

Commissioner Bowen called to order the regularly scheduled meeting of the Lee County Mosquito/Hyacinth Control Districts (LCMHCD) on 06/17/2021, at 10:00 a.m. in the William Opp Training Center at the Districts' headquarters, 15191 Homestead Road, Lehigh Acres, Florida.

**PRESENT:**

Seat 1- Commissioner Ed Brantley, Secretary/Treasurer

Seat 2- Commissioner Brian Farrar, Vice Chairman

Seat 3- Commissioner Mike Ellis

Seat 4- Commissioner Steve Bowen, Chairman

Seat 5- Commissioner *Not Present*

Seat 6- Commissioner Thomas B. Hart

Seat 7- Commissioner *Not Present*

Legal Counsel- John Agnew

**STAFF:**

Executive Director- Dr. David Hoel

Assistant Director- Aaron Lloyd

Chief Financial Officer- Sean O'Neill

Deputy Director, Lee County Hyacinth Control District- Kevin Watts

Human Resources Director- Jackie Small

Scientific Intelligences Manager- Milton Sterling

Public Information Specialist- Jamie Fowler

Executive Administrative Assistant- Summer De La Cruz

AST Supervisor- Steven Stenhouse

LCMCD Biologist II- Nick Lefkow

**VISITORS:**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

The following citizens addressed the Board:

None

**MINUTES APPROVAL:**

*Commissioner Bowen requested board approval for the 05/20/2021 LCMHCD regular meeting minutes. Commissioner Hart moved to approve the 05/20/2021 minutes. Commissioner Brantley seconded the motion to approve the minutes as presented. The Board unanimously approved, motion passed.*

**LEE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT REPORT:** Arielle Ghanem, Director of Epidemiology, reported:

**WNV activity:** No human cases of WNV infection were reported this week. No horses with WNV infection were reported this week. No sentinel chickens tested positive for antibodies to WNV this week. In 2021, positive samples from two sentinel chickens have been reported from two counties.

**SLEV activity:** No human cases of SLEV infection were reported this week. No sentinel chickens tested positive for antibodies to SLEV this week. In 2021, positive samples from two sentinel chickens have been reported from one county.

**EEEV activity:** No human cases of EEEV infection were reported this week. One horse with EEEV infection was reported this week in Levy County. Two sentinel chickens tested positive for antibodies to EEEV this week in Brevard and Pasco counties. In 2021, positive samples from five horses and 95 sentinel chickens have been reported from 18 counties.

**International Travel-Associated Chikungunya Fever Cases:** No cases of chikungunya fever were reported this week in persons that had international travel. In 2021, no travel-associated chikungunya fever cases have been reported.

**Chikungunya Fever Cases Acquired in Florida:** No cases of locally acquired chikungunya fever were reported this week. In 2021, no cases of locally acquired chikungunya fever have been reported.

**International travel-associated Zika Fever Cases:** No cases of Zika fever were reported this week in persons that had international travel. In 2021, no travel-associated Zika fever cases have been reported.

**Zika Fever Cases Acquired in Florida:** No cases of locally acquired Zika fever were reported this week. In 2021, no cases of locally acquired Zika fever have been reported.

**Advisories/Alerts:** Citrus, Orange, and Pasco counties are currently under a mosquito-borne illness advisory. Broward County is currently under a mosquito-borne illness alert. No other counties are currently under mosquito-borne illness advisory or alert. A Level 1 Travel Health Notice has been issued for Central and South America, Mexico, the Caribbean, Asia, the Pacific Islands, Africa, and the Middle East-related to the transmission of dengue virus, and for Burundi related to malaria transmission.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

- Handbook policy updates (uniform, driving for districts, and testing procedures for accidents.)
- Surplus

*Commissioner Brantley made a motion for board approval of the consent agenda; Commissioner Ellis seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved, motion passed.*

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

None to discuss

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Sean O'Neill presented the board with a package showing the benefits that the District have with Florida Safe Investments. Some key benefits included:

- Rates held for 12 months
- Federal Regulations
- Accounts will be in name of government and fully collateralized with Florida State Statute governing public funds.
- Experience with local governments

*Commissioner Farrar made a motion for board approval to participate in Florida Safe Investments; Commissioner Ellis seconded. The Board unanimously approved, motion passed.*

**FACILITIES REPORT:** Assistant Director Aaron Lloyd provided an update on LCMHCD facility projects. In the "H" Building (Lab), all the supplies are on site.

Sunset Gate LDO received and spoke to Bob Case, and he is currently reviewing it and gathering information for the county.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Executive Director Dr. David Hoel updated the Board on recent activities at the Districts.

Aircraft update N763, King Air 200 is in the shop getting rivets replaced and perhaps a four-foot wing section. The estimated downtime is from 2 weeks to all summer if underlying structural problems are found. Other King Air is in Tampa; part delivery is due 25 June. 3 to 4 weeks after they receive it, we get our aircraft back. After this, N762 will be ready for droplet testing and, afterward, use.

SIT consultation visit, Dr. Mark Benedict, CDC

Data collection forms, use of bar codes on traps, audible alarms on exit doors, swamp cooler in place of current humidifiers, plastic totes for release pails.

Leadership Lee County visit: Twenty members of LLC visited and were given a half-day tour of our facility. LLC is sponsored by the Chamber of SW Florida.

Publication(s): The Use of Frozen, Food-Grade Blood to Successfully Maintain Colonies of Four Species of Mosquitoes (Diptera: Culicidae) Kara Tyler-Julian, Constance Darrisaw, Aaron Lloyd, Dr. David Hoel. Journal of Insect Science, Volume 21, Issue 3, May 2021.

LCMHCD COVID Plan is being readdressed to lighten the burden of the pandemic control plan for districts. The Districts will be following the CDC Guidelines. Replace the current plan with a new one, which continues to follow updated CDC guidelines. Fully vaccinated persons, with proof of vaccination, can resume normal pre-pandemic work activities, which includes not having to socially distance or wear a mask. Proof of vaccination will be kept confidential and stored separately from the employee's personnel file per HIPPA requirements. Likewise, we will follow CDC guidelines for persons who are not fully vaccinated, which provide that such individuals continue to socially distance and, when necessary, wear masks. Everyone is still to follow the "good health habits" detailed in our current plan.

LCMHCD has employees that are very active in committees and organizations:

1. AMCA
2. FRMA
3. NACCHO
4. ISID
5. FDOH
6. BUPAC
7. Rotary Downtown
8. Rotary East
9. FASD
10. SHRM
11. League of Environmental Education in Florida
12. Florida Marine Educators
13. Florida Native Plant Society
14. Association for Talent Development
15. World at Risk
16. Lake Management Society
17. Advisory Board, Florida Sea Grant

Dr. Tom Janousek and his wife served as consultants for LCMCD to oversee and advise an aerial ULV test for killing caged mosquitoes. Our technique effectively obtained an excellent kill of salt marsh mosquitoes with a pesticide we are considering the use of in a rotation plan with dibrom. A few suggestions were made to tighten up the spray schedule and offset spray distances

to account for various wind speeds. Another visit in September will familiarize our FVAL crew with the most current use gear for conducting these tests.

Eric Jackson, Deputy Director, presented the Board members with the LCMCD "Fight the Bite" Billboard that will be in three different locations—publicly displaying information guiding residents to our website.

Nick Lefkow, LCMCD Biologist II, gave a PowerPoint presentation of the LIDAR technology and addressed all the commissioner's concerns.

OPEB retiree health benefits were briefly discussed and will continue to be discussed on how much funding the District will contribute.

LCMCD strap parcels and zones No benefit to consolidating STRAP numbers. At this time, we are leaving as is. We can build new structures on the property by the south runway.

**FISCAL REVIEW:**

*Commissioner Brantley presented the LCHCD Treasurers report on 05/30/2021. Commissioner Brantley moved to approve the Mosquito Control District financials. Commissioner Farrar seconded the motion, and the Board approved unanimously, motion passed.*

*Commissioner Brantley presented the LCMCD Treasurers report for 05/30/2021. Commissioner Brantley moved to approve the Hyacinth Control District financials. Commissioner Farrar seconded the motion, and the Board approved unanimously, motion passed.*

**Commissioners Comments:** None

*No further business, Commissioner Bowen made a motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 11:37 a.m.*



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Commissioner Steve Bowen, Chair  
Term: December 2018 – November 2022



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Commissioner Ed Brantley, Secretary/Treasurer  
Term: November 2018 – November 2022