**South Salt Lake Valley Mosquito Abatement District**

**Board Meeting Minutes**

**March 10th, 2025 at 2:00 pm**

The Board of Trustees of the South Salt Lake Valley Mosquito Abatement District (SSLVMAD), Salt Lake County, State of Utah, met in a board meeting at the District offices at 7308 Airport Road, West Jordan, Utah and via Zoom with an anchor location established at the District offices.

The following board members were present Tish Buroker (Riverton), Don Christensen (West Valley), Brad Gilson (Draper), Kelvin Green (West Jordan), Kathie Johnson (South Jordan), Kristie Overson (Taylorsville), Linda Price (White City), Florence Reynolds (Sandy), Ilene Risk (Salt Lake County), Steve Shields (Herriman) Laverne Snow (Murray), and Greg Wilding (Bluffdale).

The following board members were absent: Jeff Bossard (Brighton), Ty Brewer (Holladay), Silvia Catten (Millcreek), Paul Glover (Midvale), Matt Holton (Cottonwood Heights), and Natalie Pinkney (South Salt Lake).

Also attending were Dan McBride, Scott Sommer, Eric Gardner, and residents Gene Drake, and Steve Van Maren.

1. **Welcome**. Buroker conducted the meeting and duly called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone at 2:02 pm.
2. **Citizen Comments**. No citizens commented.
3. **Board Conflicts of Interest Disclosures**. No board members disclosed any conflicts of interest.
4. **Approve Minutes**. Snow moved to approve the minutes of the February Board meeting. Reynolds seconded the motion, and the motion carried with all in favor. Green and Shields were absent for the vote.
5. **Adopt Second Amendment to Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for the Canyon Centre CDA (Resolution 25**-**01)**

McBride explained that an amendment to an existing CDA with Cottonwood Heights is required because of a change in contractor, though there is no change to the impact on the Distict. In response to a request from Snow for a summary of the updated CDA, McBride explained that Cottonwood Heights has entered into an agreement with a new contractor to complete a development project near the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon begun previously, and that that change required an update to the project area budget and thus also with the agreement with the District. The full amended budget was provided to the board for review.

Overson moved to adopt the proposed amendment to the interlocal cooperation agreement for the Canyon Centre CDA (Resolution 25-01). Wilding seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following vote:

Bossard Absent

Brewer Absent

Buroker Yes

Catten Absent

Christensen Yes

Green Absent

Gilson Yes

Glover Absent

Holton Absent

Johnson Yes

Overson Yes

Pinkney Absent

Price Yes

Reynolds Yes

Risk Yes

Shields Yes

Snow Yes

Wilding Yes

1. **AMCA/WCMVCA Conference Report**

McBride, Sommer, and Gardner attended the annual meeting of the West Central Mosquito and Vector Control Association (WCMVCA) in Jackson Hole, Wyoming and McBride, Sommer, Kassie Draper, and Risk attended the annual meeting of the American Mosquito Control Association (AMCA) in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Risk reported that the AMCA conference was exceptional and mentioned presentations explaining updated messaging for public outreach, potential impacts to mosquito control should the monarch butterfly be listed as a threatened species, insecticide resistance monitoring methods, and Ross River virus. Sommer commented on operational presentations describing the use of drones, and methods for mapping and for deploying employees. He also reported on participation in AMCA education day noting additional ideas for engaging activities for classroom presentations and other public outreach endeavors. In response to a question from Snow, McBride explained that the impact of cuts to federal funding on the CDC and surveillance of mosquito borne disease are not fully known yet, though CDC hopes to continue those services. Risk noted that some representatives from CDC were unable to attend and present at the AMCA meeting.

1. **Final Legislative Review**

McBride reported on bills enrolling from the 2025 Utah legislative session that could impact the District. These included HB 64 – Public Official Bonding Amendments, HB85 – Environmental Permitting Modifications, HB267 – Public Sector Labor Union Amendments, HB 428 – Property Tax Changes, HB 444 – Data Privacy Amendments, SB 50 – Limited Purpose Local Government Entities Board of Trustees Compensation Amendments, and SB 202 - Property Tax Revisions. In response to a question from Wilding about changes to by-laws that may be required to comply with new legislation, McBride explained that a reference to board compensation may be updated to reflect changes made by SB 50. He further noted that the Employee Handbook, Procedures Manual, and Safety Manual may need to be updated to comply with HB 444 and the District is in the process of determining what, if any, changes to recommend.

1. **Board By-Laws Review**

McBride noted that no changes to the Trustee By-Laws were proposed by board members or staff beyond minor language adjustments. Buroker commented that, though reviewing policy may seem tedious, there is value in staying up to date with rules and regulations.

Green moved to approve the Trustee By-Laws; Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

1. **Media/ Public Relations Presentation**

McBride described the District’s current public relations program including social media presence and public events. He presented material intended to be made available to public information officers in each city. Material includes social media guidelines, articles of varying length about mosquitoes and mosquito control, social media snippets consisting of 1 to 2 lines for posting on social media platforms, photographs, and public service announcements relating to several aspects of mosquito biology and control. McBride further described an updated AMCA public outreach toolkit known as Yesterday’s Threat, Today’s Solutions. McBride noted that the District hopes to use the resources described to increase public outreach including as preparation for potential communication about possible mosquito problems such as invasive species or emerging diseases.

Additionally, McBride reported that the District is planning to participate in several upcoming public events. Sommer has prepared material and is coordinating events. Anticipated public events include plans to present an informational display at each library in the District and at community events sponsored by South Jordan, Taylorsville, Riverton, and Draper. Participation at events sponsored by other cities is anticipated in future years and will likely rotate among all cities in the District. Sommer also noted participation at health fairs and explained that the search for additional appropriate venues and events is ongoing.

McBride explained that funding is a limiting factor for participating in community events and noted an attempt to balance public outreach with operational mosquito control so that neither is neglected.

Green asked about the availability of material described and suggested several locations where material could be posted. Snow asked about methods for disseminating information to city representatives. McBride explained that all material can be available to board members and that it will be housed online and accessible by a link that will be sent to city public information officers (PIO) or others. Christensen recommended board members follow up with city PIOs. Reynolds asked about a timeline for use by PIOs or others that could suggest specific material to present according to season. McBride explained that he and Sommer are working on a letter to be included with the information that would describe timing of the mosquito season, control activities, etc.

1. **Conditions of the District**

McBride reported that the District is working to build a better seasonal workforce. McBride and Sommer have participated in job fairs at Brigham Young University and Utah Valley University and anticipate an additional fair at the University of Utah. So far, the job fairs have led to good interactions and a larger applicant pool than seen previously.

McBride indicated that mosquito field work will likely be starting by the end of the week. Early indications suggest a below average water year for some mosquito habitat though it is hard to say at this point and early irrigation has been seen to cause problems.

The District has placed pesticide orders and McBride noted a 6%-8% price increase over last year that contributes to about a 35% increase over the last five years. Rising prices influence decisions about which mosquito control products can be afforded, and the highest quality products may be prohibitively expensive.

McBride has been in contact with city PIOs and with KSL News to discuss messaging through the mosquito season; interviews or stories are expected each month from either the South Salt Lake Valley or Salt Lake City Mosquito Abatement District.

In response to a question from Green, McBride explained that overwatering can lead to excess water in catch basins that may then produce mosquitoes. Reynolds commented that community water utilities plan extra emphasis on water conservation this year. McBride has also been in contact with water districts and noted that anticipated messaging from SSLVMAD should complement messaging from those entities.

In response to a question from Snow about the origin of the pesticide products the District uses and whether the price may be impacted by tariffs, McBride explained that much of the ordering for the current year has been completed before the enactment of additional tariffs, but the impact on price in the future remains to be seen.

Reynolds asked about integrating new mosquito control products to overcome the challenges of pesticide resistance. McBride explained that the District rotates products to avoid the development of resistance and tests for resistance to ensure that effective products are used but noted that there aren’t many new active ingredients available. Reynolds also asked about reasons for increased resistance to mosquito control products and McBride explained that consistent use of a product over time can contribute to the development of resistance. McBride noted that in addition to the District’s efforts to be cautious and use products responsibly to avoid resistance, action from property owners to eliminate mosquito habitat can also help reduce the need for pesticide and thus reduce the risk of the development of resistance. Sommer also emphasized efforts to combat resistance to pesticides including product rotation, learning from what other entities report at meetings and conventions and research conducted at the District.

McBride mentioned upcoming conferences including AMCA Washington Days in May and the annual meetings of the Utah Mosquito Abatement Association and Utah Association of Special Districts in October and November respectively. He pointed out that in 2026 the WCMVCA annual meeting will be held in Grand Junction, Colorado and the AMCA annual meeting will be held in Portland, Oregon, and encouraged attendance at the WCMVCA meeting.

McBride asked board members to submit documentation of required training.

Safety goals have been met since the last board meeting and no new accidents have been reported.

1. **Board Meeting Items for April 14th Meeting.** No additional items were presented.
2. **Approve Bills**. Christensen moved to approve the bills; Green seconded the motion. The motion carried with all in favor.
3. **Adjourn**. Overson moved to adjourn the meeting, and the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.
4. **Open and Public Meeting Act Training**

An Open and Public Meeting Act training video prepared by the Utah Office of the State Auditor was presented and viewed by Green, Christensen, Snow Reynolds, Wilding, Johnson, Risk, and Gilson.