

Commissioner Ellis called to order the regular scheduled meeting of the Lee County Mosquito/Hyacinth Control Districts (LCMHCD) on 4/25/2024 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, Vice Chairman
Seat 2- Commissioner Brian Farrar
Seat 3- Commissioner Mike Ellis, Chairman
Seat 4- Commissioner Steve Bowen
Seat 5- Commissioner William Burke, Secretary/Treasurer
Seat 6- Commissioner Thomas B. Hart
Seat 7- Commissioner Bruce Scott
Legal Counsel- John Agnew

STAFF:

Executive Director- Dr. David Hoel
Assistant Director- Aaron Lloyd
Deputy Director, Lee County Hyacinth Control District- Kevin Watts
Chief Financial Officer- Sean O'Neill
Human Resources Director- Jackie Small
Communications Director- Jenifer McBride
Community Engagement Coordinator- Jamie Fowler
Senior Program Analyst- Thais Pineda Alfonso
Executive Administrative Assistant- Sabina Vilarchao

VISITORS:

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

The following citizens addressed the Board: None

MINUTES APPROVAL:

Commissioner Ellis requested Board approval for the 03/28/2024 LCMHCD 10281 Board meeting minutes. Commissioner Farrar moved to approve the 03/28/2024 minutes. Commissioner Bowen seconded the motion to approve the minutes as presented. The Board approved unanimously; motion passed.

LEE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT REPORT: Department of Health report. Cheryl Adams, Biological Administrator Division of Communicable Diseases provided an update:

https://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/mosquito-borne-diseases/_documents/2024-17-arbovirus-surveillance.pdf

CONSENT AGENDA:

10282_Surplus

Commissioner Ellis requested board approval for the consent agenda item. Commissioner Brantley moved to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Scott seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved; motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

10283_ Budget Amendment - This budget amendment will increase the LCMCD FY2024 budgeted beginning fund balance by \$2,727,740 to recognize the actual ending balance from FY 2023. This budget amendment will also increase Repairs and Maintenance, Capital Outlay, and Reserves by a total of \$2,727,740. The purpose of increasing Repairs and Maintenance and Capital Outlay is to budget for additional expenditures necessary to complete repairs and upgrades to the heliports and to purchase additional equipment needed for District operations.

Commissioner Ellis requested Board approval for the 10283 Budget Amendment. Commissioner Bowen moved to approve 10283. Commissioner Farrar seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously; motion passed.

10284_ COLA Adjustment - FY24-25 COLA. The Districts are requesting a cost of living adjustment that will not impact the current pay scale.

The FY 24-25 COLA, based on their current pay, will pay employees an amount comparable to a yearly COLA increase while leaving our pay tables where they are. This will slow the steep pay table increases seen over the past 3 years while at the same time compensating employees for an increase in the cost of living for a given year.

The FY 24-25 COLA will be paid to employees in one lump sum, or on a quarterly basis during the fiscal year, whichever minimizes federal tax deductions for the employees.

Commissioner Ellis asked, "Could you put it in a form to present back to the board providing percent increases; with understanding that some percentages may be higher than other based on the employee's salary?" Dr. Hoel responded, "Yes, we can do that for the board members."

Commissioner Ellis requested Board to table 10284_ COLA Adjustment for when we begin the budget process. Commissioner Farrar moved to table 10284. Commissioner Bowen seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously; motion passed.

10285_ Out of State LiDAR use - Utilization of LiDAR outside of Florida. Allows LCMCD's GIS Analyst and LiDAR equipment to travel outside of Florida to fully support the American Mosquito Control's nationwide deposition study.

Commissioner Hart asked, "Is there a substantial maintenance schedule on the LiDAR unit? Or are we going to allow other individuals to use it, and then we have to repair it somewhere down the road?" Aaron responded, "We're not aware of any maintenance that would occur from this type of use."

Commissioner Hart asked, "Is there any warranty that could affect us by allowing other individuals to use the unit?" Aaron responded, "No, anytime if this were to occur, we would always attach our pilot with them. If the board allows this use, one of the requirements is that our pilot always maintains contact with that LiDAR."

Commissioner Ellis asked "What's one of these units cost?" Dr. Hoel, "They are over 400k."

Commissioner Bowen commented “An additional requirement is to notify the board members prior to being dispatched.”

Commissioner Ellis requested a motion to approve 10285_ The utilization of LiDAR outside of Florida completely under LCMCD control, with all direct and indirect costs covered by requesting agency, and notify the board prior to dispatching. Commissioner Hart moved to approve as suggested, Commissioner Scott seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously; motion passed.

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

Operations report – The weather’s been really dry lately. However, LCMCD continues treatments, mainly for Culex from stagnant waters that we’re finding. The bigger focus right now is we’re preparing our 1st round of pretreats, which will begin around May 20th. The main concentration for the last couple months has been training.

ULV trucks are ongoing and available if we have adult mosquitoes.

Facilities report– Currently our main focus is the heliports. The heliports are in good shape and prepared for delivery of the fuel tanks; ETA June 1st.

The renovations for the quad, fleet and Miller building have been an ongoing process moving slower than expected.

We have our first mobile Jet A cabinet completed that we had manufactured and are waiting for its arrival. Bowman’s Heliport will be our first completed setup since hurricane Ian. This will occur within the next couple of months.

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

Aircraft update:

- N764MC (H125)- down for 72-month inspection, this is number five of six.
- N198RD (DC3) is out of inspection and completed a test flight on Tuesday. We Currently have 3 planes available and two helicopters ready for adulticiding.
- N146RD (DC3 in Mena) The paint strip is about 70% complete.
- Engines that are in Arizona are in line to be reassembled. Hopefully in mid-May, we will see them shipping back to Mena, AR.

Expectantly by the end of June we will see N146RD painted and returned to the district. Cost increased from \$1.17M to \$1.68M, a 34% increase due to unexpected corrosion findings. The agenda item to approve will be forthcoming in next month’s Board meeting. Extra money was budgeted under aviation contingency.

Woodstock parking – A memorandum of agreement has been signed by LCMCD and Upper Captiva Fire & Rescue to allow them to park at Woodstock heliport. They will pay intermittently until November, then once a year every November 1st.

Pine Island Center Sale direction – Pine Island Fire Department’s board refused acceptance of free land and lake at PI Center citing in their February 28, 2024 meeting. We are investigating whether our Board officially approved the Quit Claim Deed release of the PI Center Pond from the Industrial Park Association which dissolved. A possible solution would be to force the association to re-form and take back the lake; we do not know if this is possible, but we have Henderson Franklin looking at all possible scenarios. As of yesterday, Colleen Via with Parks & Recreation suggested we donate the lake to Lee 2020. We will ask Lee 2020 if they are interested.

4 scenarios:

- i. One industrial park member buys 0.6 acre lakefront lot without lake
- ii. One industrial park member buys entire property with lake at half price
- iii. Land swap with Corkscrew property owner, requires easement, requires Henderson Franklin consultation. Recently off the table.
- iv. Force lake back on to industrial park owners' association, association must be re-constituted; Henderson Franklin.

Audit progress update – (Sean O'Neill provided the update) The auditors were working with the actuary for the OPEB evaluation; they had some questions, so this has delayed everything. We got the question resolved this week, so everything is back on schedule. Therefore, we'll have the auditor report completed for the next board meeting.

4th annual LCMCD Aerial Workshop – There were 101 attendees at this year's LCMCD 4th annual aerial event. In addition to traditional PowerPoint presentations, we gave hands-on training on helicopter maintenance, fuel quality, and fueling vehicle inspections. Overall, it went very well with many compliments.

Mighty Muscles event – On Friday, April 5th LCMCD sponsored the opening night for the Mighty Mussels baseball game. Over 150 employees and their families joined us in a show of support for this LCMCD sponsored community event. Aaron Lloyd threw the first pitch (right alongside Sheriff Carmine), LCMCD was featured as the night's sponsor, and the crowd enjoyed the fireworks in honor of LCMCD support.

FISCAL REVIEW:

10286_LCMCD

10287_LCHCD

Commissioner Burke presented the LCMCD Treasurer's report for March 2024. Commissioner Burke moved to approve the Mosquito Control District financials, 10286_LCMCD. Commissioner Bowen seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously; motion passed.

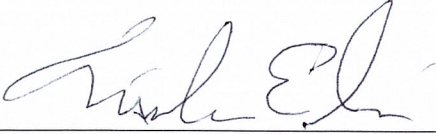
Commissioner Burke presented the LCHCD Treasurer's report for March 2024. Commissioner Burke moved to approve the Hyacinth Control District financials, 10287_LCHCD. Commissioner Scott seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously; motion passed.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Commissioner Brantley commented “Referring to utilization of LCMCD LiDAR equipment out of state, make sure when we're charging them the costs. We're not only charging them for the direct cost, which is our personnel's time, travel expenses, but also indirect costs for wear and tear on the hardware. I also mentioned in prior meetings, I'd like the staff to begin a feasibility study for Corkscrew corridor facility to strategically accommodate for future growth in this area.”

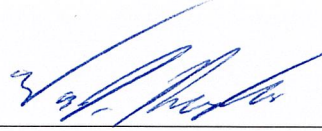
Commissioner Hart asked “When is our school board contract and update on education going to be up for discussion?” Jenifer responded, “I have an appointment next week to meet with the school district. So, I'll have more information at the next school board meeting. Furthermore, we will be hiring another teacher that we were short this year. The presentation to the board will be in June 2024.”

There being no further business, Commissioner Ellis requested a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Farrar made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Brantley seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m.



Commissioner Mike Ellis, Chairman

Term: November 2020 – November 2024



Commissioner William Burke, Secretary/Treasurer

Term: November 2020 – November 2024