

Commissioner Burke called to order the regularly scheduled meeting of the Lee County Mosquito/Hyacinth Control Districts (LCMHCD) on 3/23/2023 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, not present
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, not present
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
Senior Program Analyst- Thais Pineda Alfonso
Network Support Technician- Joel Canova
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 03/23/2023 LCMHCD 10186 Board meeting minutes. Commissioner Ellis moved to approve the 03/23/2023 minutes. Commissioner Farrar seconded the motion to approve the minutes as presented. The Board unanimously approved, motion passed.

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

https://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/mosquito-borne-diseases/_documents/2023-week12-arbovirus-surveillance-report.pdf

Moving forward Cheryl Adams, Biological Administrator, will be providing the updates for the Health Department.

Commissioner Burke asked “On the front page of the New Press illustrated a new mosquito called, *Culex lactator*, mentioned it could possibly transmit a disease, do you have any input?” Arielle responded “I haven’t received any communication from the State office regarding that. At this point they don’t know if it has the potential to transmit disease. However, if we hear anything we’ll be sure to communicate it.”

Aaron Lloyd commented “So as far as mosquito control is concerned, this mosquito its a *Culex*, and it will not change any operations on our end. If it does transmit a disease, we already have *Culex* species here that transmit the same disease.”

CONSENT AGENDA:

10187_ Surplus

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

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

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

Operations report– Obviously it’s the downtime right now for mosquito control. However, we still have a little bit of a tide recently that produced salt marsh mosquitoes. So, we have been doing treatments. Also, with the ULV missions we’ve sent out for trucks sporadically, just as needed when the trap counts go past the threshold. We have been dealing with a little bit of imported dengue still. As discussed in the past, we do what we call disease sweeps. The Health Department will notify us immediately. Thus far we’ve done 3 of those in the last month.

Facilities report– The inspectors along with remaining staff members has been preparing for the open house this Saturday. We’ve also been working really hard, trying to get 3 hurricane-damaged heliports to operation temporarily. They’re not going to have a full setup like what we had originally. However, we have office trailers that have been delivered. We’re still without power, but we have generators in each Heliport. Our facilities maintenance manager is trying to get water plumbed to the areas, so we can fill our mixed tanks. But, all of our tanks, water and electric seem to be the limiting factor right now. We’re working through that with temporary setups. We intend to have Bowman’s, Woodstock, and Winkler operational enough to work out of them, and we’ll be using onsite tankers at the heliports. Beyond that, Sean and his team have been working really hard with architects for the Miller Building, trying to finalize the drawings for it. We had to make some minor changes on how we’re going to install the chillers that cool this building, and also cover the Miller Building.

Commissioner Bowen asked “Regarding the electrical issues at the heliports, is it power company related or is there infrastructure that we will have to get electrician to satisfy before we can get the power reconnected?” Aaron responded “It’s a little bit of both. At Bowman’s we have ACRA Electric helping the district navigate the process. They are working with LCEC trying to run the power from a power pole at the road. We have electric onsite at Woodstock and Winkler. We’re awaiting ACRA Electric to finish the job at Bowman’s to help us navigate those processes.

Commissioner Bowen asked “Is that FPL or are they all LCEC? Aaron responded “Not sure about that, I know LCEC is Bowman’s, and not 100% sure on the other (3) heliports.

Commissioner Bowen asked “Regarding the Miller Building architectural plans, even if there still preliminary, can you send the Commissioners .pdf plans so we can see what the architecture is indicating?” Aaron responded “Sure, not a problem.”

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

Aircraft update– The King Air N762MC inspection is completed, just requires a flight test. Also, King Air N484MC will be down for its biennial inspection in about week. The Douglas N146RD is in for inspection now. Lastly, all helicopters are up, except N866MC will go down next week for its 12-month inspection.

Balmoral Zoom meeting recap– A Zoom meeting was held with Balmoral group on Monday March 6th. They will be visiting LCMCD on the 21st of March. Interviews will be held the first hour of the visit with a tour of our facilities to follow. The 96 questionnaire form has been completed and placed into Smart Sheets.

Balmoral visit update– On March 21st, Ms. Valerie Seidel and her assistant visited LCMCD to review our program with myself, Sean O'Neill, Aaron Lloyd, Jackie Small, and Eric Jackson. We provided an overview of operations at the district and answered many questions. In addition, we flew them out to view 3 of our heliports so that they could better understand the size of our coastal operations and to illustrate the damage done to our heliports, neighborhoods, and coastal areas. The preliminary findings will be sent in early April.

Draft Strategic Plan written– The draft Strategic Plan is completed and has been placed into Smart Sheets per OPPAGA requirements. This plan also lists recent goals completed and goals by department over the next 5 years. The plan will be placed under New Business for a vote in April board meeting.

Annual AMCA meeting (Ian Sharp video)– 12 LCMHCD personnel attended the 89th annual AMCA meeting in Reno.

FASD Tallahassee – On Wednesday, March 8th, Commissioner Farrar, myself, and Eric Jackson attended FASD Tallahassee Days. We met with Senate President Passidomo, Representative Jennifer Esposito and Representative Adam Botana discussed the importance of our special district in light of the upcoming OPPAGA review.

Note the recording stopped at 10:17 a.m. due to technical difficulties.

FISCAL REVIEW:

10188_ LCMCD

10189_ LCHCD

Commissioner Bowen presented the LCMCD Treasurer's report for February 2023. Commissioner Bowen moved to approve the Mosquito Control District financials, 10188_ LCMCD. Commissioner Farrar seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously, motion passed.

Commissioner Bowen presented the LCHCD Treasurer's report for February 2023. Commissioner Bowen moved to approve the Hyacinth Control District financials, 10189_ LCHCD. Commissioner Ellis seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously, motion passed.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Note the recording stopped at 10:17 a.m. due to technical difficulties.

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 10:31 a.m.


Commissioner ~~William~~ Burke, Chairman

Thomas Hartt

Term: November ~~2020~~ – November ~~2024~~
2022 2026


Commissioner Stephen Bowen, Secretary/Treasurer

Term: November 2022 – November 2026