Commissioner Hart called to order the regularly scheduled meeting of the Lee County Mosquito/Hyacinth Control Districts (LCMHCD) on 06/25/2026 at 10:00 a.m. in the William Opp Training Center at the Districts' headquarters, 15191 Homestead Road, Lehigh Acres, Florida 33971.

PRESENT:

Seat 1- Commissioner Ed Brantley

Seat 2- Commissioner Brian Farrar, Vice Chairman, not present

Seat 3- Commissioner Mike Ellis

Seat 4- Commissioner Steve Bowen

Seat 5- Commissioner William Burke, Secretary/Treasurer

Seat 6- Commissioner Thomas B. Hart, Chairman

Seat 7- Commissioner Bruce Scott, not present

Legal Counsel – John Agnew

STAFF:

Executive Director – Aaron Lloyd

Deputy Director, LCHCD – Kevin Watts

Research Director – Dr. James Dunford, not present

Chief Financial Officer – Sean O'Neill

Human Resources Director – Melissa Tenzel

Operations Director – Ed Foley

Communications Director – Jenifer McBride

Network Support Technician – Joel Canova

Executive Administrative Assistant – Sabina Vilarchao

VISITORS:

Carr, Riggs & Ingram CPAs and Advisors – John Brielmaier

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

The following citizens addressed the Board: None

MINUTES APPROVAL:

Commissioner Hart requested a motion for item 10465_Board meeting minutes 06/25/2026. Commissioner Bowen moved to approve the 06/25/2026 minutes. Commissioner Ellis seconded the motion to approve the minutes as presented. The Board approved unanimously; motion passed.

LEE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT REPORT:

Department of Health report. Cheryl Adams, Biological Administrator, Division of Communicable Diseases, not present. Executive Director Aaron Lloyd provided an update:

https://www.floridahealth.gov/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/fl-arbovirus-report-w25-2026.pdf

CONSENT AGENDA:

10466_Surplus

Commissioner Hart requested a motion for the consent agenda item. Commissioner Brantley moved to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Bowen seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved; motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

10467a_ LCHCD Annual financial audit – Present to the Board the annual audited financial statement for approval. The District's auditors, Carr, Riggs & Ingram will provide a report on the fiscal year 2025 audit. A summary of the annual audited financial statements for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and provide authorization to transmit the audited financial information to the State of Florida Department of Financial Services for the District's required annual reporting.

Commissioner Hart requested a motion to accept the 10467a_LCHCD annual financial audit. Commissioner Burke moved to accept 10467a. Commissioner Bowen seconded the motion. The Board accepted unanimously; motion passed.

10467b_ LCMCD Annual financial audit – Present to the Board the annual audited financial statement for approval. The District's auditors, Carr, Riggs & Ingram will provide a report on the fiscal year 2025 audit. A summary of the annual audited financial statements for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and provide authorization to transmit the audited financial information to the State of Florida Department of Financial Services for the District's required annual reporting.

Commissioner Hart requested a motion to accept the 10467b_LCMCD annual financial audit. Commissioner Ellis moved to accept 10467b. Commissioner Brantley seconded the motion. The Board accepted unanimously; motion passed.

10468_ King Air N875J insecticide tank – Request Board approval of a contract with Avcon Industries, Inc. for $592,180 to perform the engineering and installation of the aerial spray system on the District's recently purchased King Air B200GT (N875J).

Commissioner Hart requested a motion for 10468_ King Air N875J insecticide tank. Commissioner Bowen moved to approve 10468. Commissioner Ellis seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved; motion passed.

10469_ LCMHCD Education Department Budget – Approval of the FY27 (July 1, 2026-June 30, 2027) Lee County Mosquito Education Program Budget.

Commissioner Hart requested a motion for 10469_ LCMHCD Education Department Budget. Commissioner Brantley moved to approve 10469. Commissioner Burke seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved; motion passed.

LCHCD OPERATIONS REPORT: Deputy Director Kevin Watts updated the Board.

- Jurisdiction & Scope: Service area covers the entire county and the Caloosahatchee River up to Lake Okeechobee, managing over 28,000 acres of public waterways.
- Annual Treatment Targets: The department manages and treats just over 1,000 acres of aquatic vegetation on an annual basis.
- Mid-Year Progress: Operations are currently mid-season and on schedule, with a little over 500 acres of aquatic

plants treated to date.

- Dominant Species: *Nuphar advena* (Spatterdock), a native water lily, currently accounts for approximately 85% of the total treatment workload.

- LCHCD Hosted: The District hosted the South Florida Aquatic Plant Management Society meeting last week at the onsite training center.
- Attendance: Total registration for the event exceeded 100 guests.
- Keynote Presentation: Jen McBride opened the meeting with a well-received presentation titled *"Working in the Public Eye as an Aquatic Plant Manager."*

LCMCD OPERATIONS REPORT: Operations Director Ed Foley updated the Board.

- Target Species: Coastal *Aedes taeniorhynchus* (black salt-marsh) mosquitoes.
- Larviciding: Teams have been actively treating larval habitats.
- Treatments: Completed the second round of pre-treatments this past Monday and Tuesday.
- Duration: This pre-treatment is expected to last 35 days, covering most of July.
- Elevated Counts: Noted in South Fort Myers, Iona, and Estero.
- Completed Actions: Finished initial truck and airplane spray missions.
- Immediate Plans: Additional airplane missions are scheduled for tonight and tomorrow night in these same areas.

Upcoming 4th of July Prep

- Surveillance: Additional traps are being set next week to gather more data.
- Holiday Readiness: Extra airplane and truck missions are planned for next week to prepare for the July 4th weekend.

LCMHCD FACILITIES REPORT: CFO Sean O'Neill updated the Board.

Generator Replacement Project

- Status: Project is underway.
- Recent Action: Request for Proposal (RFP) issued last week.
- Next Steps: Presenting proposals to the Board for a vote next month (July 2026).
- Budget: $600,000 allocated for the generator.

Fixed-Wing Hangar Office Remodeling

- Timeline: Construction starts on July 15, 2026.
- Completion: Scheduled for completion by early August 2026.

Golden Bear Tank Removal Project

- Scope: Removal of five (5) Golden Bear tanks, each with an 8,200-gallon capacity.
- Logistics: Vendor *Flint and Doyle* will transport the tanks to a scrap metal dealer.

Winkler Heliport Project

- Logistics: *Allied Crane* is scheduled to transport and deliver the fuel tank to the site.
- Contractors: Installation is being handled by *Accra Electric* and *Fuel Tech* (matching the Woodstock site configuration).
- Timeline: Target completion is end of September 2026.

- Cost: Total project cost is $60,000.

SIT Building Updates

- Doors: Currently gathering vendor quotes for new roll-up doors.
- Infrastructure: Developing a formal spending plan for the ceiling replacement, updated lighting, and a new climate control system for the building's renovated section.

AST DEPARTMENT REPORT: Research Director Dr. James Dunford not present. Executive Director Aaron Lloyd provided the update.

Dr. Dunford is out of the office serving as a Fulbright Scholar in Costa Rica.

- Assisting with the establishment of mosquito control surveillance programs.
- Supporting local efforts regarding *Culicoides* (biting midges).
- Addressing the vector for Oropouche fever, which is currently a major local health concern.
- of seven (7) active aircraft.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Executive Director Aaron Lloyd updated the Board.

Aircraft update:

- Inventory: The District's helicopter fleet has reached its full capacity of seven (7) active aircraft.
- New Aircraft: The newly acquired seventh helicopter is delivered and currently in initial service.
- Operational Outlook: The aircraft will transition into unrestricted, full-scale operations immediately upon completion of the 30-hour safety checks.
- Ready Fleet: Four (4) airplanes are fully prepared and available for deployment as operational needs dictate.
- King Air Acquisitions: The fleet expansion includes two (2) newly acquired King Air aircraft.
    - Aircraft 1: Currently stationed on-site at the District.
    - Aircraft 2: Currently located at the AVCON facility in Kansas.
- Engineering & Modifications: Following the affirmative board vote passed earlier in the session, the returning King Air will be structurally retrofitted to have its specialized insecticide tank engineered and permanently mounted directly in place on the airframe.

NTSB Report:

- Status: The official NTSB report regarding the runway aircraft incident from two years ago has been received and formally closed.
- Core Findings: The federal investigation concluded with "no findings" and did not establish a definitive root cause for the accident.

FMBMC ILA update:

Interlocal Agreement Negotiations

- Status: Commissioner Johnson indicated that the Fort Myers Beach Control Board is now interested in signing the interlocal agreement following their recent meeting.
- Rate Request: Fort Myers Beach requested a reduction in the $80,000 fee specified in the original draft agreement.
- Financial Review: Staff reviewed the upcoming 2025 operational numbers to evaluate the request.
- Feasibility: Under their current budget structure, Fort Myers Beach cannot afford the true cost of the service.

Legislative update:

- Presenters: Summary provided by Jenifer McBride, detailing recent legislative advocacy and meetings conducted in Tallahassee.

- Fiscal Responsibility: Senator Martin commended the District's lean budget management and strong commitment to taxpayer fiscal responsibility.
- Legislative Session: District leadership held an extended 90-minute meeting with Senator Martin on June 12th.
- Objective: Discussed the long-term downstream impacts that these potential property tax changes would have on the District's funding and service capabilities.

National Mosquito Control Awareness Week:

- Public Outreach Campaign: Staff (Jen) presented updates on successful promotional initiatives launched during National Mosquito Control Awareness Week.
- "Tip and Toss" Challenge:

  - Initiated a digital campaign conceptually designed by Jamie Fowler to educate residents on standing water mitigation.

  - Collaborated with the Executive Director to produce and record an educational instructional video demonstrating proper "tip and toss" techniques.
- "Pass the Repellent" Social Media Relay:

  -Launched a highly successful statewide social media challenge called "Pass the Repellent" to build engagement across Florida mosquito control agencies.

  -Relay Trajectory: The challenge was passed from Lee County to Pasco County, down to the Florida Keys, and is currently active with agencies in Miami.

Miscellaneous:

FASD conference:

- Event Details: District leadership attended the annual FASD conference during the first week of June.
- Operational Value: The conference serves as a critical professional venue for special district managers and executives to stay updated on regulatory updates and industry changes within a fast-paced operational environment.

December Award Ceremony:

- Historical Conflict: The annual employee award ceremony is traditionally held on the same day as the December board meeting, directly preceding the Christmas break.
- Scheduling Challenges: Staff consistently request absences from the ceremony due to family commitments
- Commissioners said that they were fully on board with the proposed scheduling change for the upcoming December 18th event.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

10470_LCHCD

Commissioner Burke presented the LCHCD Treasurer's report for May 2026. Commissioner Burke moved to approve the Hyacinth Control District Financials, 10470_LCHCD. Commissioner Brantley seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously; motion passed.

10471_LCMCD

Commissioner Burke presented the LCMCD Treasurer's report for May 2026. Commissioner Burke moved to approve the Mosquito Control District financials, 10471_LCMCD. Commissioner Ellis seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously; motion passed.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

None

There being no further business, Commissioner Hart made a motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 11:21 a.m.

Commissioner Thomas Hart, Chairman

Term: November 2022 – November 2026

Commissioner William Burke,

Secretary/Treasurer Term: November 2024 – November 2028