

Commissioners of the Lee County Mosquito/Hyacinth Control District (LCMCD/LCHCD) held a regular Board Meeting, January 18, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. in the Auditorium at District headquarters, 15191 Homestead Rd., Lehigh Acres, Florida.

PRESENT: Chairman Ellis, Secretary-Treasurer Ed Brantley, Commissioners Brian F. Farrar, Thomas B. Hart, George T. Mann Jr.

DISTRICT EMPLOYEES: Executive Director Wayne Gale, Dr. David Hoel - Assistant Director, Carmen McKinney - Deputy Director Aviation, Fleet & Facilities, Shelly Redovan - Deputy Director Education & Communication, Kevin Watts - Deputy Director Hyacinth Control

VISITORS: Jamie Saunders, 8566 Redwood Drive, St. James City, FL 33956, Woodstock Landing Strip

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Chairman Ellis asked if there is anyone from the public present wishing to speak. There being none he requested approval by the Board of the minutes from last month's Board meeting. After some discussion to correct the number of acres, sprayed Commissioner Mann made the motion to approve the minutes with the correction. Commissioner Farrar seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved the minutes as revised.

LEE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT REPORT: Jennifer Roth Director of Epidemiology reported that the weekly arbovirus report shows no virus reported in humans, horses or chickens so far in 2018. There are still cases of West Nile Virus lingering in chickens in Volusia County. There have been no imported Yellow fever cases in 2018. Shortage of Yellow fever vaccine is still a problem. The Food & Drug Administration (FDA) is continuing work on obtaining approval of the European vaccine for use in the United States.

PROJECTS UPDATE: Dr. Hoel reported that the chipping of Irma debris here at the District continues it should be wrapping up soon. Original projections were a January departure date but it will not likely be that way. The Sterile Insect Technique (SIT) building planning is moving along and they are working with Accounting to develop cost estimates for the project.

Carmen McKinney reported that both the King Airs are here now and there should be one up and running shortly. The A-Stars will be arriving with the first one coming here in March.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Executive Director Gale reported that he attended the Florida Association of Special Districts meeting (FASD) in Tallahassee with our lobbyist from Louis, Longman & Walker. The one thing that may potentially affect the District is a new commission that they have put together to revise the Cyclic Redundancy Code. (Director is this the correct wording for the acronym (CRC) (CRC) Proposal #69 that would basically sunset all the districts or entities that have ad valorem taxing authority. Unless they have gone before the voters to justify their mission and existence. The issue is very similar to what happened to our District eight years ago. The voters will vote but if the District gets abolished the need for our mission does not disappear. This would give voters the opportunity to decrease taxes so it is impossible to say how they would vote. There are about 100 issues but #69 is the issue regarding ad valorem taxing authority and will not affect anyone until 2029.

We had our week long Annual Fly-In earlier this month with 206 registrants, 5 vendors and very good attendance.

Director Gale reported the following regarding of the lawsuit concerning the Woodstock property:

- The District has filed a motion to dismiss the summary judgment in an attempt to move things along. A copy of which went to Commissioner Hart who has read it.

- In the interim, we have negotiated a six months lease with the rent being \$10,000 per month or \$60,000 for the six-month term. If we are able to settle the suit and purchase the property prior to the six months any money left would then go to the purchase price of the property.

The District has budgeted and transferred to \$2 million into the fund this year. The breakdown of the money will be \$1,250,000 for Mosquito Control and \$750,000 for Hyacinth Control. We would like to go ahead and do that because the market is doing well and we are obtaining very good returns at this time. The lease deal for the helicopters refund has given us the money to accomplish this. Once the existing fleet sales are completed, the funds will go into replenishing our reserves. FEMA claims will be filed showing that this is beyond what we would normally do. The Board found this to be satisfactory.

Director mentioned the dedication of the William Opp Training Facility that was held on the first day of the Fly-In. Mrs. Elaine Opp and their two sons and family were present.

Director Gale reminded the Board that we have Tallahassee Days is coming up on February 6 & 7. Director will not be attending Tallahassee Days. He will be going to Geneva, Switzerland for the American Mosquito Control Association (AMCA) and giving a presentation.

Commissioner Hart asked what the progress on renaming the road into the District to T. Wainwright Miller has been. Director replied that they are attempting to accomplish that but the name may have to be shortened and several examples of the name change were mentioned.

Director Gale advised the board that Director of Communications and Education, Shelly Redovan will be retiring on January 31 and this is her last Board meeting. The Board thanked her with and stated their appreciation for her hard work and dedication over the years. Shelly Redovan will be the Executive Director of the Florida Mosquito Control Association (FMCA) and the headquarters for the association will be here on site.

Financial Reports – Secretary/Treasurer Farrar reviewed the financial reports for Mosquito Control with the Board. Motion was made by Secretary/Treasurer Farrar and seconded by Commissioner Hart to approve the Mosquito Control financial reports as presented. The Board approved unanimously.

Secretary/Treasurer Farrar then presented the Hyacinth Control financial reports for 12/31/17. Secretary/Treasurer Farrar made the motion to approve the financial reports. Commissioner Hart seconded the motion and the Board approved with no dissenting votes.

Chairman Ellis asked if any other business was. Commissioner Hart asked if the Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA) would be reimbursing the District for the use of our facilities as a staging area as well as extra spraying after Hurricane Irma. Director advised that we did go over our spray budget by \$1 million for the year and we will be able to recover some of that. We have filed reports for the spraying, losses due to structure loss, cleanup of vegetation and other matters, and employee overtime. We have filed and met all deadlines and as we are repairing things, we are paying bills and accumulating them for FEMA.

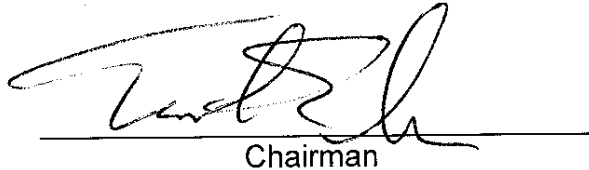
We did use the Training Center for housing emergency groups after Irma. The groups were very grateful for the opportunity to utilize our facilities here and they have expressed appreciation for the same. There is still a Fire Station here on site and it will be here for quite some time until they arrange for their new building funding. The staging area is gone and the debris left from hurricane damage to our buildings will likely be gone by month end.

Director mentioned the Drone Program that is an ongoing work with the FAA. We are exploring the possibility of using drones but the current rules and regulations are very limiting. We currently use some small drones for photographs, which Hyacinth Control is

utilizing to spot areas of weed accumulation over ponds as surveillance. This brings up the matter of what we are going to use to store the photos we are generating. They take up too much space to be stored on computers. Keith Lowe is currently looking at systems for storage and looking into the legal requirements for storage and retention of this material. These are currently some of the roadblocks and with regulations being in their infancy, it will probably be five years down the road before we could utilize Drones efficiently.

Chairman Hart asked if we might be using both old and new aircraft this season. Director Hoel responded that they would get the new aircraft up and running as quickly as possible. We will not sell the old aircraft until the King Airs are up and running. Commissioner Brantley asked for an update on the aircraft transition plan as quickly as possible. Cost wise the new aircraft are cheaper than operating the old ones. He is requesting the Board receive milestone measures so that they can stay informed of where things stand with implementing the new aircraft. Manatee and Anastasia mosquito controls are both interested in purchasing some of our aircraft that are for sale. By mid-March, we should receive the first new aircraft and then one every two weeks thereafter. Commissioner Ellis asked if it would be possible to take a test flight once they arrive.

With no further discussion by the Board, the meeting adjourned at 10:37 A.M.



Chairman