

Commissioner Burke called to order the regularly scheduled meeting of the Lee County Mosquito/Hyacinth Control Districts (LCMHCD) on 8/24/2023 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
Seat 3- Commissioner Mike Ellis
Seat 4- Commissioner Steve Bowen, Secretary/Treasurer
Seat 5- Commissioner William Burke, Chairman
Seat 6- Commissioner Thomas B. Hart, Vice Chairman
Seat 7- Commissioner Bruce Scott
Legal Counsel- John Agnew

STAFF:

Executive Director- Dr. David Hoel, not present
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
Community Engagement Coordinator- Jamie Fowler
Executive Administrative Assistant - Sabina Vilarchao

VISITORS:

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

The following citizens addressed the Board: None

MINUTES APPROVAL:

Commissioner Burke requested a motion for approval of the 07/27/2023 LCMHCD 10223 Board meeting minutes. Commissioner Farrar moved to approve the 07/27/2023 minutes. Commissioner Ellis seconded the motion to approve the minutes as presented. The Board unanimously approved, motion passed.

LEE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT REPORT: Cheryl Adams, Biological Administrator of Communicable Diseases provided an update:

https://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/mosquito-borne-diseases/_documents/2023-week34-arbovirus-surveillance-report.pdf

Commissioner Burke asked “Has there been any other cases of malaria?” Cheryl responded, “None at this time.”

CONSENT AGENDA:

10224_Surplus

Commissioner Burke requested a motion for approval of the 10224 consent agenda item. Commissioner Brantley moved to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Scott seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved, motion passed.

10225_Release of Easement

Commissioner Burke requested a motion to Table 10225 to ensure proper language is utilized in document. Commissioner Farrar moved to table 10225. Commissioner Hart seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved, motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

10226_Health Coverage rates – LCMHCD is seeking approval to change the percent allocation of Health Insurance paid by the Districts and the employees. In an effort to enhance employee recruitment and retention, management has reviewed reallocating the percentage of health insurance paid by the Districts and the employees. This would provide an additional benefit to employees of both Districts in the new fiscal year and would aid in employee retention.

Current plan: 80% Districts - 20% Employee

Option 1: 85% Districts - 15% Employee

Option 2: 90% Districts - 10% Employee

Option 3: 95% Districts - 5% Employee

Commissioner Burke requested a motion for approval on the 10226. Commissioner Brantley moved to approve Option 1, towards LCMHCD health insurance premium. Commissioner Hart seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved, motion passed.

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

Operations report – This month has been very similar to last month. The mosquito populations have been steady throughout Lee County. LCMCD has been able to treat most of them by larviciding alone. Therefore, we didn’t have any aerial adulticiding missions this month. It’s been a unique year; we are drier than normal.

Commissioner Burke asked “Can you elaborate how the new product, ReMoa Tri, works as mentioned in the internal newsletter?” Aaron responded, “ReMoa Tri is a new adulticide that just arrived onto the market and it contains 3 active ingredients. It has been an effective adulticide in our internal tests. LCMCD has been testing it on all of our mosquitoes, including the resistant ones.”

Facilities report– Facilities is steadily working on our Heliports trying to complete the permanent repairs. We had a crane come in and move all our large tanks out of the way. Also, we removed the existing pad to create a new one that will work

better. In addition, LCMCD is removing the old 'H' on the helipads and preparing to repaint them. This will allow LCMCD to be within standards for EMS to land as well."

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

Balmoral/OPPAGA review – "The Balmoral Group recently conducted a special district audit for all special districts in Florida. LCMCD received the audit report and overall had a lot of positive feedback."

Commissioner Hart asked "Does the draft report discuss our reserves, and whether they're within the guidelines or not?" Aaron responded, "The report didn't mention that the reserves were inappropriate. LCMCD is financially in compliance along with all operations."

Pilots – "We currently have 4 full-time pilots, and just recently hired 2 more specializing in helicopters, which is 75% of our operations. One of the pilots has Airbus experience, plenty of flight hours, and is ready to fly on his own. The other pilot accepted the job offer and will be on board soon."

Local Economic indicators – FGC report this quarter key highlights see below:

- Unemployment rate dropped .1% from May to June
- The single-family building permits are down 21%
- Single family home sales are down 10%
- Single family home prices are down 4%

Pine Island Center heliport – LCMCD has asked the realtor to sell the heliport as one parcel. The property will be listed for \$1.9 million once the listing contract is signed.

CROW and LCMCD "Give to Tomorrow" – Clarke Mosquito Control Products (Clarke) is a mosquito control product vendor. They have a program called "Give to Tomorrow" and their objective is to be more environmentally friendly. One of the things they do is offer grants for environmental agencies that are protecting animals and the environment. LCMCD nominated The Clinic for Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW) as a potential recipient for this grant. CROW was selected and given a \$15,000.00 donation from Clarke.

Congressman Greg Steube's visit – LCMCD had a visit from U.S. Congressman Greg Steube and his family. He's interested in returning soon, and going on one of our ULV flight missions to see how operations are done. Overall it was a great visit for LCMCD.

FISCAL REVIEW:

10227_LCMCD

10228_LCHCD

Commissioner Bowen presented the LCMCD Treasurer's report for July 2023. Commissioner Bowen moved to approve the Mosquito Control District financials, 10227_LCMCD. Commissioner Brantley seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously, motion passed.

Commissioner Bowen presented the LCHCD Treasurer's report for July 2023. Commissioner Bowen moved to approve the Hyacinth Control District financials, 10228_LCHCD. Commissioner Brantley seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously, motion passed.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Commissioner Farrar commented "I want to thank the entire team for a great workshop this morning."

Commissioner Ellis commented "I'd like to second that, everyone did a great job, and it was very understandable. Also, congratulations on working with Balmoral. Lastly, I'm delighted about LCMCD's relationship with CROW, it says a lot about our organization and our ability to get along with the community."

Commissioner Bowen commented "Great job on the workshop this morning."

Commissioner Brantley commented "Congratulations on the Balmoral review, that's a significant accomplishment."

Commissioner Hart commented "Great job on the workshop this morning."

Commissioner Burke commented "It was a great presentation and very well organized. I'm impressed we're able to bring on (2) experienced Pilots in a short time. Great job on the workshop this morning."

No further business, Commissioner Burke requested for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Farrar made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Ellis seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 10:29 a.m.



Commissioner William Burke, Chairman

Term: November 2020 – November 2024



Commissioner Stephen Bowen, Secretary/Treasurer

Term: November 2022 – November 2026