

## MINUTES

### 1125<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE ALAMEDA COUNTY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT

May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024

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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/87358392693>  
TRUSTEES: Cathy Roache, President, County-at-Large  
Tyler Savage, Vice-President, City of Alameda  
Valerie Arkin, Secretary, City of Pleasanton  
Robin López, City of Albany: *from 1249 Marin Ave., Albany*  
P. Robert Beatty, City of Berkeley  
Kashef Qadri, City of Dublin  
City of Emeryville, vacant  
John Zlatnik, City of Fremont: *AB 2449 exemption*  
George Syrop, City of Hayward  
Maya Manoharan, City of Livermore  
Eric Hentschke, City of Newark  
Lisa Rasler, City of Oakland  
Hope Salzer, City of Piedmont: *from 76 Cambrian Ave., Piedmont*  
Victor Aguilar, City of San Leandro  
Subru Bhat, City of Union City

1. Board President Roache called the regularly scheduled board meeting to order at 5:06 pm.
2. Introduction of new Board Member Lisa Rasler, representing the City of Oakland.  
**Discussion:** Trustee Rasler introduced herself, thanked Trustee Zlatnik for recruiting her, and expressed that she is happy to be here. She is a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher at Sequoia Elementary School interested in environmental education. President Roache welcomed her to the Board.
3. Trustees Roache, Arkin, Beatty, Qadri, Syrop, Manoharan, Hentschke, Rasler, Aguilar and Bhat were present in person at the district. Trustees López and Salzer attended remotely from the publicly posted locations above. Trustee Savage was absent. Trustee Zlatnik attended remotely under AB 2449, which requires Board approval.  
**Discussion:** None  
**Motion:** Trustee Bhat moved to approve remote attendance for Trustee Zlatnik  
**Second:** Trustee Qadri  
**Vote:** Motion carries: unanimous
4. President Roache invited members of the public to speak on any issue relevant to the district. Vector Biologist, Sarah Lawton, was present to record the minutes. Information & Technology Director, Robert Ferdan, was present for technical support. Financial & HR

Specialist, Michelle Robles, was present for item 7. Melanie Guillory-Lee from SCI Consulting Group was present for item 7. Regulatory & Public Affairs Director, Erika Castillo, was present for item 9. East Bay Regional Park District's Principal Planner, Devan Reiff, attended remotely for item 9.

5. Approval of the minutes of the 1124<sup>th</sup> meeting held April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**Discussion:** None

**Motion:** Trustee Aguilar moved to approve the minutes

**Second:** Trustee Hentschke

**Vote:** Motion carries: Trustee Salzer abstained

6. Approval of the Final Budget for fiscal year 2024-25

**Discussion:** The General Manager reviewed the budget and offered to clarify any questions along with staff members Michelle Robles, Robert Ferdan, and Erika Castillo. Trustee Qaadri asked for clarifications on why the proposed budgets are much larger for the following categories: IT/communications, laundry supplies, clothing and personal supplies, and memberships (IT is increasing because our database supplier, Leading Edge, has doubled service fees and we are also increasing our online security. We expect higher rates for laundry and supplies. Membership dues increased because of the proposed HASPA membership, discussed later in the meeting.) Trustee Bhat asked about the increased financial advising cost (a solar and energy audit to allow for more electric vehicles in the future. HR services costs will be higher next year because it is the year we renegotiate our MOU. The permits category increase will pay for the PEIR report addendum.)

**Motion:** Trustee Beatty moved to approve the budget

**Second:** Trustee Arkin

**Vote:** Motion carries: unanimous

7. Presentation of the preliminary Engineer's Report for fiscal year 2024-25 by Melanie Guillory-Lee from SCI Consulting Group.

**Discussion:** After background from the General Manager, Melanie Guillory-Lee gave her presentation and fielded questions from the Board. Trustee Qaadri asked to clarify that the assessment rate is \$2.50, and we are not changing it (correct.) Trustee Beatty asked to clarify that we could charge up to \$7.00 (yes.) He also questioned why agriculture land and golf courses pay very little (benefit assessments are measured for people, not for the size of the land.) He also asked if the diagram on page 42, which references a 2000 study done by UC Davis, is the standard (yes, the supporting data is locked in from the original assessment language of 2008.) Trustee Salzer wanted to again request that if we ever have the opportunity, we should consider reducing the SFE to more accurately reflect the parcel size that people live on.

8. Resolution 1125-1 intending to continue assessments for fiscal year 2024-25, preliminarily approving the engineer's report, and providing for notice of hearing.

**Discussion:** None.

**Motion:** Trustee Beatty moved to approve engineer's report

**Second:** Arkin

**Vote:** Motion carries: unanimous

9. Resolution 1125-2 approving the Hayward Area Shoreline Planning Agency Joint Powers Authority (HASPA JPA) agreement, joining as a trustee agency.

**Discussion:** Erika Castillo presented and fielded questions from the Board, along with the General Manager and Devan Reiff. Trustee Arkin asked if we would have much impact with only 10% weight in voting (the default will be a majority vote, but at any time someone could call for a weighted vote). Trustee Beatty asked for clarification because he thought we already joined in 2021 (staff took direction from that action which led to the JPA agreement as it is today, the vote today is to approve this agreement.) Trustee Qaadri asked what the benefit is of joining (moving more into an implementation role, HASPA will seek grants to complete shoreline projects which could affect mosquito control. Increased community outreach will also expand our own community outreach). Trustee Beatty spoke highly in favor of this because it “gives us a seat at the table”. Trustee Arkin asked if The Coastal Commission is involved (Devon Reif helped to answer that they are a member of the Technical Advisory Committee.) Trustee Manoharan asked for examples of master plan projects (20 projects are upcoming, including: Hayward marsh restoration including “Tern Town” & “1<sup>st</sup> mile” project near Oro loma.) Trustee Qaadri asked to confirm that Trustee Hentschke is comfortable being the Board member for HASPA representing the District (yes) Trustee Roach volunteered to be an alternate.

**Motion:** Trustee Qaadri moved to approve the agreement, appointing Hentschke as Trustee and Roache as Alternate.

**Second:** Trustee Syrop

**Vote:** Motion carries: unanimous

10. The Board entered closed session to discuss the General Manager’s compensation on a recommendation from the Manager Evaluation Committee and according to the employee contract, pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6.

**Discussion:** The Board came out of closed session.

**Motion:** Trustee Syrop moved to approve an 8.6% increase in base pay with a 1% performance bonus given after July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, keeping all aspects of the existing contract intact.

**Second:** Trustee Beatty

**Vote:** Motion carries: Trustee Rasler abstained.

**Motion:** Trustee Bhat moved to approve this pay increase begin on May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, until the remainder of the contract, ending June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

**Second:** Trustee Aguilar

**Vote:** Motion carries: Trustee Rasler and Trustee Manoharan abstained.

11. ACMAD's 2022-2023 Biennial Report

**Discussion:** Trustee Syrop asked what designer was used for the report (Spark Creative Design does most of the district’s designs.) Trustee Arkin pointed out a typo which reads “Steve” instead of “Shawn” Kumagai (will be fixed for the final version).

12. Financial Reports as of April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Discussion:** The General Manager presented highlights from the Financial Report. Trustee Qaadri proposed a ribbon cutting when the aquaculture building is complete (yes).

13. Presentation of the Monthly Staff Report

**Discussion:** The General Manager presented highlights from the Staff Report with Erika Castillo summarizing the Community Outreach and Public Education section. Trustee Arkin mentioned that the WNV positive finch said Pleasanton elsewhere, but in this report, it says Livermore. (Erika Castillo confirmed it was from Pleasanton, not Livermore). Trustee Syrop

suggested posting social media on local city pages, such as "You know you're from Hayward if...", (great suggestion, will work with Judi on this). Trustee Roache mentioned that Judith Pierce was at the Livermore Ag Day with over 1000 students, which is a lot of work. Trustee Aguilar asked if PG&E could be fined for not allowing access to utility vaults (other districts have attempted abatement procedures with PG&E which are timely and expensive, a state law would help in this process.)

14. Presentation of the Manager's Report

**Discussion:** The General Manager presented highlights from the Manager's Report. Trustee Arkin mentioned she liked the LA Times article, but asked what the controversy is about in the title (that a mosquito abatement district is *releasing* (sterile) mosquitoes.) Trustee Beatty and Trustee Syrop requested to discuss the OPEB investment strategy at the June meeting rather than this late into this meeting. Trustee Salzer asked if there was a way to pool OPEB funds with other districts to qualify for ESG (at our size, we would be pooled regardless but not large enough to request an ala carte investment portfolio).

15. Board President asks for reports on conferences and seminars attended by Trustees.

**Discussion:** None.

16. Board President asks for announcements from members of the Board.

**Discussion:** Trustee Aguilar was accepted into the Harvard Kennedy School of Government and will be attending the June Board Meeting remotely. He was congratulated by Trustees.


17. Board President asks trustees for items to be added to the agenda for the next Board meeting.

**Discussion:** Trustee Qaadri asked if we could add Trustee Washburn's photo and change the name of the lab as discussed (the plaque is ready, but we are allowing time for his family to hold services and organize a dedication). Trustee Arkin asked if we could get more information about the various mosquito-borne diseases (yes, we are planning three mosquito-related discussions over summer, including diseases.)

18. Adjournment at 7:26 pm.

**Respectfully submitted,**

Approved as written and/or corrected  
at the 1126<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of  
Trustees held June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024



Cathy Roache, President  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Valerie Arkin, Secretary  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES