

**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
SOUTHLAKE MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT
MINUTES
March 14, 2022**

1. **ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Barbara Struthers. Trustees Tony Bilotti, Roger Simonson, and Susan Levy were present. Trustee Dan Rubin was absent. District Attorney Robert J. Masini and George Balis of Clarke were also in attendance. The meeting was held at 1706 Garand Ave. in Deerfield.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No other members of the public were present nor had any questions or comments been received.

3. **MINUTES**

The trustees reviewed the minutes of the February 14, 2022 regular meeting. Motion by Trustee Bilotti, seconded by Trustee Simonson to approve the minutes of the February 14, 2022 regular meeting minutes. All in favor. Motion passed.

4. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

The treasurer's report for February 2022 was reviewed by Trustee Levy. Trustee Levy reported that the District's fund balance as of the end of January was \$904,037.51. Trustee Simonson moved that the reports be accepted as presented. Trustee Bilotti seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

The trustees briefly discussed the expectation that interest rates on CD's should be going up later in the year. Trustee Levy will keep watch to see if moving some of the District's funds into a CD would be beneficial.

5. **BILLS**

Trustee Levy reviewed the following bills with the Trustees:

1. Grach, Masini, Hazan & Gurysh, LLP - \$1,118.00 Legal Services
2. Smith Accounting Services - \$100.00 – Accounting Services for February 2022.
3. Liberty Computer Centre - \$150.00 – Monthly website and Facebook maintenance for March 2022.

4. Liberty Mutual Insurance - \$500.00 – Renewal of surety bond for Trustee Levy.
5. Roger Simonson - \$2,137.31 – Reimbursement for attendance at the AMCA annual meeting.

Trustee Levy moved that the bills be paid as presented. Seconded by Trustee Bilotti. Roll Call. Ayes: Levy, Bilotti, Struthers, and Simonson. Nays: None. Absent: Rubin. Motion passed.

6. **REPORTS**

A. Trustee report and discussion of AMCA annual conference matters. – Trustee Simonson reported on his attendance at the AMCA Annual Conference in Jacksonville, FL. Attendance was down from the prior events. Trustee Simonson said there were reports on the increased use of drones in abatement and control work. A good deal of discussion was focused on Florida abatement work. Tick abatement was discussed. This work can be very expensive. Mr. Balis pointed out that wide spread tick control is neither easy nor very effective. Ticks tend to be more spread out within the environment. A more effective way to address ticks is via educational programs and the use of repellents by individuals to control the problem. More research is needed to find ways to control the population within the environment.

B. Clarke Reports – Mr. Balis said that operations would begin in April, appropriate to the current weather conditions.

7. **OLD BUSINESS**

A. Discussion of Clarke future needs and activities survey. – Mr. Balis reported that the results of the survey will not be ready for another month or two.

8. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Discussion concerning and adoption of Tentative Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the 2022-2023 year. - The trustees briefly discussed the upcoming season's expenses and decided that no changes in the appropriation and budget from last year were necessary.

Trustee Levy moved that the Board tentatively appropriate \$693,000.00 for its budgeted business operations and expenses for the coming year 2022-2023. Seconded by Trustee Bilotti. All in favor.

Attorney Masini was instructed to post the Tentative Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance and publish the notice of public hearing on the ordinance so that these matters could take place at the May 9, 2022 meeting.

President Struthers led the trustees in a discussion of what educational materials the Board should order for the coming season. She asked the trustees to review the choices so a purchasing decision and authorization could be made at the April meeting.

9. **ADJOURNMENT.**

A brief discussion took place and the trustees selected May 16 for the annual dinner at the Italian Kitchen.

Trustee Simonson moved that the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Trustee Bilotti. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger Simonson, Secretary of Southlake
Mosquito Abatement District