

**MINUTES OF THE
SALT LAKE CITY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT
27 March 2025**

BOARD MEETING

Presiding: Neil Vickers, Ph.D., Vice-Chair

Time: 12:33 p.m.

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

Trustees Present: Neil Vickers, Ph.D., Vice-Chair
Luz Escamilla (Joined virtually at 1:02 p.m. during the closed session.)
Dr. Shireen Mooers
Van Turner

Trustees Excused: Amanda Barth, Chair

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

1. Roll Call:

Trustee Vickers called the meeting to order at 12:33 p.m. and confirmed that the meeting was being recorded. No conflicts of interest were declared.

2. Approval of the 27 February 2025 Minutes of the Board of Trustees:

The pending minutes of February's regular Board Meeting had been distributed to the Board Members previously, and no modifications were necessary. Trustee Mooers made a motion to approve the 27 February 2025 Minutes of the Board of Trustees; the motion was seconded by Trustee Turner and passed with all in favor.

3. Presentation of the February 2025 Financial Statements and Approval of Bills for Payment:

The Trustees had received copies of February's Financial Statements earlier in the week. CFO Fairbanks noted receiving a \$8,111.90 rebate from Central Life Science, a \$490.96 reimbursement from MAD-Davis, and a \$7,132.40

payment from the Prison Grant Agreement. Interest income of \$67,391.47 was distributed between the General Fund and Capital Projects Fund, and \$335,533.79 had been expended from the General Fund. 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 Mooers made a motion to approve the February 2025 Financial Statements and bills for payment; Trustee Turner seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

4. 2025 Legislative Updates:

Trustee Mooers made a motion to postpone reviewing the legislative update until Trustee Escamilla was able to join the meeting. Her motion passed unanimously after being seconded by Trustee Turner. The following was discussed after the Executive Director's Report: Trustee Escamilla provided the following updates: The City is dealing with homelessness issues, and an eminent domain bill was passed, giving the State full control of a large unincorporated piece of land north of the District. The Westside Coalition is concerned about all of the mandated development in this area. This means that no public comment period prior to construction is required. A transportation bill put a moratorium on the work that Salt Lake City can do in regards to some of its transportation plans. Housing and education continue to be top priorities. There will be rehabilitation work in Salt Lake City's entertainment district, which is the downtown area. Other legislative updates provided by Ryan Lusty, the Utah Mosquito Abatement Association's liaison to the Utah Association of Special Districts, was included in this month's board packet.

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

• **American MCA, 3-7 Mar 2025, Puerto Rico**

Executive Director Faraji, Molecular Biologist Byers, and Education Specialist Rehbein all provided presentations at the AMCA conference, while Laboratory Director Bibbs presented two talks. AMCA is putting together a national campaign that will be made available for the mosquito districts to utilize. Executive Director Faraji is promoting a new, innovative session for AMCA's 2026 annual meeting: "Whose Talk Is It Anyways?". Participants will arrange five informational slides, and then someone else will conduct the presentation "on the fly."

• **Verticon Helicopter Expo, 10-13 March 2025, Dallas, TX**

Airbus Helicopters made it possible for Aerial Operations Supervisor Sorensen to attend the Verticon Helicopter Expo, which is the nation's largest helicopter conference.

- **New Jersey MCA, 19-21 Mar 2025, Atlantic City, NJ**

New Jersey MCA has invited Executive Director Faraji to be a guest speaker at their annual conference this year. He will present on some research projects/accomplishments our District has conducted since he left New Jersey in 2014.

- **EntSoc Pacific Branch, 30 Mar to 2 Apr 2025, SLC, UT**

The ESA-PAB meetings are being held in Salt Lake City this year. Education Specialist Rehbein, Laboratory Director Bibbs, and Executive Director Faraji will be presenting at this conference. We will also be hosting an open-house on Wednesday, 2 April 2025. Executive Director Faraji and Laboratory Director Bibbs will be receiving awards for their outstanding entomological contributions.

- **PacVec, 2-4 Apr 2025, Davis, CA**

Molecular Biologist Byers will attend/present at this conference.

- **Utah Public Health Association, 3-4 April 2025, Salt Lake City UT**

- **AMCA Washington Days, 12-14 May 2025, Washington DC**

Trustee Escamilla is making arrangements to participate in this event.

- **International Forum for Surveillance and Control of Mosquitoes and Vector-borne Disease, 25-30 May 2025, Xi'An, Shanxi, China**

- **EntSoc Interim Board Meeting, 24-26 June 2025, Portland, OR**

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

At 12:58 p.m., Executive Director Faraji informed the Trustees that he would like to recess the regular board meeting in order to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual. The regular board meeting was then recessed with a motion made by Trustee Mooers and seconded by Trustee Turner. This motion carried with all in favor.

At 1:22 p.m., Trustees Moore and Turner made and seconded, respectively, a motion to adjourn the Closed Meeting and to reconvene the Regular Board Meeting. This motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director Faraji discussed the following items: 1) We are still interviewing for seasonal positions. 2) Surveillance will begin 31 March 2025. 3) The NIH R01 Grant, working with Brian Foy at Colorado State University, will be officially submitted next week on age-grading mosquitoes using wing scale pixels.

4) The Southshore Wetlands and Wildlife Management meeting was held at our facility during March 2025. 5) The North Point Consolidated Irrigation Company and Lake Shore Duck Club also held their meetings at our facility in March 2025. 6) Laura Green has been hired to assist CFO Fairbanks with payroll and several other accounting responsibilities. 7) Dr. Tianyun “Steven” Su, a Trustee for Northwest Mosquito and Vector Control Association and an independent researcher, will be staying in our dormitory 30 March through 3 April 2025. He is known as a preeminent larvicide bioassay expert in the country. 8) Dr. Norah Saarman and some of her students from Utah State University will also be staying in our dormitories this week. 9) We are working on a collaboration with Dr. Norah Saarman and Dr. Steven Su in relation to larvicide resistance. 10) Council Member Victoria Petro is hosting a discussion with 2200 W residents and the Mayor, Chief of Police, Fire Chief, and Director of Public Lands from 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. on 23 April, and she invited us to join them. In return, we asked if they would like to hold the meeting at our facility. This will be convenient for the residents who live nearby, and it will give them an opportunity to ask questions and learn more about the work we do. 11) We had three more articles published, and they were added to the end of the Director’s Report this month. 12) It was unfortunate that the Department of Public Safety will not build their hangar on our property. However, their mechanic has approached us about also providing helicopter maintenance to us on his own time. Executive Director Faraji asked Trustee Escamilla if she would set up a meeting with the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety to discuss cost sharing instead of a direct contract with the mechanic, which could possibly be beneficial to both of us. 13) No date has been set for the quarterly DSLASA board meeting. Trustees Turner and Vickers indicated they will be able to meet on 24 April 2025. 14) Gary Hatch, Mosquito Abatement District – Davis, is the new Executive Director of UMAA. 15) Construction on the back acreage is moving along well. However, water is still an issue.

After the Director’s Report, Executive Director Faraji returned to Item 4 on the agenda to discuss the 2025 legislative updates.

7. Probable Agenda Items for 17 April 2025 Board Meeting, 12:30 a.m.:

- Executive Director’s Report
- Construction Updates
- Personnel Updates
- Research Updates

8. Public Comment:

No public was present.


9. Adjournment:

Trustees Turner and Mooers made and seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:51 p.m., which passed unanimously.



Ary Faraji, Executive Director

17 APR 25
Date



Amanda Barth, Chair 2025

4/17/2025
Date