

The Board of Commissioners of the Lee County Mosquito Control District (LCMCD) held its regular scheduled meeting March 6, 2014 at 10:00 a.m., in the Auditorium at District headquarters, 15191 Homestead Road, Lehigh Acres, Florida.

PRESENT: Chairman Dortch, Commissioners George T. Mann, Jr., Richard H. Pritchett, III, William M. Ellis and Director T. Wayne Gale.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Richard Paul, local business owner of TowBoat U.S. of Cape Coral requested permission to address the Board. Mr. Paul stated that mosquitoes and how LCMCD handles controlling them are one of his areas of interest and concern. His other concern is the size of the budget and why the Board chose to make an increase in taxes this year. Mr. Paul pointed out that the LCMCD Board members have been in their positions a long time and would like to make certain they are being vigilant with tax payer money and would like to save as much on taxes as possible. Commissioner Ellis suggested he schedule a tour with our Communications Department and learn about Mosquito Control from our professional staff. The Board thanked Mr. Paul for his interest and comments.

MINUTES - Chairman Dortch asked for approval of the minutes of the last regular meeting of the Board held on February 13, 2014. Commissioner Ellis moved that the minutes be approved as read. Commissioner Pritchett seconded the motion which carried with no dissenting votes.

LEE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT REPORT – Jennifer Roth, Director of Epidemiology, reported there are currently no disease reports and everything has been quiet due to the dry weather.

PROJECTS UPDATE – Carmen McKinney, Deputy Director Aviation, Fleet & Facilities, reported Embry-Riddle, which is proceeding forward with engineering on the tank supports for the King Air E90, is progressing just a bit slower than anticipated. The canvas hangars are now occupied with equipment and working well.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Director Gale reported on the following items:

Blue Cross/Blue Shield (BC/BS) – BC/BS is the health insurance provider for LCMCD and a national company requesting that LCMCD provide them with a response whether or not LCMCD wants to operate under Federal or State law regarding the definition of marriage for insurance purposes. Director Gale advised the Board that currently LCMCD is operating under Florida State law and plans to continue in that status.

Helistop Protection - Carmen McKinney and Director Gale had a conference call with The Department of Transportation (DOT) regarding LCMCD's proposed change to the Airport licensing statute. DOT is pushing back on the statutory change because it would afford the opportunity for up to 100 additional airports in the state to get licensure and they do not have the infrastructure to cover that. They reiterated the importance of getting local protection through Lee County zoning and indicated licensure would not really protect from expansion. It was learned in the conversation, however, that Emergency Management Services (EMS) has registered instrument approaches to three of LCMCD's heliports and there would be airspace and obstacle protection through FAA with the instrument approaches. Another alternative is to become public airports open to anyone. Director Gale does not think that is a viable option. LCMCD is currently classified as a private airport because access is restricted. There is no separate category for government entities which would help LCMCD with this issue. Efforts will continue in an attempt to improve the level of protection LCMCD has for the heliports from obstructions and encroachment.

Agriculture Fly-In – Director Gale attended the Agriculture Fly-in sponsored by Congressman Rooney in Washington D.C. Director Gale was with a group of farmers and cattlemen and so the main topics were citrus greening, immigration and the Farm Bill. Director Gale spent some time speaking with Danielle Beck, Congressman

Rooney's Legislative Assistant, regarding the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) amendment which was removed from the Farm Bill at the last minute. Ms. Beck seemed to think there were other opportunities to deal with the NPDES issue in other venues such as appropriations and they have not given up on it. Director Gale will be speaking with her soon to see what other options there may be. The trip involved meetings and talks with Speaker John Boehner, Representative Paul Ryan, Representative Ted Yoho, USDA-APHIS Administrator Kevin Shea, Senator Marco Rubio, Representative Kevin Southerland and Congressman Frank Lucas, Chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture. Matt Joyner, Federal Affairs Director Office of the Commissioner, was also there representing Florida Agriculture Commissioner Adam Putnam and Director Gale spoke with him about possibly visiting the District.

Research – The LCMCD research project with Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) on non-target impacts of aerial adulticiding over state managed lands has hit a few stumbling blocks, but is still on track. Initially LCMCD/FGCU was given permission to conduct the test on state lands and then were told no when the new Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Deputy Secretary took over. The group was then told that had been granted only be told later that permission had been denied from the top. The group can still do the test; however, it will be on non-state land. The goal is to generate some good data that can be used to support the case that impacts of aerial adulticiding for mosquitoes has minimal negative impact on the habitat. The test will be conducted this summer by LCMCD/FGCU with grant funding from Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS).

Tours – LCMCD is scheduled to conduct tours for Leadership Lee County on Friday, March 21st and the Spring Regulatory Tour for FDACS and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on Friday, March 28th.

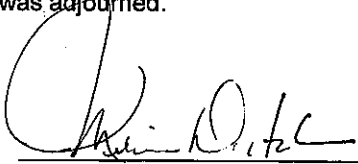
Home Owners Association (HOA) – Director Gale is still working with a HOA on permission for use of their easement. The easement has evidently become a high traffic area being used by Lee County 20/20, Forestry and a developer along with LCMCD. Director Gale pointed out that they were restricting LCMCD from doing a job they are all paying for and need. They requested LCMCD provide them with a "hold harmless" agreement. Director Gale indicated he did not believe that was necessary but agreed to provide them with the proof of insurance they requested. Director Gale spoke with LCMCD's attorney who said LCMCD could do the agreement, but Director Gale does not want to get into agreements for every HOA in Lee County. Most are willing to provide access and gate codes if necessary without any access agreements.

Director Gale had a tour scheduled for the Mayor of Cape Coral that was set up by Paul Sanborn, but Paul fell and hurt himself and was not able to bring the Mayor. The tour will be rescheduled.

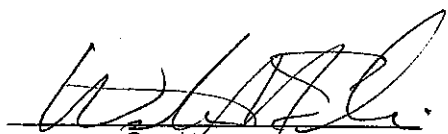
FINANCIAL REPORT – Mike Ellis reviewed the financial reports with the Board. Year-to-date LCMCD has collected approx 89% consistent with previous years. Motion was made by Commissioner Ellis to approve the financial reports as read. Commissioner Mann seconded the motion and the Board approved unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Chairman



Secretary