

Commissioner Farrar called to order the regularly scheduled meeting of the Lee County Mosquito/Hyacinth Control Districts (LCMHCD) on 10/27/2022 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, Secretary/Treasurer

Seat 2- Commissioner Brian Farrar, Chairman

Seat 3- Commissioner Mike Ellis, not present

Seat 4- Commissioner Steve Bowen

Seat 5- Commissioner William Burke, Vice Chairman

Seat 6- Commissioner Thomas B. Hart

Seat 7- Commissioner Bruce Scott, not present

Legal Counsel- John Agnew

STAFF:

Executive Director- Dr. David Hoel

Assistant Director- Aaron Lloyd

Deputy Director, Public Information and Education- Eric Jackson

Deputy Director, Lee County Hyacinth Control District- Kevin Watts

Chief Financial Officer- Sean O'Neill

Human Resources Director- Jackie Small

IT Director- Keith Lowe

Senior Program Analyst- Thais Pineda Alfonso

Purchasing Manager- Chris Gates

Executive Administrative Assistant- Sabina Vilarchao

VISITORS:

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

The following citizens addressed the Board:

None

MINUTES APPROVAL:

Commissioner Farrar requested board approval for the 09/22/2022 LCMHCD 10149 Board meeting minutes.

Commissioner Bowen moved to approve the 09/22/2022 minutes. Commissioner Burke seconded the motion to approve the minutes as presented. The Board unanimously approved, motion passed.

Commissioner Farrar requested board approval for the 09/22/2022 LCHCD 10150 Public Hearing meeting minutes. Commissioner Hart moved to approve the 09/22/2022 minutes. Commissioner Bowen seconded the motion to approve the minutes as presented. The Board unanimously approved, motion passed.

Commissioner Farrar requested board approval for the 09/22/2022 LCMCD 10151 Public Hearing meeting minutes. Commissioner Hart moved to approve the 09/22/2022 minutes. Commissioner Burke seconded the motion to approve the minutes as presented. The Board unanimously approved, motion passed.

LEE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT REPORT: Arielle Ghanem, Department of Health Biological Administrator, Department of Communicable Diseases Director, provided an update:

https://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/mosquito-borne-diseases_documents/2022-week43-arbovirus-surveillance-report.pdf

CONSENT AGENDA:

10152_ Surplus

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

OLD BUSINESS:

10153_ LCHCD 457(b) AIG adoption agreement

10154_ LCHCD 401a AIG adoption agreement

10155_ LCMCD 457(b) AIG adoption agreement

10156_ LCMCD 401a AIG adoption agreement

Executive Director, Dr. Hoel, updated the board on both 457(b) and 401a adoption agreement. These agreements for 457(b) and 401a require a second approval from the board because the districts are switching from Equitable to Core Bridge Financial formally known as AIG. There is a change in the 401a plan compared to the one presented in April related to the personnel policy changes for paid time off.

Commissioner Farrar requested a motion to approve AIG adoption agreement for LCHCD 10153. This transition will occur on November 8th, 2022. Commissioner Brantley made a motion. Commissioner Bowen seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved, motion passed.

Commissioner Farrar requested a motion to approve AIG adoption agreement for LCHCD 10154. This transition will occur on November 8th, 2022. Commissioner Bowen made a motion. Commissioner Burke seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved, motion passed.

Commissioner Farrar requested a motion to approve AIG adoption agreement for LCMCD 10155. This transition will occur on November 8th, 2022. Commissioner Hart made a motion. Commissioner Brantley seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved, motion passed.

Commissioner Farrar requested a motion to approve AIG adoption agreement for LCMCD 10156. This transition will occur on November 8th, 2022. Commissioner Hart made a motion. Commissioner Bowen seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved, motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS: Purchasing Manager, Chris Gates presented the proposed chemical bids for both LCMCD/LCHCD. We are seeking approval from the board to spend 3.5 million dollars on an as needed basis for the calendar year January 1st through December 31st 2023 for LCMCD. Also, we are seeking approval from the board to spend \$200k as needed for

the calendar year January 1st through December 31st 2023 for LCHCD. Furthermore, we are seeking approval on fuel for both districts to switch from our current supplier to Petroleum Traders.

10157_ Chemical and Fuel bids summary

10158_ Security service contract

Commissioner Brantley asked "Chris, did any of these increases catch you off guard or is it in line with what's expected?" Chris responded "This year is a little higher than normal because of shipping, and wages going up." Commissioner Brantley commented "you did say it's on budget?" Chris responded, "Yes we are within our expected budget."

Commissioner Farrar requested a motion to approve the 10157 Chemical bid for LCMCD. Commissioner Brantley made the motion. Commissioner Bowen seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved, motion passed.

Commissioner Farrar asked "Kevin, on your budget do you have any room left?" Kevin responded, "Yes we do and we also have chemical in inventory that will be available for use".

Commissioner Brantley asked "Chris, I'm just curious, I see 5 potential chemical suppliers, are they the same 5 every year?" Chris responded, "Yes, pretty much the same 5 every year."

Commissioner Farrar requested a motion to approve the 10157 Chemical bid for LCHCD. Commissioner Bowen made the motion. Commissioner Hart seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved, motion passed.

Commissioner Farrar asked "Chris, considering what's going on in the fuel market, do you feel that's safe?" Chris responded, "Yes because this is what they charge for your delivery fee plus the packets."

Commissioner Burke asked "Chris, so basically what is Colonial Oil and Petroleum?" Chris responded, "Colonial Oil and Petroleum Traders deliver the fuel and charge a certain amount per gallon, and it's based on the rack average of Tampa that day."

Commissioner Farrar requested a motion to approve the 10157 Mid-Grade and Diesel fuel as needed over the term of the agreement January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 for both LCMCD/LCHCD. Commissioner Burke made the motion. Commissioner Bowen seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved, motion passed.

Purchasing Manager, Chris Gates presented the security service proposed bids for both LCMCD/LCHCD. We are seeking approval from the board to renew our contract with Weiser Security Services, Inc., as they have kept their same rate for 3 years. The contract is for (1) year from November 1st 2022 to October 31st 2023.

Commissioner Farrar requested a motion to approve the 10158 Security service contract from Weiser. Commissioner Brantley made the motion. Commissioner Hart seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved, motion passed.

10159_ LCMCD budget amendment

10160_ LCHCD budget amendment

Sean O'Neill remarked that the budget amendments for both districts is the standard adjustment to "true up" the budget in preparation for the auditors. There were no increases in either districts' budget with no change in the reserves.

Commissioner Hart asked "I see the increases, which accounts got decreased?" Sean responded, "For LCMCD, we decreased the operating expenses \$250,000 and decreased chemicals \$215,000."

Commissioner Farrar requested a motion to approve the 10159 LCMCD budget amendment. Commissioner Hart made the motion. Commissioner Brantley seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved, motion passed.

Commissioner Farrar requested a motion to approve the 10160 LCHCD budget amendment. Commissioner Burke made the motion. Commissioner Bowen seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved, motion passed.

OPERATIONS & FACILITIES REPORT: Assistant Director, Aaron Lloyd, updated the Board.

Facilities report – All employees are safe but we had 6-7 employees that received major damage to their homes and the district is assisting them where possible. The district damage post Hurricane Ian included the loss of one shade hanger completely and partial damage to the remaining three shade hangers. We are looking into building different structures instead of using the same shade hangers. There is some roof damage on 4 different buildings onsite. The 4 apartments will need to be renovated due to water damage. Two heliports received major damage, Winkler and Bowman's. The Woodstock heliport also received major damage, however, we're still able to operate out of this location because the tanker survived the storm.

Commissioner Hart asked "Can you discuss a little what we have done to address mosquito control since the hurricane?" Aaron responded, "Yes, I'll go ahead and get into the operational report."

Operations report – We were able to quickly get back online with operations, just days after Hurricane Ian. The first (3) to (5) days we were heavily assisting Emergency Operations Center (EOC). There were mosquitoes that populated, and we were able to retrieve the numbers from our landing rates report throughout the county within 3 to 4 days. On October 4th we started our mosquito surveillance program. By October 10th our larviciding program was up and running in full, and we had our arbovirus program running as well. In the beginning we were concentrating on adult mosquitoes, and what was biting the public hopefully preventing any kind of disease threat that may have been out there. Since the storm we collected 160,000 mosquitoes in our trapping surveillance program. Just for comparison, October 2021 we collected 33,000 mosquitoes total. The majority of those mosquitoes was from October 1st to October 12th 2022. Since the hurricane, we have adulticided by air 22 times covering ~450,000 acres and by ground 190 times covering ~160,000 acres which is essentially the entire county and more.

Commissioner Hart asked "Did we put the helicopters in the sheriff's gun range?" Aaron responded, "Yes, the helicopters were inside the sheriff's gun range, 4 of our airplanes were inside the aircraft hangar, and one was in the quad. None of our aircraft suffered any damage."

Commissioner Bowen asked "The apartments that sustained water damage I'm assuming we removed any and all water damage materials?" Aaron responded, "Yes, we quickly had the roof temporarily repaired, removed the bedding, and the drywall."

Commissioner Farrar commented "I had a few questions related to insurance coverage as Sean and I were discussing the topic. I'm sure you're working through the issue looking at timing for reacquisition of some of these vehicles, and other items. I suspect it will take some time to catch up on some of these replacements". Aaron responded, "Yes, Chris Gates has already found vehicle replacements and has since ordered them. We are waiting on delivery."

Commissioner Bowen asked "Is the *Culex* mosquito widespread over the entire county?" Aaron responded, "Absolutely it's all over the county, in fact, we're seeing numbers we've never seen before."

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Executive Director, Dr. Hoel, updated the Board.

Aircraft update- None of the aircraft were damaged during the storm. One of our DC3s has a small fuel leak. It should be fixed within 2 weeks. Both our King Air 200s are due for their heavy Biennial Inspection. Also our C90 is due for its Biennial Inspection. Our helicopter H764 is due for its 800 hour inspection. This is the first one, and it needs an HMU replacement, which will take a couple of weeks.

St. Tammany Parish (Louisiana) offer of help- They reached out to the district a few days after the storm, and offered 3 pallets of food. They were willing to fly to the district to help feed our people. They were watching the national news seeing the devastation on the coast and Fort Myers Beach; they thought we were under the same circumstances. Also, wanted to announce one of the units that's preparing food for the emergency services on the South Runway, offered to feed us breakfast and lunch. We will soon withdraw from receiving these meals.

LCMCD worked with our attorney in conjunction with a request from the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to develop an interlocal agreement with Fort Myers Beach Mosquito Control. We are waiting for one of their commissioners to sign and return this document, if they decide to move forward on this.

LCMCD support to the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) by Eric Jackson- Immediately following the storm, LCMCD/LCHCD came in and assessed the situation. The disaster response units began arriving in coordination with the State EOC and Lee County EOC. Garner Environmental Services came in and were taking the lead on some of the disaster response. Within the first 2 days we started supporting the EOC with disaster assessment flights. We were able to get a number of Federal, State and County officials up in the air to assess damage throughout the county. To date, we've conducted 46 flights in support of the EOC. We flew Senator Rick Scott, the Lieutenant Governor of Florida, the Commissioner of Education, and the Superintendent of Schools. We also did a lot of flights with FEMA. FEMA also provided us truck full of jet fuel which we used along with the sheriff's office to support these flights.

A company called Inzecto makes home mosquito traps. They contacted Dr. Hoel and offered to provide 30,000 home mosquito traps, free of charge to the residents of Lee County. We are the first district in Florida to help with the distribution of these traps. We are also working with our local fire districts to assist with the distribution.

Commissioner Hart asked "Regarding the traps, we're killing mosquitoes or is that for analysis?" "I mean 30,000 would be a lot for these type of traps." Eric responded, "It's really a home trap for those urban container breeders. It's not going to control the *Psorophora* mosquitoes that are out there."

Commissioner Brantley asked "Regarding Fort Myers Beach, since they have to basically rebuild, would it make sense for us to explore taking on their area and consolidate?" Dr. Hoel responded, "I mentioned that to their director, he's unsure however, and would prefer to remain independent." Commissioner Farrar commented "Yes, I suspect with the change of commercial and residential businesses in Fort Myers Beach, their tax base is going to change. So they may have some financial constraints as well over time, so we'll have to see how that looks."

Commissioner Farrar asked "You mentioned a lot of the State, Federal and local folks we've given rides to. Are we documenting all these flights, and tracking all the hours?" Eric responded, "Yes, we are through Sean O'Neill and his department, so we're actually keeping track of the hours that are spent on this disaster response. Not just from what we're doing with the EOC, but anything that's around this district related to the storm."

Commissioner Farrar commented "I think it's important you have built a very good Public Relations program here relative to the education. It's also important for the public to understand this kind of work we do as well."

Commissioner Burke asked "Any other assistance from FEMA regarding this?" Eric responded, "I think a lot of the recovered expenses will be through our documentation, and what we file with FEMA. All will be handled through our finance department."

Utah Mosquito Abatement Association meeting by Dr. Hoel- Aaron and I just returned from the Utah Mosquito Abatement Association Meeting. We were invited to give presentations. My presentation was an overview of Lee County Mosquito Control operations and our expansions over the last few years. Aaron Lloyd gave a presentation on the UAS department and the LiDAR unit. Meeting attendees were very impressed with the information that we presented but Aaron and I learned a great deal on how Midwest mosquito abatement districts operate and have some ideas to implement into our district to fine tune efficiency. There were 2 representatives from Idaho Mosquito Control Association who were very interested in Aaron's presentation. They invited him to come visit this December with an offer to fund or partially fund his travel for the training event. In addition, we met with Dr. Ary Faraji, Director of Salt Lake City Mosquito Control. He was the former President for American Mosquito Control Association and he gave us a tour of his new facility and the district's methodologies in mosquito control.

FISCAL REVIEW;

10161_ LCMCD

10162_ LCHCD

Commissioner Brantley presented the LCMCD Treasurer's report for September 2022. Commissioner Brantley moved to approve the Mosquito Control District financials, 10161 LCMCD. Commissioner Bowen seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously, motion passed.

Commissioner Brantley presented the LCHCD Treasurer's report for September 2022. Commissioner Brantley moved to approve the Hyacinth Control District financials, 10162 LCHCD. Commissioner Burke seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously, motion passed.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Commissioner Burke commented "I've got a lot of confidence in our districts and love that we're working with EOC. Plus using every square inch of our facilities to help clean up the disaster.

Commissioner Brantley commented "Yes, I agree the teams here are doing a great job. I would like to echo commissioner's comments about taking credit for all that mosquito control has done documenting it, so that the taxpayers understand that we really do carry a lot weight in times of need."

Commissioner Bowen commented "Everyone affiliated with the administration and employees of mosquito control did a yeoman's job. In regards to the habitat having been changed dramatically, how do we go about trying to determine the new location?" Aaron Lloyd, Assistant Director, explained it's basically learning their areas all over again. I think it'll take time which will be the Field Inspectors focus during the winter season.

Commissioner Farrar commented "I'm very proud of this team and it has done a wonderful job working with the EOC. Plus using every square inch of our facilities to help clean up the disaster."

Legal Counsel, John Agnew, to clarify that the proposed agreement with Fort Myers Beach Mosquito Control District will require the Boards' approval first, before moving forward.

No further business, Commissioner Farrar made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Bowen seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 11:16 a.m.



Commissioner William Burke, Vice Chairman

Term: December 2020 – November 2024



Commissioner Ed Brantley, Secretary/Treasurer

Term: November 2020 – November 2024