

Board Meeting Minutes  
Mosquito Abatement District -Davis  
June 12, 2025

The Mosquito Abatement Board meeting was held at the Kaysville facility and on Zoom.

Welcome by Board Chair Brad Lee at 6:07 pm who led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present at the meeting was Gary Hatch, Manager and Shirley Cox, Clerk with Board members including Matt Murri – Bountiful; Cheylynn Hayman – Centerville; Dakota Wurth – Clearfield; Marie Dougherty – Clinton; John Crofts – Davis County Commission; Gary Anderson – Fruit Heights; Mike Blackham – Kaysville; Joel Dills – South Weber; Nancy Smalling – Sunset; Kelly Enquist – West Bountiful; Brad Lee - West Point; and Jim Grover – Woods Cross. Excused from the meeting was Scott Isaacson – Farmington; Brian Horrocks – North Salt Lake; Tyson Roberts – Layton and Brett Cragun – Syracuse.

Board members Jim Grover and Marie Dougherty joined the meeting by Zoom.

No conflicts of interest declared.

Also present was Katie Giddens and Courtney Braunberger, Child Richards CPAs & Advisors

**MINUTES – OF 05/08/2025 BOARD MEETING:**

There was a motion by Commissioner John Crofts to approve the minutes of the 05/08/2025 Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Kelly Enquist. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None

**TREASURER REPORT:**

Treasurer Mike Blackham, for Scott Isaacson, reported that everything is in order.

There was a motion to accept the Treasurer Report by Commissioner John Crofts. The motion was seconded by Dakota Wurth. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL:**

Manager Hatch reviewed the Expense Detail Report with the Board and highlighted some of the expenses.

Matt Murri, Bountiful City, joined the meeting in person at 6:13 pm.

There was a motion by Mike Blackham to accept the financial statement and approve the payment of bills. The motion was seconded by Nancy Smalling. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

#### MOSQUITO REPORT:

##### West Nile Update and Encephalitis Surveillance

Liz Hart has completed the Utah State Health Lab Panel with great results as well as the California State Health Lab Panel. They have recommended that we increase our sensitivity to SLE. That can be done by slightly increasing the primers and probes in adding the Master Mix at the end of the processing before running the RT PCR. As the lab starts picking up positives and/or gets closer to that time when we would start picking up positives, we may increase our sensitivity to WNV also.

UTAH – WNV activity reported – 0(0) Positive Mosquito Pools – 0(0) from Davis

CDC – Reports – 15(00) states with virus activity with 7(0) states with human cases for a total of 10 (00) cases with 0 deaths.

There are no positives in the state which is to be expected at this time of year. The district lab has started testing mosquitoes. 364 mosquito pools have been tested to date.

Marie dougherty, Clinton City, joined the meeting online at 6:20 pm

##### Mosquito Treatments, Spray Request, Surveillance

Larvicide acres in May by aerial spray was 2,796, which is about average.

The drone treated 286 acres in the month of May.

Total acres treated by ground was 117 acres.

For ULV application, there were 16 good nights of spraying with 81,843 acres sprayed.

16,499 catch basins were treated in May. The bike crew finished the county this week for the first time and treated over 26,000 drains total.

The fish crew made great progress treating 291 fish ponds in May. In the next few weeks, the fish crew will finish going through all the fish ponds in the county for the first time this season.

213 spray requests came into the office, 53 of which were special requests. The most spray requests were from Syracuse and West Point.

Aerial Spray acres treated for May was 2,796 acres.

Brad Lee asked Manager Hatch if the Kill rate had gone up and Mike Blackham asked if any of the CO2 traps were by neighborhoods. Manager Hatch responded with some statistics about kill rates by plane and by drone.

Mike Blackham asked Manager Hatch to highlight some of the trap and kill data for the next meeting and expressed interested in the kill data for the fogging program.

#### 2024 AUDIT – CHILD RICHARDS CPAS & ADVISORS:

Katie Giddens, Child Richards, CPA's and Advisors presented the 2024 Audit Report to the Board.

#### 2025 CERTIFIED TAX RATE:

##### Certified Tax Rate Discussion

This year's 2024 tax rate was .000094. The proposed rate without a tax increase is .000093 which is scheduled to generate \$3,875,485.

If the district does a tax increase of \$1,000,000, the certified rate is .000117. This would be an increase of 26.18%. It would increase the yearly payment on the average household in Davis County (\$600,000) \$7.92.

If the tax increase is \$800,000, the certified tax rate is .000112. This would be an increase of 20.79% and increase the yearly payment on the average household in Davis County (\$600,000) \$6.27.

There was a discussion about setting the mill levy at the higher tax rate for now which can always be lowered if the Board decided to lower it.

##### Time Line Discussion

Manager Hatch updated the Board with information from Galloway, the architect. They are suggesting the dollar amount for this project will be between 4.2 million and 6.5 million. The district should expect roughly a \$725,000 payment each year for a 10 year loan if the project expense reaches 6.5 million dollars.

The timeline would be to start with the tax rate in June.

In August, Galloway will give some financial numbers for the district and Zions to consider.

August will be the district's first public hearing on the tax increase.

In August the district must formerly notify the State Tax Commission of the tax increase.

September first, the County will need to have the district's proposed tax information to be included in the tax notice that will be sent to all residents.

By October/November, cities need to be notified of the proposed tax increase. It is their choice if they want to put it on their council agenda. The city does not have to vote on the increase. Manager Hatch offered to come to any city council and give a presentation. Each city can choose whether they want to hear the presentation or not.

In November, tax notices go out to residents from the County.

The December public hearing is the final hearing on the tax increase.

The district will start receiving the increased revenues in 2026 at year end and in 2027.

There were some comments and questions from Board members about the tax increase.

Marie Dougherty asked with a \$725,000 payment, how much the district could afford to spend without a tax increase.

Manager Hatch stated that the money from the last tax increase, received 5 years ago, has been utilized by the increasing cost of chemicals. The chemical budget has been increased by \$450,000. The district has also used the last tax increase to set aside some money for the future buy out of the hangar shared with SLCMAD, as well as funding the employee buyout account. There is possibly \$125,000 – \$200,000, at the most, that could go toward the loan payment if the district stopped putting money aside for these and other future expenses.

Cheyllynn Hayman expressed appreciation for the offer to give a presentation to city councils and asked if Manager Hatch could put together a summary about the proposed tax increase using bullet points in a compact form that can be given out to residents.

Marie Dougherty expressed an interest in a compact form that can be given out to residents as well and would be interested in it, including the why behind the tax increase for MAD-D.

Mike Blackham noted the necessity of setting the certified tax rate at this Board meeting so the first mailing can go out by August. Information for that mailing must be in 30 days before the mailing. He prefers starting with the lower rate and only going higher if that is required, however, he suggested the value of setting the higher tax rate for now, is knowing the rate can always be changed to something lower. Tax increases from the Mosquito Abatement District – Davis are typically not more than \$1 per month for residents.

Marie Dougherty stated her preference would be to go with the lower tax increase.

There was some discussion about the impact of the future hangar buy out to be paid to SLCMAD when their helicopter program is up and running.

Mike Blackham asked Board members to state their preference for staying at the lower tax increase rate or approving the higher tax increase rate.

Brad Lee stated he can see both sides of the issue of going with the higher tax rate and being more reasonable to the tax payer. He is in favor of a 5 or 6 bullet point summary for residents that would show what the district needs and why it is pertinent.

Dakota Wurth commented that the 26% increase is alarming but the raw numbers of \$7 dollars per year are more reasonable. He stated tax increases are more effective to go through as a one-time request rather than having a second tax increase if the first increase was not enough.

Marie Dougherty stated that taxpayers could have the lower rate for a few years before the second tax increase.

Manager Hatch stated that a concern to consider is whether the money set aside for SLCMAD is sufficient, as well as keeping in mind the chemical budget increase each year due to the increasing cost of chemicals as well as the district increasing the amount of chemicals needed for each year. Both expenses are future unknown to the district.

Matt Murri asked, is there any other area where we are cutting costs so we can show we are also working to have a tighter budget.

Manager Hatch stated that with the wetlands increasing, the district is spraying more acres than in past years. He does not foresee any acres sprayed decreasing in the future.

Joel Dills felt that was a good point to consider as Mosquito Abatement does have a critical responsibility in the service supplied to Davis County. He feels it would be irresponsible not to prepare for a shortfall due to the hangar buy out with SLCMAD or the cost increase in chemicals potentially affected by tariffs. His vote is to take the higher tax increase and secure the district financially.

Marie Dougherty suggested the Board consider approving the higher rate and when Manager Hatch can get a better understanding of what the actual costs will be for the project and the hangar buy out with SLCMAD, the Board can see if the higher rate is still necessary.

Manager Hatch agreed with Marie Dougherty. He will have more information from the architect by the hearing in August.

Mike Blackham agreed with Marie's suggestion to vote for the higher tax increase, and when more information is available, the Board could choose to reduce the tax increase in August or December. He stated that without more concrete numbers it is hard to know which increase is more applicable.

Cheylynn Hayman stated she is in support of the larger tax increase of \$1,000,000.

Dakota Wurth stated he is in support of the larger tax increase as well but is open to change is opinion once there is more concrete numbers to consider.

Jim Grover stated his support of starting at the high water mark, continuing the discussion, and watching for sensitivity to the higher tax increase.

Mike Blackham motioned that the district adopt the certified tax rate of .000117 which would increase, potentially, one million dollars to the budget. The motion was seconded by Dakota Wurth. There was a roll call vote.

Mike Blackham– aye

Brad Lee - aye

Matt Murri- aye

Kelly Enquist - aye

John Crofts - nay

Gary Anderson - aye

Joel Dills - aye

Cheylynn Hayman - aye

Nancy Smalling - aye

Jim Grover - aye

Dakota Wurth - aye

Marie Dougherty - aye

The motion passed with 11 aye's and 1 nay.

Mike Blackham, Gary Anderson and Marie Dougherty expressed the hope of lowering the tax increase later if that is possible.

EMPLOYEES:

Full time staff

The full time employees are all doing well.

Seasonal Employees

The seasonal full time employees are a great crew this year.

Night Time Sprayers

Two night time sprayers have left the district. One of the new hires was struggling with the computer system and his night time vision is not what he needs for back roads in the dark. Unfortunately, another night time sprayer who has been with us for four years, has been diagnosed with cancer. The hope is to have him back next year. The district is hoping his cancer treatments go well. Some of the daytime seasonals are wanting to pick up some extra hours and will cover the two shifts affected by these two departures.

PESTICIDE BUILDING/FACILITY UPGRADE CONSTRUCTION ARCHITECTURE:

Notice to Proceed

Manager Hatch gave notice to proceed with Galloway.

Initial Meeting with Galloway Architecture

Manager Hatch had a good meeting last week with Galloway. The entire full time staff was there at the meeting to give input. Manager Hatch is looking forward to working with Galloway. There is active discussion to figure out the district's operational timeline while the facility is torn apart for the project. There is also discussion about what is going to be the most cost effective way to make some necessary changes to the facility.

### Contract with Galloway Architecture

The Contract was provided by Galloway. It is a standard Architect Association contract. It is being reviewed by King and King. Manager Hatch is waiting for their response. He will send the attorney response out to the Board as soon as he receives it.

### Motion to approve contract with Galloway Architecture

Board Chair, Brad Lee, suggested the motion be tabled until the contract is returned from King and King. Manager Hatch will send it to the Board by email for their review. The motion to approve the contract will be put on July's Board meeting agenda.

### ZIONS BANK CONSTRUCTION FINANCIAL DISCUSSION:

When expenses are provided by Galloway, Zions can get the district the possible cost of the loan and the yearly payment information.

### EQUIPMENT:

#### Maintenance

#### Equipment Update

This district is now double tanking a few more sprayers. The plan is to start out with ReMoa Tri in the evening on the marsh, then switch to kontrol 30-30 in the neighborhoods.

The Can-Am is phenomenal, there is no overheating problems at all.

#### Electric Cargo Bike

The new cargo bike has gone out four times now and fogged. It can get about 10 miles of trail done. Ther has been some calibration issues which has been worked through. It is now calibrated correctly. The flow looks good. It has been working great.

#### Small ATV Fogger Bid

The electric bike and mini fogger have worked out so well that Paul Gines would like to get that same fogger on the back of an ATV so it can go out to some of the wetland areas not reachable by the fogger truck. The district budgeted \$5,000 for the drone trailer. That budget amount will now be used to purchase a mini fogger for the back of an ATV.

Matt Murri motioned to approve the purchase of a small ATV fogger. The motion was seconded by Kelly Enquist. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Mike Blackham, Kaysville City, was excused from the meeting at 7:34 pm.

### BOARD TRAVEL & MEETINGS 2025/2026:

- a) UMAA Annual Meeting – Oct 27-29, 2025 – Park City, UT
- b) MVCAC Annual Meeting – February 1-4, 2026 – Rancho Mirage, CA
- c) AMCA Annual Meeting – March 23-27, 2025 – Portland, OR

Manager Hatch asked the Board members what their availability was to attend the UMAA Annual Meeting in the fall.

Brad Lee – not available

Gary Anderson – not available

Dakota Wurth - tentative yes

Cheylyn Hayman - tentative no

Joel Dills - yes

Nancy Smalling - yes

Matt Murri - tentative no

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

None

ADJOURN:

Kelly Enquist motioned to adjourn. Matt Murri seconded the motion. The MAD-D Board meeting adjourned at 7:36 pm.

\_\_\_\_\_ 7/10/2025

Scott Isaacson, Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_ 7/10/2025

Shirley Cox, Clerk