

The Board of Commissioners of the Lee County Mosquito Control District held its regular scheduled meeting September 5, 2013 at 4:45 p.m., in the Auditorium at District headquarters, 15191 Homestead Road, Lehigh Acres, Florida.

PRESENT - Chairman Thomas B. Hart, Commissioners Melissa Dortch, George T. Mann, William M. Ellis, Richard H. Pritchett, III, Bruce C. Scott and Director T. Wayne Gale

PUBLIC COMMENTS -- None

MINUTES - Chairman Hart asked for approval of the minutes of the last regular meeting of the Board held on August 8, 2013. Commissioner Pritchett moved that the minutes be approved as read. Commissioner Mann seconded the motion which carried with no dissenting votes.

LEE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT REPORT - Dr. Hartner reported that in August there were two human cases of West Nile Virus in Duval County. In Martin County as of today there are 11 cases of locally acquired dengue and St. Lucie County has four cases. Statewide there have been 66 cases of imported dengue to date and 33 cases of imported malaria so far this year. Two of the imported malaria cases were Lee County residents.

CHEMICAL AND FUEL BIDS - Vivian Jones requested permission to go out for bids on chemicals and fuels for the 2014 calendar year and to have the formal bid opening on October 25, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. and present the results at the November 7th Board meeting. Motion was made by Commissioner Ellis to entertain bids for next year. Commissioner Dortch seconded the motion.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT - Director Gale reported that the research grant application with the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to conduct non target mosquito studies has been approved. The District was successful in receiving a \$120,000 grant.

Director Gale reported that he is a newly appointed member of the Mosquito Research Foundation (MRF) board. He has already been involved in two meetings, an orientation training meeting and a board meeting. The MRF is planning to expand into a national as well as an international organization and will be working toward that goal. They will be reaching out to Florida districts and mosquito control districts throughout the country soliciting money to provide a portion of their budgets to the foundation for operational applied research for mosquito control. The MRF has about \$400,000 in funds so far.

There is a "surprise" birthday party for Paul Sanborn at Sanborn Park in the Cape on Saturday. Former District Commissioner Sanborn will be 90 years old. The District will have a helicopter on the ground in the park with display materials available for public viewing.

PROJECT UPDATE - Carmen McKinney reported the LDO on the canvas vehicle storage area has hit a snag, the fire inspector wanted to rehash the issue of fire suppression. In the end he was comfortable with the District using fire extinguishers to handle a fire suppression situation if necessary.

The Director advised that the hopper loader in the small version is working, but the large version is still in the testing phase. The issue with the large version is the amount of pressure needed to push product through in the large volume of 1200 pounds. The pressure was up to 50 pounds today for the test. No results were available at the time of this meeting.

for the schools events and then traps every known event to determine if the area has sufficient mosquitoes to allow spraying.

PUBLIC HEARING – Chairman Hart suspended the Regular Meeting of the Board at 5:00 p.m. in order to convene the Public Hearing on the tentative Budget and Millage Rate. The meeting was opened by Chairman Hart at 5:01 p.m. Chairman Hart announced the Lee County Mosquito Control District proposes to adopt a tentative millage rate of 0.252 mills per thousand. This millage rate is a 12.3% increase over the current year aggregate rolled-back rate of 0.2244 mills per thousand. The Board discussed the reason for the increase and that the District has kept millage the last several years at rates that were not sufficient to generate enough revenue to cover expenses while drawing down reserves. The millage rate must be raised in order to maintain sufficient reserves and generate adequate income to cover the actual expense of mosquito control moving forward. There were no comments from the public at which time Commissioner Ellis made the motion to accept the tentative millage rate. Commissioner Mann seconded the motion which was approved unanimously by the Board.

Chairman Hart presented the tentative budget for 2013-2014 to the Board for approval. Commissioner Mann made the motion to approve the tentative budget. Commissioner Ellis seconded the motion and there being no further discussion by the board the motion carried with no dissenting votes by the Board.

RECONVENE REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING – Chairman Hart reconvened the regular monthly meeting.

PROJECT UPDATE CONTINUED – This year there will be an attempt to certify two pilots to become licensed in single engine and twin engine fixed wing aircraft. There will be a 407 going up to Tampa to perform a test flight which will be part of their training.

Mosquito season has been unusual with a lot of freshwater mosquitoes in the beginning. The District is receiving 7-10 spray request calls per day right now.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.