Southwest Mosquito Abatement and Control District
Board of Trustees Meeting

August 13, 2026

The Southwest Mosquito Abatement and Control District Board of Trustees meeting was held on August 13, 2026, at the Mosquito Abatement District building at 1460 South Sandhill Dr., Washington City. Chair Jarett Waite convened the meeting at 4:03 pm.

Present:
Jeffrey Allen, Leeds
Mike Scott, Ivins
Todd Sands, Toquerville
Jarett Waite, Santa Clara
Lynn Excell, Hurricane
Gene Garate, Virgin

Electronic (Google Meet):
Andy Efstratis, Rockville
John Valenti, La Verkin
Pat Campbell, Springdale
Austin Anderson, St. George
Bret Henderson, Washington City

Excused:
Doneva Hecker, New Harmony
Lawrence Barlow, Hildale
Jenna Vizcardo, Apple Valley
Washington County representative
Enterprise representative

Administration:
Sean Amodt, SWMACD District Admin
Karen Noffsinger, SWMACD Office & HR Admin
Kesler Hansen, SWMACD Operations Admin

Item #1: Roll Call

Roll call was done for those present in the office and online. No public was present in person or online. The meeting was called to order at 4:03 pm by Chair Jarett Waite.

Item #2: Approval of Minutes

The draft minutes from the May 14, 2026 meeting were reviewed. Lynn Excell made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Todd Sands seconded the motion. All in attendance voted “Aye.”

Item #3: Budget Items

Karen Noffsinger presented the authorization of expenses through June 2026. She reported that the District had received 8.5% of its budgeted revenue so far this year, with most of the property tax revenue expected in November and December. Expenses were at 43.7% of the budget at the end of June, compared to the expected 50%. Employee Benefits and Office Supplies were slightly higher due to purchases and expenses earlier in the year, but those amounts should level out. Karen also reported approximately $18,000 in interest earned in the General Fund PTIF account, with $45,000 budgeted in interest income for 2026, and $22,180 in interest earned in the Capital Facilities Fund. Mike Scott made a motion to approve the expenses through June 2026 as presented; Jeffrey Allen seconded the motion. All in attendance voted “Aye.”

Item #4: Policy and Action Items

Sean Amodt presented the annual review of the Pesticide Discharge Management Plan (PDMP). He explained that the District is required to keep the plan updated and review it each year. Changes included updating the employee list, adding more to the invasive Aedes mosquito program, and updating the pesticide products used for larval control in storm drains and aquatic vegetation control. The plan also includes the District’s treatment procedures and response to spills or emergencies. Todd Sands made a motion to approve the PDMP with the changes as presented; Gene Garate seconded the motion. All in attendance voted “Aye.”

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Sean Amodt presented two older STIHL backpack sprayers to be added to the District's surplus list. He explained that the sprayers are approximately 10 years old and are no longer used regularly since staff have newer equipment. The Shivwits Band expressed interest in purchasing the sprayers for its mosquito control program. Jeffrey Allen made a motion to approve adding the two backpack sprayers to the surplus list; Mike Scott seconded the motion. All in attendance voted "Aye."

Item #5: Manager's Report

Karen Noffsinger reviewed the annual Open & Public Meetings Act (OPMA) training with the Board. She updated the discussion questions and asked Board members if they had any questions about public meeting requirements. There was a brief discussion about emergency meetings and the number of Board members needed for a quorum.

Sean Amodt presented the current mosquito surveillance report. He reported that several seasonal employees had left or would soon be leaving, and the District was looking to hire two more employees to help with the remainder of the season. Mosquito collections were lower earlier in the year due to dry conditions, but recent rain had increased activity. Testing had also increased, with smaller pools of mosquitoes being submitted for testing.

Sean reported 21 positive West Nile virus mosquito pools, with additional samples awaiting testing. He reviewed maps showing positive areas near the landfill and Coral Canyon, Springs Park in St. George, Washington Fields, and Virgin. Staff were increasing trapping and targeted fogging in affected areas and contacting property owners where needed. Sean encouraged Board members to let residents know West Nile virus had been detected and to remind them to take precautions, including vaccinating horses.

Sean reported that the District continues to focus larval treatments on priority areas, including storm drains. Staff are working on a new GIS layer to track individual storm drain locations and treatments. Service requests have increased significantly, in part because the Aedes aegypti team is going door to door and providing residents with information. The District generally responds to requests the same day or within 24 hours. Sean also reported that Aedes aegypti treatments had increased and reminded Board members that even small containers of standing water can produce mosquitoes.

Sean reminded Board members about the upcoming Utah Mosquito Abatement Association annual conference in Ogden and asked anyone interested in attending to let Karen know so hotel reservations could be made. The Board also viewed a St. George News report about a channel cleared by District staff near the Washington diversion dam. Sean explained that improving water flow reduced mosquito habitat and also benefited native fish.

Item #6: Board Member Comments or Questions

Chair Jarett Waite commented that the District's public education efforts are working, as more residents and city staff are becoming aware of where to report mosquito concerns.

Item #7: Adjourn

The next scheduled meeting will be held on November 12, 2026, at the Mosquito Abatement District office, at 4:00 pm.

Chair Waite dismissed the meeting at 5:00 pm.

Approved minutes signed by Executive Board Member:

Name: _____ Title: _____

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