

The Board of Commissioners of the Lee County Mosquito Control District (LCMCD) held its regular scheduled meeting November 7, 2013 at 9:00 a.m., in the Auditorium at District headquarters, 15191 Homestead Road, Lehigh Acres, Florida.

**PRESENT:** Chairman Thomas Hart, Commissioners George T. Mann, Jr., Melissa Dortch, 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 October 10, 2013. Commissioner Mann moved that the minutes be approved as read. Commissioner Scott seconded the motion which carried with no dissenting votes.

**LEE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT REPORT** – There was no report from the Health Department.

**HEALTH INSURANCE** – Russ Baker, Chief Financial Officer, reported that Florida Blue has increased the premium for both single and family coverage by 8.5%. Russ requested that the Board approve the same level of coverage as last year with the 8.5% premium increase. According to Florida Blue, 6% of the increase is due to changes in coverage made by the Affordable Care Act. This means that the cost for single coverage is \$15.50 per pay and family coverage is \$34.00 per pay. Motion was made by Commissioner Scott to approve the current level of coverage with the 8.5% increase. Commissioner Mann seconded the motion and the Board approved unanimously.

**401A PLAN DOCUMENT APPROVAL** – Russ Baker explained that the 401A plan is used when an employee has up to 500 hours of vacation time and goes into DROP to use as a tax deferred savings plan at the time of retirement. The document presented contains an amendment to the plan document stating actual terms for the retiring employee to utilize this accrued vacation time when going into DROP. CFO Baker requested the Board approve the amendment stating the actual terms. Commissioner Dortch made the motion to approve the 401A Plan Document for 2014. Commissioner Mann seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

**FUEL AND CHEMICAL BID APPROVAL** – Russ Baker presented the bid list and explained how the bid process is conducted. Lynn Schiegner, Manager of Purchasing and Supply created the program that is now in use. After presenting the bid list, CFO Baker requested approval of the qualified bids presented. A motion was made by Commissioner Mann to accept the fuel and chemical bids as presented. Commissioner Dortch seconded the motion and the board agreed unanimously.

**FIXED ASSET LIST** – Director Gale requested approval to hold a Workshop on November 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 am to discuss changes to the Fixed Asset List and the Holiday Policy. The Board unanimously agreed to discuss these items at the Workshop and then present them at the next Board meeting.

**SIGNATORY APPROVAL** – Director Gale requested approval for Russ Baker to have the ability to sign payroll checks and to serve as Records Management Liaison Officer for the District. Effective October 1, 2013 Russ is officially the CFO and the Board needs to give him approval to perform these functions. Commissioner Mann made the motion to approve Russ for both of these functions. Commissioner Mann seconded the motion and the Board approved the motion.

**HOLIDAY PERIOD APPROVAL** – Director Gale requested approval for reduced operations from December 23, 2013 through January 6, 2014. Commissioner Dortch made the motion to approve reduced operations for this time period. Commissioner Mann seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved.

**STAFF APPRECIATION DAY** – Director Gale requested approval of Haney’s Catering for this year’s employee awards banquet to be held on Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at a cost of \$1,700. Commissioner Scott made the motion to approve the amount. Commissioner Dortch seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved.

**PROJECTS UPDATE** – Carmen McKinney, Deputy Director Aviation, Fleet & Facilities, turned the project update over to the Director Gale at this point to discuss their meeting with our attorneys and the Lee County attorneys in an attempt to obtain some protection for our helistops in case of resident noise complaints. The end result is that there is going to be a new category created for helistops on the county land use maps and they will regulate those differently than regular airports. The District is working with Keith Arnold, Government Affairs Consultant with Fowler, White and Boggs, and attempting to talk to Representative Matt Caldwell and also doing an upcoming tour with Representative Ray Rodrigues in an attempt to change the State statute to obtain an exemption to license our helistops.

Canvas Storage Area - Carmen reported that the canvas storage area construction is progressing well and should be completed by the end of December.

407 program - The maintenance program on the 407’s has been and continues to be an issue for the District. Whenever these units go into repair there seems to be items on the Electronic Control Unit (ECU) which monitors the engine speed during flight. The District is looking at a \$90-100K bill on this and is arguing a warranty issue or defect issue. The Board will be seeing this item again at the future meetings. The District will continue to attempt to minimize this bill as much as possible.

OV10, Beach Craft and C90 - Ownership of the OV10 has been transferred to Beaufort County Mosquito Control in South Carolina and they will be coming next month to pick up the aircraft. The Beach Craft is in inspection right now and the bill should be in next month for approx \$6,000. The four hard points for mounting the spray system look like they will work and no extra hard points will be necessary. Modification of the structure is possible which will provide the capability of performing a 120 gallon mission instead of the 90 gallon mission. The C90 that came from Idaho came in needing repair to the right engine. The engine was pulled and sent out for repair and then the left engine was found to also be bad. The repair to the engine on the DC3 can be put off until next year thus providing the funds to repair the C90. We should be able to fly both these aircraft next season.

**DIRECTOR’S REPORT** – Director Gale updated the Board about meetings and tours with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the Department of Agriculture and Environmental Services (DACS) in Tallahassee and with local land managers here to discuss our operations and show them what we do. We will be flying as many individuals as possible to show them what we are dealing with and show them the areas where we will be doing the research project on non-target impacts of aerial adulticiding. Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) will be here and discuss the research project and explain what they are attempting to do. This is strictly educational time for these folks regarding our operations. The District is only looking for permission to use state lands and conduct a research project possibly in the West Cape Coral area in a location accessible by land.

Keith Arnold and Director Gale attended the Florida Association of Special Districts (FASD) meeting two weeks ago with Terry Lewis and Chris Lyons who were there presenting their updates. Senator Ring is still planning on coming out with some kind of a proposal concerning Special Districts. After talking with Keith, it was decided our best strategy is to make sure our local delegation is on board with us. As stated previously, Representative Ray Rodriguez will be visiting the District on November 20<sup>th</sup> to provide education for him on our situation. The Governor’s office has decided that taking on a review of all special taxing districts is more difficult than first thought. They have realized they cannot go to every district and will pick a representative sample of water management districts to review them as a group. The challenge is and was beyond something they could accomplish.

Director Gale has been appointed to the Board of the Mosquito Research Foundation (MRF) which is based in California and has expanded nationally and internationally. They are now working on expanding their area of influence beyond California and will be soliciting donations from mosquito organizations, vendors and others interested in funding mosquito control research. There have been grants awarded to the University of Florida to do larviciding research. There are two members from of the MRF from Florida, Director Gale and James Clausen, Director of Beach Mosquito in Panama City, FL. Monthly meetings are conducted via internet and conference call. There will be some presentations at the Florida Mosquito Control Association (FMCA) annual fall meeting this month as well as other meetings to establish their presence. There will be about \$200,000 in grants issued this coming year. Dr. Hornby, Deputy Director Mosquito Control & Scientific Intelligence, is on the evaluation committee for research proposal approval. The District has discontinued the push for establishing our own research foundation. We have been awarded funding this year through the DACS grant process to do our research on non-targets. FGCU is partnering with us on the proposal for the project on state lands. FGCU can if they wish submit a proposal to the MRF for whatever research monies they may need to do mosquito control research as well.

**FINANCIAL REPORT** – Due to the absence of the Board Treasurer, the financial report will be discussed at the upcoming workshop.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Chairman

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Secretary