

Commissioners of the Lee County Mosquito/Hyacinth Control District (LCMCD/LCHCD) held their regular scheduled meeting February 15, 2018 at 10:00 a.m., in the Auditorium at District headquarters, 15191 Homestead Road, Lehigh Acres, FL.

PRESENT: Director David Hoel, Chairman William M. Ellis, Commissioners Thomas B. Hart, George "Pat" Mann, Ed Brantley, Bruce C. Scott.

Chairman Ellis called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

VISITORS: None

STAFF: Russ Baker, Rick Pardo, Eric Jackson, Carmen McKinney

LEE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT REPORT: Jennifer Roth, Director of Epidemiology reported that there are no infectious disease at this time. There is a Level 2 travel alert in Brazil that means individuals may still travel but need to be cautious. Jennifer feels that the flu peaked last week and we have been on a steady decline in the past week and a half.

MINUTES APPROVAL: Chairman Ellis requested Board approval for the January meeting minutes. Commissioner Mann seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

HEALTH BENEFITS RENEWALS

Russ Baker reported that there is an update to the renewal process and the policy has been revisited. As a group, we have had a healthy year in 2017 and the trend is moving downward for this year, which helps us, lock in our rates. In this renewal, there has been a big tax change. Mercer discussions proved out that they took into account the tax change and we made sure it would not affect us over the next 12 months. We pay 75% for employees on Florida Blue, dental is 50/50 vision is 100% employee, short term disability is 100% employer, long term disability and voluntary life is 100% employee. When going through the policy this is what we look at. Our agents work very hard for us and Director Gale appreciates that a great deal. Our Florida Blue medical premium ended up in a 5% increase over all with employer/employee share staying the same. It means there is a \$65,000 increase overall. We look at all the policy and we look at the "what if's" in changing parts of the plan. We want to make sure our employees have a great plan but also want to make certain that we are fiscally responsible. We also went through all the other benefits at the same covered by Reliance. We started with a high increase but ended up with a 6% dental and 9% vision increase. Overall, with all the unknowns out there 5% is a very good number for us. We had budgeted 8% so we are under budget. Every quarter they update us and that is where the possible 8% came from.

SURPLUS PROPERTY

Russ Baker reported that this list of items are obsolete/surplus property: 2001 Gravely Command Pro Mower, 2006 Mercury outboard motor, 16' Aluminum Johnboat with 1979 Harding Trailer. The second list is surplus property being offered to other Mosquito/Arthropod control programs. The list is comprised of the following items for sale, two Bell Helicopters, three spray systems, two tank spray systems, ten aircraft propeller assembly systems, one tool set, puller assembly, We have contacted the Audit General, with the Division of Management Services to get input from all parties on a \$10 million transaction. We will be sending the audit report to the Inspector General for a desk review. The timing of this is by the end of March three H125's will arrive and then one every three weeks after until the order is fulfilled. We will only sell a helicopter once the replacement helicopter arrives. Regarding the 206's, the value is trending down a little bit and we would like to dispose of them as quickly as we can. There is definite interest in the Huey's. We must offer everything to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS) first so that other mosquito controls get first crack as purchasing them. We want to be able to take advantage of market trends as quickly as possible. These are both perfectly good helicopters and all condition and estimated values will be reported. If no offer comes from DACS, we could hire a broker to market the helicopters and get the best price. We have established lower end and upper end values now. Propellers are a bit different as we switch from one to the other. We have had to switch out the King Airs to make sure that the propellers fit. They do not fit anything we can put the removed ones on. We are holding the removed props in inventory until we can try to use the same rules to make sure that we abide by everything to get the best possible price for them and keep from storing them in our inventory. This explains why we are going through this and attempting to make the best deals possible on all the equipment offered. The two King Air 200's we purchased at quite a savings due to substantially less than market value because the government agency that had these decided to auction them off and didn't obtain the best price. When we sell our autos through GovDeals for example we sold a 2002 4 Wheel Drive vehicle that we paid \$30,000 for \$7,000. Carmen commented it is now a seller's market, we should recoup quite a bit of money from sale of the helicopters. We are not letting these go until the pilots have been using them and we make sure

everything is working up to speed before they go on the sales block. Our professionals have to be comfortable with all parts of the spray system and pilots are comfortable flying these. We handle calibration on the droplet size because they are standard size pump systems by doing our normal droplet testing on our runway to make sure that they are working to our requirements. Our people will test the new helicopters prior to flying out of the factory. The spray system will then be installed on the craft once they arrive here along with our District approved Radio system which will be installed once they arrive here. Director Hoel stated that we are attempting to get out ahead of the curve of the financial status of the market. We are within a month to month and a half of being able to do this. Russ advised the Board that we are presenting this today at the Board meeting so that when we can proceed the Board has agreed and we have the document to go forward. 8-10 propeller assemblies are going up for sale and they are in the warehouse due to the fact that we had to beef up the engines and install a straight kit prop on them to reduce risk and to make certain that we operate safely and improve performance. Commissioner Mann asked if there is a better market for the four bladed rather than the three bladed prop. Carmen answered that the performance is better at high altitude with four blades, which makes the aircraft more valuable. Commissioner Brantley asked with them being surplus are there restrictions as to use while they are in the classification. Carmen said there is no restriction on use of the aircraft for our purposes. Commissioner Hart stated that before we go selling our C47's he would like to discuss keeping one for historical purposes. Director Hoel agreed that they are of historical value, many photos have been taken over the years and they have LCMCD identity recognition for the public. Commissioner Ellis would like to see a DC3 on display as well. The aircraft are currently worth \$1.5 – \$1.8 million outfitted as they are right now. We could possibly contact some air museum to have one placed here but the cost of upkeep on our current ones would be prohibitive. If they want one we could probably have one brought here to sit here on display painted up in our color scheme. Carmen said he would check into getting one brought here for display purposes. Commissioner Ellis made the motion to dispose of the property on the disposal list as presented. Commissioner Mann seconded the motion to dispose of property. The Board unanimously approved the motion to sell.

PROJECT UPDATES - Carmen McKinney, Deputy Director Aviation, Fleet & Facilities, reported that the remaining debris piles left after hurricane cleanup have been removed and the area raked and cleaned. We have signed off on the work. The rezoning hearing for the Buckingham Airport will be next week. He has been working with Bob Case, President of LIS, Engineering Land Surveying, to see if we can keep the driveway located by the duplexes. The duplexes will be available for use as offices once we obtain the zoning change. Director Hoel asked if Carmen could explain the situation of the old aircraft we have parked off the south runway owned by Sam Pool that he flew in WWII. Carmen stated that Sam and his son have both passed away. Their attorney advised him that the aircraft was not part of either estate. This allows us to dispose of it as we see fit. Carmen advised the Board that it is in such bad shape the entire exterior is so rusted it would not hold paint. The plan is to remove any valuable parts, have the hull crushed which should then cost about \$2,000 to have it hauled away. That entire process will save the District on insurance liability.

Carmen advised the Board that the Woodstock Airport issue would go before the court on March 19 for settlement.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Director Hoel reported that District personnel participated in the following events and courses during the month:

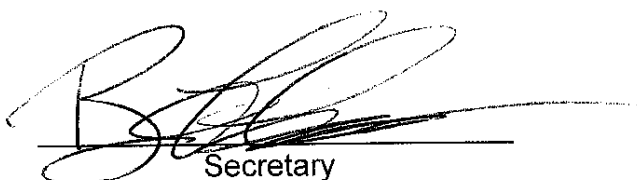
- Wings over Water at Harns Marsh Hyacinth and Mosquito folks presented a great public outreach to a good turnout.
- A dozen district members attended the DODD Short Courses and earned over 100 CEU's in Orlando. The courses will probably move out of Orlando to Gainesville or Ocala next year due to overcrowding.
- Director Gale is in Gainesville today at a Center for Disease Control (CDC) function.
- Director Gale just returned from the World Health Organization (WHO) Workshop in Geneva, Switzerland. He explained to them the American Mosquito Control Association (AMCA) program for education regarding vector borne diseases. The program is really the genesis behind the Sterile Insect Technology (SIT) program the District is implementing. The CDC passed out a \$50 million grant to train the trainers program. He briefed them on this program.
- Mosquito personnel participated in Day of Discovery for the Edison Festival of Light held at Florida Gulf Coast University. Eric Jackson, Education & Public Information Officer stated that our teachers were there and the event was well attended.
- Rachel Morreale, Field Validation Specialist will be returning from the Vienna IAEA meeting to discuss protocols for *Aedes* mosquito rearing. We are also working with a team from University of Florida (UF) to determine X-ray dosimetry rates and times needed for *Aedes aegypti* sterilization and will probably be purchasing the X-ray machine within the next month. The X-ray machine is expected to cost \$252,000 excluding a needed water chiller that will be mounted outside the SIT building. The SIT building repairs are coming along nicely. Dr. Dan Hahn from UF will be here at the end of the month to help us with this project. Dr. Mark Benedict will be here on March 7 to advise us on building layout, materials needed, and best SIT practices.

- There is much interest in this program. Our people are flying down to Keys Mosquito Control on the 20th to present why we are using X-rays to their Board. The Oxitec group that are trying to release Genetically Modified Mosquitoes (GMO) in the Keys are going to be there as well as the MosquitoMate team to explain their SIT programs to the board. There has been media in the Keys mentioning Dr. Hoel and the LCMCD's SIT program to the Board. Chairman Ellis has asked for talking points for the Board for their review; Dr. Hoel will send them the power point he is using so they can follow the program he is giving when speaking to the public. The progress on the SIT building has been great and the Board is invited to see the building anytime they like. Once the X-Ray machine is ordered, it will take the company four months to build it. Dr. Hoel and the folks from UF will work with them during the process to make certain we get what we need for the X-ray machine to perform the way we need it to.
- Fifty employees attended a Chemical Spill Training course conducted by Signal Consultants.
- Shelly Redovan, Deputy Director Education and Communication retired after 30 years and Eric Jackson has assumed those duties. Eric's teaching background is education and outreach.
- Jennifer McBride who will be replacing Brian Murphy, Education Resource Specialist when he retires at the end of this summer, began shadowing Brian in January.
- Dr. Hoel and Eric have visited Pine Island and did an on-site noise test of a 407 helicopter lifting off and setting down. They noted that there was not much noise variation just off the property and that noise associated with landings and takeoffs was brief (20-30 seconds).
- Tallahassee Days was 2/5 – 2/7 those in attendance were Director Hoel, Eric Jackson and Milton Sterling. The group met with Senators Lizbeth Benacquisto and Denise Grimsley as well as Representatives Mike Caldwell, Dane Eagle, Heather Fitzenhagen and Ray Rodriques to express our HB 461 and SB 958 opposition. This bill is not good for industry where it concerns testing new products in Florida. The Bill requires that manufacturer proprietary product information be made available to any inquiring citizen that is concerned about a product with requiring court action to protect this proprietary information each time a citizen request is made. It does not work for Florida because it will discourage inventors, formulators, industry and others from keeping performing their research in state. The team also advocated for continued financial support to mosquito control districts and for full-time funding of \$500,000/year for mosquito research to UF/FMEL.
- The Florida Army National Guard held exercises here at the District involving four different units. They conducted truck mounted stinger training operations to verify that they were capable of locking on to aerial targets. The tracking system and launch vehicle tracking system were tested.
- Three Puerto Rico Vector Control educators are here this week. After the Zika, dengue and chikungunya outbreaks there, Federal monies provided an opportunity to show them our mosquito education programs for children. They are looking to hire 3-5 teachers to implement a school education program. The issue is the same there as here; they fight urban *Aedes* mosquitoes. They do not have much organized vector control. They have a CDC grant to support implementation of this program.
- Lynn Schiegner, Manager of Purchasing/Supply, will retire this month after 35 years of service.
- The Buckingham zoning hearing will be held on 2/21 at the Lee County Courthouse.
- Technical Consultant, Mark Benedict of the CDC will be here the March 7.
- Director Gale will relinquish his American Mosquito Control Association (AMCA) Presidency at the annual meeting in March.

FISCAL REVIEW – Russ presented both the Mosquito Control and Hyacinth Control reports. Cash balances are within expected range. There are \$19 million in surplus funds for Mosquito Control that will be pushed out to earn a higher rate of return. Chemical expenditures are up half a million due to last year's mosquito spraying and us having to spend more to replace chemical. This is a typical report for the month. We are working with the Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA) and Insurance to obtain money for structural damage from Hurricane Irma and getting all the necessary information to them. Motion was made by Commissioner Hart to approve Mosquito report. Commissioner Brantley seconded the motion and the Board approved unanimously.

Hyacinth Control cash balance down due to fund balance levels decreasing reserves to push it down in line with fund balance policies. Cash is \$2.8 million. Revenues are \$1.7 million kept at roll back rate. Motion to approve the Treasurers Report was made by Commissioner Brantley and seconded by Commissioner Scott. The Board approved the motion unanimously.

There being no further business Chairman Ellis requested a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Mann seconded the motion which the Board unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:18 am.


Secretary


Chairman