

MINUTES

1133rd MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE ALAMEDA COUNTY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT

February 12th, 2025

TIME: 5:00 P.M.
PLACE: Hybrid Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Physically held at the Office of the District
23187 Connecticut Street, Hayward, CA 94545 and
Teleconferencing at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83834486228>
TRUSTEES: Tyler Savage, President, City of Alameda
Kashef Qaadri, Vice-President, City of Dublin
John Bauters, Secretary, City of Emeryville
Cathy Roache, County-at-Large
Preston Jordan, City of Albany
P. Robert Beatty, City of Berkeley
John Zlatnik, City of Fremont
George Syrop, City of Hayward
Maya Manoharan, City of Livermore: *from 1845 Marini Ln, Livermore*
Eric Hentschke, City of Newark
Lisa Rasler, City of Oakland
Hope Salzer, City of Piedmont: *from 76 Cambrian Ave, Piedmont*
Jeff Nibert, City of Pleasanton
Victor Aguilar, City of San Leandro
Subru Bhat, City of Union City

1. Board President Savage called the regularly scheduled board meeting to order at 5:00 pm.
2. Trustees Savage, Qaadri, Roache, Hentschke, Rasler, Aguilar and Bhat were present at the District. Trustees Manoharan and Salzer were present remotely from the publicly posted locations above. Trustee Jordan arrived to the District at 5:10 pm. Trustees Bauters, Beatty, Syrop and Nibert were absent.
Discussion: Trustee Zlatnik requested an AB 2449 remote attention medical exemption.
Motion: President Savage moved to approve remote attendance
Second: Trustee Bhat
Vote: Motion carries: unanimous
3. President Savage invited members of the public to speak on any issue relevant to the district. Vector Biologist, Sarah Lawton, was present remotely to record the minutes. Information & Technology Director, Robert Ferdan, was present for technical support. Public Outreach Coordinator, Judith Pierce, was present for the staff report.
4. Approval of the minutes of the 1132nd meeting held January 8th, 2025.
Discussion: None
Motion: Trustee Roache moved to approve the minutes

Second: Trustee Hentschke

Vote: Motion carries

5. Closed session – Conference with Labor Negotiators Pursuant to Government Code 54957.6. Under Negotiation – Terms and Conditions of Employment

Discussion: The Board came out of closed session to approve a 3-year MOU contract with a 5% increase for each year of the contract. President Savage added that the negotiation went well and wanted to highlight the hard work and professionalism of the District.

Motion: Vice-President Qaadri moved to accept the ACMAD Employee Association's ask of a 5% increase in salary over the next 3 years.

Second: Trustee Jordan

Vote: motion carries: unanimous

6. Presentation of the President's Award Plaque to Immediate Past President Cathy Roache by President Tyler Savage.

Discussion: Trustee Roache summarized her time spent working with the District over the last 20+ years and stated that it has been a pleasure.

7. Approve CalPERS Publicly Available Pay Scales and Revised MOU

Discussion: President Savage asked if Judith's is the only role changing its title (yes, but we also will be adding a new position, which is already budgeted) President Savage followed up asking about a possible change to Operations (the job description for the Field Operations Supervisor may be adjusted before recruitment.)

Motion: Trustee Jordan moved to approve the revised Pay Scales for 2019-2022 and 2022-2025, and also the revised 2022-2025 MOU.

Second: Trustee Aguilar

Roll Call Vote: motion carries: unanimous

8. Proof-of-Concept Proposal to Implement an AI-Based Resident Communication Platform

Discussion: The General Manager, Robert Ferdan, and Judith Pierce gave background information and fielded questions from the Board. Trustee Salzer asked how long the Proof-of-concept is expected to last and if a report will be given to the Board (yes, staff will begin by reporting success metrics to the Board at the next meeting and staff will begin testing immediately before rolling it out to the public.) Trustee Qaadri asked what the metrics will be for success and would like to have set parameters up front (this will be in beta-phase in-house until we know it works really well.) Trustee Qaadri asked if this was more like a trial (yes, we will be able to tell how many people utilized the AI system to input Service Requests.) Trustee Qaadri asked how we will grade the interactions with the public (we may send a survey after the call, but we will not be listening to the calls; we expect that certain members of the public will be vocal in sharing their feedback.) Trustee Bhat asked if we really need to state on the call that we are using AI, as he feels it is being used so commonly that most people do not realize they are speaking to an AI system, and some may have negative feelings about it if they knew (we may use a different term, such as "digital assistant", this new system sounds very natural and could easily fool people which we do not want the public thinking they are talking to a human. We also want them to know that they still have the option to speak to a human.) Trustee Aguilar feels that this is a great concept and asked if there will be an option to talk to staff (yes, if someone asks to speak to any staff member, it will direct the call to the staff member. There will be no prompts, as in a "phone tree", rather, it will immediately sound like a human is talking. If they state they wish to speak to a human, it will also direct them to staff.) Trustee Jordan gave thanks for looking into more innovation and for the planned transparency about the use of AI and asked if this system will ever get "outsmarted" or pushed to its limit (this system will only be

able to discuss what we want it to, with no chance of “hallucinations” or false responses.) Trustee Jordan asked about the separate phone number and if Board members could also call it during this trial (the separate number is only for the trial period, and yes, the more people who call to test the system the better it will be.) Trustee Hentschke asked how the answers will be curated, and can it evolve or change quickly if something is incorrect (yes, all staff will contribute to the appropriate responses and yes, it can be changed quickly.) Trustee Salzer asked how this will be optimized and suggested to perhaps test both in the trial: stating that we’re using AI and not stating it (that is a good idea to try, finding a way to survey people will be the best way to do that. We could even integrate a survey into the AI system at the end of calls.) Trustee Qaadri pointed out the discounted rate for the District, is there an escalator clause or a cap of how much the cost can increase (no, not as of now. We plan to try this system for 3 years after which, we will evaluate.)

Motion: President Savage moved to accept the proof-of-concept if the KPI (Key Performance Indicator) metrics and preliminary results are shared at the next meeting.

Second: Trustee Aguilar

Roll Call Vote: motion carries: Trustee Rasler abstains

9. Verbal update from the ad-hoc manager evaluation committee

Discussion: President Savage shared that they have had many discussions, are making progress, and will have more to report at the next meeting.

10. Verbal update from the ad-hoc energy committee

Discussion: The General Manager shared that there will be a meeting with BayREN (Bay Area Regional Energy Network) tomorrow. Our goal is to reduce our energy demand first by replacing ballasts and changing existing lights to LED. Trustee Jordan asked what the role of BayREN will be and suggested looking into AVA Community Energy as well. (they should assist with potential grant opportunities and overall project guidance.)

11. Financial Reports as of January 31st, 2025

Discussion: The General Manager presented highlights from the Financial Report. Trustee Jordan asked about the payment to Enterprise (we recently made the change from purchasing vehicles to equity leasing through Enterprise, that is the first payment to lease vehicles that we replaced)

12. Presentation of the Manager’s Report

Discussion: After the General Manager presented the report, he had to excuse himself from the meeting.

13. Presentation of the Monthly Staff Report

Discussion: Judith Pierce presented highlights from the Staff Report. Trustee Roache mentioned that she would like to have an Agriculture Department Inspector present for the UAS treatment next week at Coyote Hills. Trustee Jordan asked for clarification about our dead bird testing process (after consultation with CDPH, we decided to still test dead birds except for raptor species, which are more susceptible to Avian Influenza so those will be collected by Alameda County Vector Control.) Trustee Jordan asked about the classes that the education group are working on (the goal is to collaborate and share ideas quarterly with the many educators from various districts to help each other build curriculum that will be presented to schools in their respective districts.) Trustee Roache thought the number of people from our district who presented at the MVCAC was impressive. Trustee Jordan pointed out that the second image in the Lab section (WNV positives in 2024) was missing icons (to be followed up by the Lab Director.) Trustee Roache asked if the school presentations are one class at a time

or one grade at a time (class-by-class, we prefer the smaller and more interactive settings.) Trustee Bhat feels it would be helpful to draft some responses in case anyone sees misinformation online regarding invasive *Aedes* again (we have that already and can share with Trustees.) Trustee Aguilar shared that he believes the movie theater ads worked well because he received feedback from several people who saw them (will share that with Erika Castillo.) Trustee Jordan noticed in the ad comparison chart that there is a difference after June, did we change something (after the one-day dip in June, which was a glitch on their end, they may have changed something, because we did not.)

14. Board President asks for reports on conferences and seminars attended by Trustees.
Discussion: Trustee Roache attended the yearly MVCAC conference and shared again how inspiring it is how active our district is for how small we are and how well we were received. Trustee Hentschke also attended and echoed Trustee Roache's sentiments, adding that it is a source of pride.

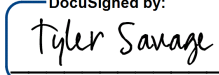
15. Board President asks for announcements from members of the Board.
Discussion: Trustee Hentschke shared that HASPA, which he and the District are members of, hosted a meeting at the District and all were impressed.


16. Board President asks trustees for items to be added to the agenda for the next Board meeting.
Discussion: None

17. Adjournment at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved as written and/or corrected
at the 1134th meeting of the Board of
Trustees held March 12th, 2025

DocuSigned by:

Tyler Savage, President
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Signed by:

Kashef Qadri, Vice-President
BOARD OF TRUSTEES