

Commissioners of the Lee County Mosquito/Hyacinth Control District (LCMCD/LCHCD) held a regular Board Meeting, March 9, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. in the Auditorium at District headquarters, 15191 Homestead Rd., Lehigh Acres, Florida.

**PRESENT:** Due to the absence of Chairman Thomas W. Hart, Vice-Chairman Ellis will conduct today's meeting, Secretary-Treasurer, Brian F. Farrar, Commissioners George, T. Mann Jr., Ed Brantley, Bruce C. Scott.

**VISITORS:** None

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

**MINUTES APPROVAL** – Vice-Chairman Ellis, asked if the Board had an opportunity to review the meeting minutes from last month, which they had. Commissioner Mann made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Commissioner Ellis seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved them.

**LEE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT REPORT** – Jennifer Roth, Director of Epidemiology, Lee County Health Department introduced Brianna Powell, Biological Scientist on Staff at the Health Department and her back up. Jennifer will not be here next month and Brianna will be filling in. So far this year has been very quiet for mosquito activity with nothing to report for 2017. There are no counties under a mosquito borne illness advisory. There are possibly three (3) locally acquired cases of Zika in Miami. These cases are actually 2016 cases that have been reported in 2017. The blood work was submitted late in 2016 and the results did not get back until 2017. Flu has been decreasing for two weeks in a row and looks like it may be on the way out. There is nothing else to report at this time.

**HEALTH SPENDING ACCOUNT POLICY CHANGE** – Russ Baker, Chief Financial Officer, presented the Health Savings Account (HSA) policy change to the Board for approval. The change in policy was due to the change in the deductibles in one of the two plans offered by the District to its employees for health care. That plan had a deductible of \$1500 for single employees and a \$3,000 deductible for all other tiers. The Executive Director and the Board determined that the District would make an HSA contribution in the same amount for both policies. The single HSA deduction would be \$2,100 and all other tiers would receive a \$4,200 contribution. The highlighted changes in the policy for your review reflects the change needed for the change in the HSA contributions.

Commissioner Farrar made a motion to approve the changes to the Health Savings Account document as presented. Commissioner Scott seconded the motion. There being no further discussion the Board approved the motion unanimously.

**PROJECT UPDATE** - Carmen McKinney, Deputy Director Aviation, Fleet and Facilities reported that there were two (2) lots on Park Road adjacent to the District that came up for sale during the month. There was an offer made of \$4,000 per lot. The District was successful in making the purchase and will go to closing next Wednesday. This will give us three lots in the same area adjoining the District boundary to which the Buckingham and Lehigh Acres Community Planning Committee have no objections.

- Embry Riddle is working on the King Air; they have successfully moved the tank forward on the aircraft.
- The Woodstock Airport purchase is coming along. There are some issues with property titles involving roads that appear on old title work and they still appear on the old titles. We are working with our attorney to obtain clean copies of the titles. We have asked for a 30-60 day extension to complete this process.
- Paving of the parking area is awaiting the Limited Development Order from the County.
- We are nearing completion of pilot training with approximately another 4 weeks of training remaining.
- Changing the name of Homestead Road is proceeding forward. The next step is to send out a formal letter to property owners to obtain their approval signatures.
- The replacement Radio project is starting with the installation of the base unit. The installation of units in the vehicles and providing portable units to the employees will take place shortly. We will run two channels, one is the District channel, and the other is in tandem with the County. Our ability to communicate with the county agencies will be a big improvement in providing clarity with other agencies as to what we are doing. Kevin Watts advised the Board that they do not need radios because they communicate with

each other via a Blue Tooth phone system. The aircraft units were originally designed to be hard wired into the aircraft, our mechanics have created a system that will work with our panel and allow the radio to be portable instead of hard installed.

- There will be flights scheduled for the Commissioners shortly.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** – Due the absence of Executive Director Gale, Shelley Redovan, Deputy Director, Education and Communication gave the list of groups who will be here in the coming weeks. The two immediate ones are Leadership Lee County on March 10<sup>th</sup> and the Spring Regulatory Tour on March 24<sup>th</sup>. Long term Shelly advised that the District would hold a 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Buckingham Army Air Field open house in conjunction with the Lee County 20/20 Lands Buckingham Army Airfield guided tours of Buckingham Trails Preserve. We will start scheduling planning meetings similar to what we did for our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of the Mosquito/Hyacinth Control District.

Commissioner Mann reported that Director Gale is doing well and receiving wonderful care. He will be returning to work as quickly as possible.

Commissioner Mann gave the following report on the American Mosquito Control Annual Meeting in San Diego. The convention was excellent. He heard that there were reports of 800 cases of Zika in San Diego County. They have a wonderful lab and good equipment to test for all this. The programs presented by various groups were excellent. The Banquet at the end of the convention had a special visitor from Vermont speaking about his daughter who contracted Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE). She was treated for many things and many tests were run with no real results and a day or so after she passed they diagnosed her with EEE. Commissioner Mann reported this to let the other Commissioners know that the conventions are very worthwhile and informative and give commissioners and others the opportunity to hear about diseases and controls from many points of view. Commissioner Farrar asked if they spoke about Yellow Fever. Commissioner Mann stated that the discussion focused on the Yellow Fever Vaccine that is in short supply and rumors have begun about ramping up production of the vaccine. The vaccine is a lifetime one. It is one of the first vaccines that was ever created and was required only for people traveling to endemic areas. Shelly Redovan stated that Milton Sterling, Manager of Scientific Intelligence at LCMCD has already made contact with the Center for Disease Control and they have approved our labs to test for Yellow Fever. All the reagents will be available to Milton and we will back up the State through him for testing. The new equipment that was purchased to test multiple viruses is here, all we need to have are the reagents that are very controlled. Milton does have approval to do that work.

Commissioner Ellis asked of the 800 Zika cases how many were imported. There are 15 million people crossing the border there per year so the cases were predominantly imported ones.

**FISCAL REVIEW** – Secretary-Treasurer Farrar reviewed the financial summary with the Board starting with Mosquito Control. Motion to approve the Mosquito Control report was made by Secretary-Treasurer Farrar, Commissioner Scott seconded the motion and the Board approved unanimously. Commissioner Farrar then presented the Hyacinth Control financial statement. Secretary-Treasurer Farrar made the motion to approve the Hyacinth Control report as presented. Commissioner Scott seconded and the Board approved with no dissenting votes.

There being no further business Vice-Chairman Ellis made the motion to adjourn today's meeting. Secretary-Treasurer Farrar seconded the motion, the Board agreed to adjourn at 10:29 a.m.