Commissioner Farrar called to order the regularly scheduled meeting of the Lee County Mosquito/Hyacinth Control Districts (LCMHCD) on 08/20/2026 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

Seat 3- Commissioner Mike Ellis

Seat 4- Commissioner Steve Bowen

Seat 5- Commissioner William Burke

Seat 6- Commissioner Thomas B. Hart, Chairman, not present

Seat 7- Commissioner Bruce Scott, not present

Legal Counsel – John Agnew

STAFF:

Executive Director – Aaron Lloyd

Deputy Director, LCHCD – Kevin Watts

Operations Manager, LCHCD – Jason Cull

Research Director – Dr. James Dunford

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:

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

The following citizens addressed the Board: None

MINUTES APPROVAL:

Commissioner Farrar requested a motion for item 10479_Board meeting minutes 07/23/2026. Commissioner Brantley moved to approve the 07/23/2026 minutes. Commissioner Bowen 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 provided an update:

https://www.floridahealth.gov/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/fl-arbovirus-report-w33-2026.pdf

CONSENT AGENDA:

10480_Surplus

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

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

10481_ 2027 Board Meeting Calendar – Request the Board approval for FY 2026-2027 and CY 2027 Board Meeting Dates.

Commissioner Farrar requested a motion to accept the 10481_2027 Board Meeting Calendar dates. Commissioner Ellis moved to accept 10481. Commissioner Bowen seconded the motion. The Board accepted unanimously; motion passed.

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

Kevin Watts provided an operations update, noting continued collaboration with the City of Cape Coral and Lee County Public Works regarding water levels, aquatic plant management, harvesting projects, grass carp barriers, boat ramps, and the sharing of technical information. He also highlighted continued professional outreach and recognition of the District's aquatic management program, including a recent presentation by staff and a visit from the Citrus County Aquatic Services Director to review the District's practices and technologies. Kevin reported that the District remains in good operational standing despite lower water levels and unusual summer conditions.

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

Ed Foley provided an operations update, noting that rainfall during the reporting period was primarily inland, with most larviciding efforts focused in the North Fort Myers area east of I-75. The District conducted six aerial adulticide missions and deployed aircraft and ground crews to mosquito hot spots throughout North Fort Myers, Cape Coral, Buckingham, Estero, and Iona. Approximately 700 service requests were received during the month, with 338 occurring during the past week, resulting in increased adulticiding efforts.

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

Sean O'Neill provided a facilities update, noting that the District is awaiting a final proposal from Ring Power for the generator replacement, with the goal of bringing the project forward for Board consideration and approval in September. He also provided updates on the Golden Bear tank removal project, the solicitation of bids for a new pole barn at the Winkler heliport and planned electrical gate upgrades at the Harbor Drive and Winkler heliports.

AST DEPARTMENT REPORT: Research Director Dr. James Dunford updated the Board.

Dr. James Dunford provided an update on the AST Department, noting that a candidate has accepted the position of Mosquito Identification Supervisor and is expected to begin by early October. He also highlighted the national recognition of the District's LiDAR research program, which received coverage through a press release distributed to more than 700 news outlets nationwide, as well as continued public outreach efforts through Facebook Live events showcasing the Sterile Insect Technique (SIT) program

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

Legislative update:

Aaron Lloyd provided a legislative update regarding Amendment 3 and noted that the issue is expected to remain a continuing

matter regardless of the outcome of the November election. He also reported that the Florida Association of Special Districts (FASD) has officially joined the Vote No on Amendment 3 campaign and designated 25% of its reserve funds to support the campaign.

FMBMCD ILA:

Aaron Lloyd provided an update on the proposed Interlocal Agreement with the Fort Myers Beach Mosquito Control District, noting that the agreement had been reviewed by their Board and that several revisions were requested. The primary areas discussed included the recitals, prorating that contract payment for the remainder of the current season, and the inclusion of the Tidewater neighborhood within the agreement; Aaron indicated that further discussion and revisions were needed. Aaron proposed working with legal counsel to prepare a revised agreement for resubmission and noted that the updated agreement would require renewed approval from FDACS.

Aircraft update:

Aaron Lloyd provided an aircraft update, reporting that all District aircraft are currently in service. He also reported that the aircraft N597VF purchased last year, following installation of its treatment system, successfully completed its first mission.

PI Center update:

Sean O'Neill provided an update on the Pine Island Center following the District's inspection with the South Florida Water Management District. One finding regarding the existing weir was resolved after documentation confirmed that the structure was properly permitted in 1986; the remaining finding involves a drainage facility on the north end of the property, which staff will inspect and evaluate for necessary repairs. The District will obtain additional information and vendor estimates before coordinating with legal counsel regarding the next steps.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

10482_LCHCD

Commissioner Burke presented the LCHCD Treasurer's report for July 2026. Commissioner Burke moved to approve the Hyacinth Control District Financials, 10482_LCHCD. Commissioner Ellis seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously; motion passed.

10483_LCMCD

Commissioner Burke presented the LCMCD Treasurer's report for July 2026. Commissioner Burke moved to approve the Mosquito Control District financials, 10483_LCMCD. Commissioner Bowen seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously; motion passed.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

None

There being no further business, Commissioner Farrar made a motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 10:31 a.m.

Commissioner Thomas Hart, Chairman

Term: November 2022 – November 2026

Commissioner William Burke, Secretary/Treasurer

Term: November 2024 – November 2028