grant through the Pacific IPM Center, where she will be leading a Citizen Science project for public education in regards to invasive mosquito species, which is exactly what we are looking for. We have indicated that she will be able

to continue working on that project while employed at our District, since this will be beneficial for all mosquito control in Utah. In addition to revamping our science curriculum for 4th – 6th graders, she's a good fit for performing public outreach and pursuing citizen science projects. Her job offer letter was also included in this month's board packet.

Trustee Liddle made a motion to approve the new hires, as presented; the motion was seconded by Trustee Christensen, and it unanimously passed.

5. Discussion and Approval to Increase Credit Card Spending Limits:

The Board had asked staff to take advantage of cash back from utilizing credit card payments, and new Zions Commercial Credit Cards have been obtained. As we mentioned last month, Zions Bank identified our vendors who accept Visa credit card payments and encouraged us to make more credit card payments in order to take advantage of their rebate program. Copies of Zion's Opportunity Summary and their revenue share percentages were given to the Board. All of the entities in this business consortium will help us obtain a return of approximately 1.2%. The bulk of our pesticide orders can be paid with credit cards without incurring a fee, which necessitates a company credit limit increase to \$250,000. The current credit limits on individual credit cards will remain the same. However, Executive Director Faraji and Assistant Director White have the ability to increase or decrease the limit for each employee's credit card, if needed; pesticides and large item purchases will be made on a different card designated for that specific purpose. Trustee Vickers made a motion to approve increasing the credit card limit to \$250,000. This motion was seconded by Trustee Vitek, and it unanimously carried.

6. Discussion and Approval for Koch Mechanical to Service Exhaust Fan HVAC:

The HVAC system's exhaust fan was making a lot of noise last month, and we had to shut it down. Apparently, we were not previously informed that it requires a specific maintenance process to be performed every six months. Koch Mechanical is familiar with the equipment and has submitted a \$9,385.00 proposal to replace the shaft, bearings, drive, and belts. This also includes warranties with a one-year guarantee from substantial completion. A motion to accept Koch Mechanical's proposal was made by Trustee Christensen, seconded by Trustee Vickers, and passed with all in favor. Trustees also recommended that, whenever possible, the State Contract vendors should also be utilized to submit bids for maintenance and service calls. Executive Director Faraji explained that it has been difficult to acquire any HVAC services because many are not readily available, but we will explore this option further in the future.

7. Discussion and Approval for North Star HVAC to Service Main Heating Unit:

The District has been experiencing a glycol leak off and on during the past two years, and a coil was found to be the cause of this problem. North Star's service has been dependable; they will clean up the glycol, replace the coil, and provide additional glycol to fill up our reservoir tank. Trustee Christensen made a motion to approve an expenditure

up to \$14,100.00 for North Star to replace the coil and repair the glycol leak. Trustee Vitek seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

8. Update on Owners Representative Hiring Process:

The District sought bids from Utah's pre-qualified and approved vendor list with the State of Utah Division of Purchasing and General Services, and Construction Control Corporation, Big D, and MOCA systems responded. Big D and Construction Control Corporation have been interviewed, and MOCA Systems will be interviewed on 2 June 2022. At that time, all of the proposals will be compiled and recommendations will be brought to the Board. Unfortunately, the cost of construction has been accelerating at a rapid pace, and it may be necessary to table construction until more capital reserves can be accumulated. However, we also believe that the scope of work for an owner's representative hasn't changed, even though costs are accelerating for construction. Therefore, we are interested in pursuing a "not to exceed" agreement. Also, because of increasing costs, perhaps the construction can be accomplished in multiple phases.

9. Report and Update on Scoping Literature Review (Presentation by Dr. Daniel Mendoza, University of Utah):

The Trustees had hired Dr. Daniel Mendoza for two projects: Modeling Adulticide Aerial Applications (results were presented to the Board in December 2021) and a Scoping Literature Review Based on Health Risk Assessments Dealing with Naled. He presented his Naled and Dichlorvos (DDVP) Scoping Review Results to the Board at this meeting (DDVP is naled's major degradate) Aerial pesticide application rates cover agriculture treatments as well as non-agricultural insect control. Adult mosquito control applications range between 0.01% to 0.4% of agricultural use. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) evaluates the potential for health and ecological effects of pesticides through its risk assessment program by going through a thorough registration process that is conducted according to good laboratory practice (GLP) standards. These standards are much more stringent than the majority of published peer-reviewed scientific papers. For adult mosquito control, application parameters are directed at ensuring that the chemical remains in the air to achieve maximum efficacy while limiting terrestrial exposure.

The scoping review covered published literature linking naled and DDVP exposure with potential health impacts. USEPA has established exposure thresholds for naled and DDVP and defined No Observed Adverse Effect Level (NOAEL). The only adverse health effects were associated with exposure from agricultural applications (250 to 10,000 times more per hectare than rates used in mosquito control) and NOT for ULV applications for adult mosquitoes. The final findings from the study are in congruence with EPA and CDC recommendations that aerial applications of naled, when applied according to label requirements, DO NOT pose an adverse risk exposure to humans, wildlife, and the environment. Dr. Mendoza will now start to prepare a manuscript for peer-review, and it will hopefully be submitted by the end of the summer.

Trustee Christensen left the meeting at 1:50 p.m.; Dr. Daniel Mendoza left the meeting at 1:59 p.m.

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

- **UMAA Spring Workshop, 13 May 2022, SLCMAD**

Assistant Director White is currently the President of UMAA, and UMAA's Spring Workshop was held at our facility this year. The topics covered instructions on common residential poison control, chemical safety, sexual harassment training, public relations, aquatic insects, mosquito biology, reading labels, pesticide safety, etc. The workshop was well-attended: we had 153 registrants, and Trustee Liddle also attended for a few hours. It was enjoyable to actually interact in person with all of the other mosquito districts in Utah. The attendees were quite impressed by the cleanliness and organization of the District and many made comments about undertaking similar measures at their respective districts.

- **Northpointe Steering Committee, 16 May 2022, SLC, Utah**

Assistant Director White is the District's representative on the Northpointe Steering Committee, which primarily focuses on the development of the properties on 2200 West. He was unable to attend the meeting on 16 May, so Operations Supervisor Hardman attended the meeting in his place. Operations Supervisor Hardman hosted the meeting at our facility, where about 20 members of the public and the committee were in attendance; it was good for some of the committee members to see our facility and understand the work that goes into mosquito surveillance and control.

- **National Conference on Urban Entomology, 17 May 2022, SLC, Utah**

This conference was held at the Salt Palace Convention Center in SLC, and it was attended by persons dealing with pest control for termites, cockroaches, mites, ants, bed bugs, and other peridomestic pests. The association had reached out to the District and asked if we could hold an event for the attendees so that they could visit and observe a mosquito control agency. The District hosted this social event in the evening, informed the attendees about our integrated mosquito management operations, and conducted tours of the facility. Members of the staff and seasonal crews helped with the function: Greg White, Jason Hardman, Brad Sorensen, Andrew Dewsnup, Quinten Salt, Ella Branham, and Thomas Widmer should all be commended for their assistance.

- **AMCA Washington Days, 17-18 May 2022, Washington DC**

Executive Director Faraji attended the American Mosquito Control Association's Washington Days in Washington DC in May. This year's AMCA meetings were held Tuesday and Wednesday, and visits on the Hill occurred sometime during those days. Unfortunately, Ryan Lusty (the Manager of Magna Mosquito Abatement District) scheduled Utah's visits at the same time Executive Director Faraji was moderating the

AMCA's meetings, so he conducted all of Utah's federal representative visits without Executive Director Faraji's assistance.

AMCA has reached out to a number of federal entities, and several heavy-hitters attended and/or spoke at AMCA's meetings on 17 & 18 May. A few impressive speakers at the meeting were from the EPA, USDA, and CDC. We are looking for some assistance from these organizations; they are experts who regulate/approve our chemicals, and we would appreciate their help supporting our position through informing the public about pesticide labeling and safety whenever we have a public outcry. Site visits are being scheduled for the EPA and the CDC in the near future in order to increase collaborations and understanding of the work that we perform.

- **DSLASA, 9 June 2022, Mosquito Abatement District - Davis, Kaysville, Utah**

The DSLASA meeting will has been scheduled earlier in the month than usual, and it will begin at 5:00 p.m. The meeting will be held in person, but virtual participation can be arranged. Trustees Liddle and Vickers are planning to attend in person.

- **International Congress of Entomology, 17-22 July 2022, Helsinki, Finland**

The International Congress of Entomology is held every four years; the last meeting was held in Orlando, Florida, and the meeting was attended by over 7,000 individuals. The current meeting has been canceled two years in a row because of COVID-19, and it's beginning to look like the International Congress of Entomology meeting in Finland will possibly be canceled another year. Concerns over Finland trying to join NATO, escalating tensions with Russia, monkeypox, and lingering COVID cases have caused several of the speakers to back out. Fortunately, Executive Director Faraji has been able to replace three of the speakers in his symposium with other members in general attendance giving talks on mosquito biology and/or control. He will make plans to attend the meeting, unless it is cancelled by the organizers.

11. Executive Director's Report:

The Board Members were given a few updates, which included the following: 1) We have 24 seasonals employed so far, and most of them have already reported for work. 2) The cold front slowed down our mosquito numbers, but the warmer weather is producing a greater quantity now. 3) Trustee Vickers and the University of Princeton visitors have definitely noticed the increasing numbers of mosquitoes. 4) We are still training our new hires. 5) One of our workers had an ATV accident on 25 May 2022. He was fortunately traveling slowly, so he was not seriously harmed when he flipped the ATV on its side. However, we have spoken to the individual and also held a safety meeting to ensure this does not happen again. 6) We are hosting Michael Weber, a representative from Biogents, who is interested in partnering with us to develop smart traps that can remotely count and identify mosquito species in the field. 7) We are starting preparations for a field trial using Heavy Duet, a synthetic pyrethroid product, that can be used from the air for adult mosquito control. If this product proves efficacious and is capable of dispersing down to where mosquitoes fly at appropriate densities and droplet sizes; it will provide us with another

alternative that can be used in rotation with naled. 8) We are also continuing the catch basin project for evaluation of pyriproxyfen, an insect growth regulator, that may give us season-long control in these habitats. This project will be led by Dr. Justin Harbison from Loyola University and will also be duplicated in two other districts. 9) Jenna Crowder from the Department of Agriculture is also continuing her studies on honeybees. She has been working with commercial beekeepers and has selected large sites where multiple hives are located to evaluate any potential impact (direct or sublethal) from our aerial applications of naled on these insects. Her studies last year displayed that our operations do not pose a negative impact on honeybees, even in spray blocks directly under aerial application locations. However, we would like to duplicate those studies and increase statistical power and sampling to ensure the accuracy of those studies and to be able to publish these results. 10) We are continuing plans to evaluate a new novel formulation on an adult mosquito control product being evaluated by the EPA for our profession. We will be assisting the registrant through conducting field studies of this product to gauge efficacy and droplet dynamics in the summer. 11) Emily Calhoun, a PhD candidate at Utah State University, has started to visit our District twice a week and initiate molecular studies on host preference and genetic ancestry of collected mosquitoes. She is utilizing the dormitories during her stay with us. Assistant Director White will be serving as a member of her PhD Committee and is acting as an onsite mentor. 12) Insecticide resistance bioassay monitoring will be initiated next month with the help of the interns and laboratory personnel as well. 13) The Salt Lake City Council Selection Committee has completed their interviews of the board candidates. They will be sending two candidates forward to the main Council for final approval in June with a potential start in July. 14) The Director's Report also included a copy of the legislative highlights that the AMCA has been promoting on Capitol Hill. 15) Lastly, we have been asked by researchers from Indiana University to participate in a new R01 grant application to the NIH to investigate socio-economic conditions as important determinants of the risk of arbovirus transmission. The project goal is to leverage simulation modeling of complex socio-ecological urban systems to assess the disproportional risk of arboviral infection in heterogeneous populations and to identify a set of public health policies to reduce health disparities and the overall burden of arboviral diseases. Our specific aims will be to a) Assess the interaction between socio-economic conditions and the dynamics of vector mosquito species across complex socio-ecological urban environments; and b) Assess the risk of arbovirus transmission and the impact of health policies that aim to reduce health disparities and improve society's health. A copy of the project summary was also provided in the back of the Director's Report.

12. Probable Agenda Items for 16 June 2022 Board Meeting:

- Executive Director's Report
- 2021 Audit Report
- Surveillance/Control Updates
- Research Projects Updates
- Base Salary Inflation Increase Update
- 2022 Budget Amendments/2023 Budget Proposal
- Public Hearing at 6:00 p.m.

13. Public Comment:

The public members who were in attendance made no comments.

14. Adjournment:

Trustees Liddle and Vickers made and seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:34 p.m., which passed unanimously. A box lunch will be available before the 4:00 p.m. Monthly Board Meeting on 16 June 2022.



Ary Faraji, Executive Director

16 JUN 2022
Date



Van Turner, Chair 2022

6-16-2022
Date