MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE

SOUTHLAKE MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT

**MINUTES**

# March 14, 2016

1**. ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by President Barbara Struthers. Trustees Larry Feder, Susan Levy, Roger Simonson and Tony Bilotti were present. District Attorney Robert Masini and George Balis of Clarke were also in attendance.

2**. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

3. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2016**

Trustee Feder moved to nominate the current officers Barbara Struthers, president, Roger Simonson, secretary and Susan Levy, treasurer, to remain in their present offices. Trustee Bilotti seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

4**. MINUTES**

The Trustees reviewed the minutes of the October 12, 2015 regular meeting. Motion by Trustee Levy, seconded by Trustee Feder to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2015 regular meeting as presented. All in favor. Motion passed.

5. **REPORTS FROM TRUSTEES ON THE AMCA MEETING**

Trustee Simonson passed out a written report with photos and summaries of the various presentations. He mentioned the backyard spraying discussion, and the discussions of work toward robotic surveillance and applications.

Trustee Bilotti said he found his first attendance at a conference to be very interesting. He was impressed with the number of papers presented. A brief discussion of the incidence of the Zika virus took place at this point. Mr. Balis said there had been 193 reported cases in the continental U.S., all travel related. Another 173 cases were reported in the rest of the Americas with the most in Puerto Rico. West Nile cases were down considerably in 2015. They also discussed the incidence of Chikungunya in the U.S. and the Americas. (New Business C & D).

Trustee Struthers also submitted a written report of her attendance at the annual conference. She discussed the current activity to enhance abatement activity by the sterilization of male mosquitoes and the release of them into the population. She said the release techniques are tricky to accomplish and it will be a slow repetitive process to be effective. Trustee Levy questioned whether the cost will allow it to be a worthwhile abatement approach.

The trustees briefly discussed the issues related to the federal EPA asserting an additional layer of regulatory authority over the use of abatement insecticides through clean water regulations.

Trustee Feder said that he was disappointed to hear that the conference did not include any sessions specifically for trustees this year. He asked that this be reported to the AMCA.

6**. TREASURER’S REPORT**

A. Trustee Levy reviewed the February, 2016 report with the Trustees. The trustees briefly discussed the prior reports for October 2015-January, 2016. Motion by Trustee Simonson to accept, as presented, the Treasurer’s Reports for October 2015 through February 2016. Seconded by Trustee Bilotti. All in favor. Motion Passed.

7**. BILLS**

The Trustees then considered the following bills:

1. Diver, Grach, Quade & Masini, LLP - $2,527.13 – legal services ($2,505.75, and $21.38 for Chicago Tribune cost reimbursement).
2. David Data Inc. - $750.00 -Web site maintenance.
3. Smith Accounting Services - $295.00-Accounting services.
4. West’s Insurance Agency - $1,000.00 – Surety Bonds for Barbara Struthers and Susan Levy.
5. Barbara Struthers - $2,705.32 – reimbursement for expenses incurred for attendance at AMCA annual conference.
6. Anthony Bilotti -$1,903.25 – reimbursement for expenses incurred for attendance at AMCA annual conference.
7. Roger Simonson - $1,992.02 – reimbursement for expenses incurred for attendance at AMCA annual conference.

The trustees also reviewed the receipt for the holiday dinner from the Italian Kitchen. The expenditure was previously authorized but the trustees wanted to ratify the payment of the amount actually paid, $969.97.

Trustee Simonson moved that the bills be paid as presented and also to ratify the payment of the bill for the holiday dinner in the amount of $969.97 to the Italian Kitchen. Trustee Levy seconded. Roll Call. Ayes: Levy, Struthers, Feder, Simonson and Bilotti. Nays: None.

8**. OLD BUSINESS**

Trustee Feder inquired whether any of the trustees had heard back from anyone with the County Forest Preserve District regarding the MAD’s request to larvacide at Prairie Wolf. No one had heard from the County. Trustees Struthers and Levy said they would place a follow up call to Commissioner Ann Maine. Trustee Struthers commented that a renewed effort should be made to get County approval because of the potential emergence of the Zika virus. Trustee Levy suggested that rather than seeking approval for general lavarciding the MAD should seek to target areas that have documented pools where WNV has been found and that are nearest adjacent residences. Trustee Bilotti asked whether the District presently does any abatement work within Prairie Wolf or near Deerfield High School. The District does not.

Mr. Balis mentioned the difficulties the District has had to perform treatments when WNV has been found in Ryerson Woods. He said that a neighboring portion of that same area, Cahokia Flatwoods has recently been made a designated area by the Forest Preserve District. The trustees asked Mr. Balis to prepare a report for the Prairie Wolf and Cahokia indicating where Clarke has found WNV in the past and provide a cost estimate for larvacide treatment of these areas.

9**. NEW BUSINESS**

A. **Discussion and possible action on the purchase and distribution of various educational books and/or materials for grade school children within the District.** – The trustees discussed the possible distribution of a children’s informational book, What’s Bugging You?, and/or an activity book to second graders in District schools. President Struthers passed around copies of the books that would be distributed. The books are produced by the same company that the District has had good past experiences. Trustee Levy said she is agreed to distributing both books so long as they will actually be used in a class lesson so the kids are learning something. Following a further discussion by the trustees, Trustee Feder moved that the District purchase, including shipping, 1,000 activity books and 1,000 What’s Bugging You? from Alan Wayne, Ltd. of Arlington, Virginia for distribution to second graders in District schools at a cost not to exceed $7,500.00. Trustee Levy seconded the motion. There was no further discussion of the matter. Roll call. Ayes: Levy, Struthers, Feder, Simonson and Bilotti. Nays: None.

B. **Discussion of distribution of informational brochures within the District in 2016. Possible action to expend funds for this purpose may be taken**. – Trustee Levy said that Clarke will provide a 2 minute video, “Community Based Mosquito Program” to the District’s website. Trustee Feder suggested that the District should see if a public service announcement could be arranged on the local cable network’s community access channel. He also suggested having a computer available to run the video when the trustees attend the local farmer’s markets.

C. **Discussion on the incidence of dengue fever and chikungunya within the continental US & Hawaii. -** . See #5.

D. **Discussion on the incidence of Zika virus within the U.S. and the Americas and its status as a public health problem.** - See #5.

E. **Brief discussion of the summer informational/educational appearances in municipalities within the District**. – The Riverwoods event is May 14. Roger Simonson will be out of town. The Deerfield event will be June 25. Trustee Bilotti will contact Highwood to arrange a date for an appearance there.

F. **April informational/educational presentation to the Highland Park Women’s Club**. – Mr. Balis will make an educational presentation to the Highland Park Women’s Club on April 26. Mr. Balis is also making a last minute guest appearance tomorrow, March 15, at the Deerfield Optimist Club.

G. **Discussion of combination of mosquito abatement group/activities within Lake County.**  Mr. Balis said he was at a meeting with the State’s Lt. Governor where part of the discussion focused on the push for consolidation of governmental bodies within the counties. Proposed possible legislative changes were discussed at that meeting.

H. **Presentation, discussion and adoption of Tentative Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the 2016-2017 fiscal year**. – Attorney Masini distributed copies of a draft Tentative Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the coming fiscal year. The draft ordinance keeps the appropriation the same as it has been for the past several years, $693,000.00. He said that if the trustees wanted to hold the public hearing at the May meeting the tentative ordinance had to be adopted tonight to be able to post the tentative ordinance at least 30 days before the May meeting date. The trustees briefly discussed the matter. They said they were pleased with the amount and that in the current year the District spent just a little less than the amount it levied.

Trustee Feder moved that the trustees adopt the Tentative Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance as presented with an appropriation of $693,000.00. Trustee Levy seconded the motion. Roll call. Ayes: Levy, Struthers, Feder, Simonson and Bilotti. Nays: None. Attorney Masini was directed to take care of the notice requirements for the May public hearing.

10. **Reports**

A. Clarke. – Mr. Balis distributed a one page information sheet from the CDC addressing the control of Dengue, Chikungunya and Zika viruses. The most different aspect of Zika is the fact that it appears that a mosquito can bite an infected human and then pass it to another human when it bites that individual. Other concerns are Zika’s role with causing birth defects; that the virus can possibly pass person to person via sexual contact; and that the virus may well last in the system for a couple months to provide more opportunity for transmission. The good news for our area is that the ades aegypti is not generally found in the Midwest. This mosquito, in its typical region, feeds on and lives in close proximity to human homes. He thinks that because the Olympics are scheduled for Brazil this summer, the Zika events there have been more publicized. The trustees asked that the CDC sheet that was distributed be added to the website.

11. **Adjournment**.

Trustee Levy moved that the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Trustee Feder. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Roger Simonson

Roger Simonson, Secretary

Southlake Mosquito Abatement District