

## MINUTES

### 1126<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE ALAMEDA COUNTY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT

June 12<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/85908693757>  
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  
P. Robert Beatty, City of Berkeley  
Kashef Qaadri, City of Dublin: *from 9509 Greenspring Ct., Lanham MD*  
John Bauters, City of Emeryville  
John Zlatnik, City of Fremont  
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  
Victor Aguilar, City of San Leandro: *from 400 Soldiers Field Rd., Boston MA*  
Subru Bhat, City of Union City

1. Board President Roache called the regularly scheduled board meeting to order at 5:02 pm.
2. Introduction of new Board Member John Bauters, representing the City of Emeryville (revisited when Trustee Bauters arrived at 5:07 pm).
3. Trustees Roache, Savage, Arkin, Beatty, Zlatnik, Hentschke and Bhat were present in person at the district. Trustees Qaadri and Aguilar attended remotely from the publicly posted locations above. Trustees Bauters, Syrop and Manoharan arrived in person at 5:06, 5:07 and 5:08 pm, respectively. Trustees López, Rasler, and Salzer were absent.
4. President Roache invited members of the public to speak on any issue relevant to the district. Don Grant and Robert Cuadra from PFM Assest Management were present for item 6. Public Outreach Coordinator, Judith Pierce, was present for item 9. Vector Biologist, Sarah Lawton, was present to record the minutes. Information & Technology Director, Robert Ferdan, attended remotely for technical support.
5. Approval of the minutes of the 1125<sup>th</sup> meeting held May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**Discussion:** None

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

**Second:** Trustee Arkin

**Vote:** Motion carries: unanimous

6. Report from the Finance Committee regarding OPEB Trust allocation changes and moving from active management to passive.

**Discussion:** The General Manager introduced Don Grant from PFM Asset Management who then gave his presentation and jointly answered questions from the Board. Trustee Beatty asked if we maintain the current structure, why not move to passive. Trustee Qaadri shared the relatively small management fee amount differences between options, provided by staff (~\$1,000 annually). Trustee Arkin for clarification on the staff recommendation (while the administration differences are negligible, staff still recommends the passive option unless a more custom ESG option is available.) Trustee Syrop asked if this portfolio had a policy against specific companies, could we still follow that with a 40/60 model (the ESG at our funding level can follow a 40/60 model but does not allow specific choices/ companies, rather choosing between investment managers with specific). Trustee Bhat mentioned that the difference between 40/60 active or passive is not much and would prefer 40/60 active. Trustee Beatty asked why ESG, just for lower administration fee? Trustee Bhat responded yes; he wants to have funds. Trustee Syrop said since we are overfunded, why not just go with ESG to be in good standing as a public agency. Trustee Beatty agrees, and added if we do choose active, we should do active ESG. Trustee Hentschke circled back to clarifying the management fee differences. Trustee Syrop would like to move towards ESG, if the difference is so negligible, why not? Trustee Bauters added if it is overfunded, with costs for managing now and with a likely recession coming, he would like to choose passive at this time, we could still plan to go ESG route in the future. Trustee Bhat agreed. Trustee Arkin would prefer the passive account, agrees with what Trustee Bauters said and likes the lower costs. Trustee Qaadri asked if there is a motion on the table (no, still having discussion.) Trustee Beatty said why not do ESG now if that is the ultimate goal? Trustee Qaadri said it sounds like we want ESG for now and asked, with an ESG oriented portfolio, how are those accounts being selected (would depend on the specific manager.) Trustee Roache clarified that we could not pick what ESG-areas we want. Trustee Bhat added that we would take a chance choosing ESG especially if we do not know what we would be investing in. Trustee Beatty said we would trust the manager to make the best decisions. Trustee Syrop asked if PFM has a baseline of what ESG means to them (there is a baseline with options to choose managers based on values.) Trustee Syrop asked for clarity on what their idea of ESG is, for example, if you choose 5 companies you do not want, like fossil fuels, can we find a manager that does not have fossil fuels in their portfolio? (perhaps). Trustee Roache said we should decide as a Board what types of funding we are against. Trustee Bhat said we have never had those discussions; he believes the 'E' stands for emotions, more so than environment. For that reason, he would rather not do ESG now. Trustee Bauters thinks we should do passive for now, then put on the agenda to make our preference decisions as a Board for the future. His city had a recent meeting just about this, so he thinks more thought should be put into this. Trustee Roache asked how long the commitment is for this and how long until we can switch (you can change whenever you like, there is no time frame. PFM can return to have a meeting on ESG in the future.) Trustee Qaadri said there are some very clear things the Board would be against that we can discuss and thinks we should get more info from PFM, then get into more specifics later. Trustee Zlatnik asked if we do not choose ESG, could we be funding companies whose values we oppose? Trustee Roache pointed out that we do not know

what we all oppose but the strategic plan may be a guide to forming that strategy. Trustee Arkin agrees we need more information before we can make the decision.

**Motion:** Trustee Qaadri moved to approve 40/60 active ESG management plan

**Second:** Trustee Beatty

**Substitute Motion:** Trustee Bauters moved to approve 40/60 passive management plan with PFM to return to present about ESG and the Board to have meeting within 12 months to discuss ESG preferences.

**Second:** Trustee Bhat

**Roll Call Vote:** 11-1

Yes: Roache, Savage, Arkin, Beatty, Zlatnik, Hentschke, Aguilar, Bauters, Syrop and Manoharan.

No: Qaadri

Absent: López, Rasler, and Salzer

7. Public hearing on the proposed tax rate.

**Discussion:** After the President opened the hearing, the General Manager gave background information and mentioned that they did not receive comments from the public nor have any members present.

8. Resolution 1126-1, a resolution ordering the levy of assessments for fiscal year 2024-25 for the Alameda County Mosquito Abatement District and Disease Control Assessment.

**Discussion:** None.

**Motion:** Trustee Syrop moved to approve the Resolution

**Second:** Trustee Bhat

**Vote:** Motion carries: unanimous

9. Presentation by Judith Pierce, MPH Education and Outreach Update, Summer 2024.

**Discussion:** After Judith Pierce gave her presentation, Trustee Bhat volunteered to contact Eastin Elementary. Trustee Syrop asked about County Board of Education, who have you tried to contact (the person who oversees the science program, but they have had a restructuring of staff.) He also asked what schools you want to contact in Hayward (northwestern edge, near Kennedy Park.) Trustee Roache mentioned her son works at Harder School and will ask him to help.

10. Closed session to discuss the General Manager's twelve-month evaluation pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6

**Discussion:** After returning from closed session, the Board will continue this item at the July Regular meeting after allowing more review and comments from Trustees.

11. Financial Reports as of May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024

- a. Check Register
- b. Income Statement
- c. Investments, reserves, and cash report
- d. Balance Sheet

**Discussion:** The General Manager presented highlights from the Financial Report.

12. Presentation of the Monthly Staff Report

**Discussion:** The General Manager presented highlights from the Staff Report, and Judith Pierce summarized the Community Outreach and Public Education section. Trustee Syrop brought up three upcoming events in Hayward.

13. Presentation of the Manager's Report

**Discussion:** The General Manager presented highlights from the Manager's Report, including the August 14<sup>th</sup> lab dedication event at 4:00pm.

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

**Discussion:** None

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

**Discussion:** None

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

**Discussion:** The General Manager mentioned that another closed session will be added to finish item 10. Field Operations Supervisor, Joseph Huston, will present on local mosquitoes.

17. Adjournment at 7:48 pm.

**Respectfully submitted,**

Approved as written and/or corrected  
at the 1127<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of  
Trustees held July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024



Cathy Roache, President  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Valerie Arkin, Secretary  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

TYLER SAVAGE, VICE PRESIDENT