

Commissioners of the Lee County Mosquito/Hyacinth Control District (LCMCD/LCHCD) held their regular scheduled meeting April 7, 2016 at 10:00 a.m., in the Auditorium at District headquarters, 15191 Homestead Road, Lehigh Acres, Florida.

PRESENT: Chairman Brian F. Farrar, Commissioners George "Pat" Mann, Melissa Dortch, William M. Ellis, Richard Paul, Bruce C. Scott and Director T. Wayne Gale.

VISITORS: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: – None

MINUTES APPROVAL – Chairman Farrar asked for Board approval of the minutes of the last regular meeting of the Board held on March 10, 2016. Commissioner Dortch made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Mann seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved the minutes with no dissenting votes.

LEE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT REPORT – Jennifer Roth, Director of Epidemiology is out of the country, Director Gale gave the following report. There have been 79 travel related cases of Zika reported in Florida with three of those being in Lee County. There have been no confirmed cases of locally acquired Zika at this time. There are 15 counties currently under Public Health emergency warning due to Zika. There have been 21 travel related Dengue cases and no mention has been made of that since the first of the year. There have been 28 seroconversions of West Nile Virus and one was in a chicken here at that district in January. We attempted to participate in a statewide Zika conference call this week for all mosquito control districts and Health Department Workers. The call was from the Surgeon General and the Governor. The phone numbers were changed at the last minute for the call and we were unable to get on line with them before they signed off. Jennifer Roth did get us a brief synopsis. The Governor complimented everyone on the job they are doing. Dr. Phillip the interim Surgeon General participated and mentioned that she had visited the district. It was mainly an "Atta boy" and keep pressing on message.

PROPOSAL FOR RISK MANAGEMENT CONSULTING SERVICES – Russ Baker, will introduce Ben Few & Company, Inc.

Russ explained the Board previously requested we do a request for proposal (RFP) process on hiring a risk management consultant. On February 11th our advertisement ran in the Fort Myers NewsPress. We attempted to put an advertisement in the Florida Association of Special Districts (FASD) Newsletter that is distributed to all the 2,000 special districts. The FASD ended up with a virus on their system and they were locked out. We went ahead and readvertised in the NewsPress and FASD ran our entire proposal once their system was fixed. We received one call of interest from Richard Caligiuri of Bouchard Insurance, a local company, who ended up declining because they were really only interested in selling us insurance. We are looking for a Risk Manager to take a hard look at what there is out there and this firm was the only one who proposed.

Russ Baker, Chief Financial Officer, introduced Mr. Ben Few, III and Ben Few IV from Ben Few & Company Inc. – Copies of their proposal have been given to the Board for review. Mr. Few, Sr. stated that they work for clients who need a risk management department but are not large enough to have their own. They have been in business for 20 years in public as well as private industries. There are three premier operations of this type in Florida of which they are one. They have found a niche in providing the services of an in-house risk management department by handling all the functions of that department. They handle claims in a management capacity, manage the adjusters and follow up to make certain that reserves are accurate and taken down in time. They do budget and loss funding work and work on a daily basis with the customer. They work with the City of Fort Myers, North Naples Fire District and St. Johns Water Management District which is very similar to LCM/LCHCD. They would like to have the opportunity to provide this service by starting a full risk analysis. From that they will

build programs to customize a product to our needs. Then year to year they will update and improve upon our customized product. They do not ever sell insurance. They are not affiliated with any Insurance companies and only accept a fee working with clients such as the District. Commissioner Ellis asked if this will lower our insurance premiums over time? They feel that they can bring quite a bit of efficiency to our current program. They can report back to the Board with a timeline for reporting included in the package. Commissioner Paul asked what staff will they bring? They have a staff of four and only the Few's will lead on our account. They have technical backup in the office and their staff in office will handle the technical side. They will handle the management but can bring in whatever support is necessary for inspections as an add on to their fee. This will allow the District to bring in the necessary experts to help us have an understanding of what risk that we have going forward. The agreement is for one year and will cost \$4,000 per month. This is a low fee due to the fact that they are anticipating this will turn into a multi-year agreement.

Director Gale advised the Board that he feels that he never has had a handle on what our risk is or whether we are properly insured for the risk we have. He would rather not try to keep getting honest answers from the people involved in selling us the insurance product and believes that the use of a risk management consultant would be the better option.

Commissioner Ellis, Secretary Treasurer made the motion to approve the one year agreement to hire Ben Few & Company. Commissioner Scott seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved hiring this firm.

NEW TRAVEL PROGRAM – Russ Baker introduced Thais Pineda Alfonso, Program Analyst, who gave a walk through presentation of the new electronic travel reimbursement program. The District renewed our travel policy, part of which involved the creation of a computerized program to approve travel and handle travel expense forms. They also built a web based program that can be accessed anywhere via computer.

PROJECT UPDATE – Carmen McKinney, Deputy Director Aviation, Fleet & Facilities, reported that progress is being made in the King Air program. They are now ready to take the engines off the first aircraft and send them to the engine shop.

The runway extension project will shut down the runway in July. Carmen is waiting on the State regarding our State License. The airport protection program in Lee County is using an advisory committee to create a plan with Land Management concerning zoning. Our zoning at the District is mixed out here, Runway 6 is zoned Residential One and Runway F4 is in CF3. They are adding this to the airport protection project this year. The plan is to put one strap number on the entire 194 acres and all the lots that are attached to the District which will then be rezoned to CF3 and will make presentation of this. The zoning will really improve our situation to rezone to CF3 from Ag 2. This will clean up the property zoning, put us where we need to be, and it will properly label our entire land mass. The county was going to fix this 10 years ago but fixing the zoning never happened, we had to wait for the right timing in order to fix the issue. When we apply for LDO's the zoning is always a real issue. Southwest Water Management has us already listed as one strap number to help us and now they are working with the County to resolve this issue. There are about 20 strap numbers at the present time.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Director reported that there is a paper copy in their packet and an electronic copy of the employee manual will be sent to them. This project has been completed after many years of hard work, all policies are finished and approved by our attorney and are current and up to date. The Board will be required to review the employee policy manual for approval at the next Board meeting.

We received a surprise "gift" from our aviation insurance carrier, they have returned \$41,000 to us because we have had zero claims in the last two years. That was a surprise because they just showed up with the check.

There will be a number of retirements over the next three months, Mike Nichols left the first of this month, Jim Burgess will be leaving in May and Paul Morgan will be leaving in June. There will be one reduction in full time employees as Milton Sterling will replace Jim Burgess as Head of Mosquito Control eliminating Milton's current position. That will be some personnel cost savings. We have actually hired the replacements for Mike and Paul as they needed training in advance of the retiree's leaving. The District will lose two full time employees as the replacements will slide into the vacant positions once the retirement happens and their current permanent positions will be eliminated thus saving us salary cost over the next year for their trainee positions.


The American Mosquito Control Washington Days will be held Monday & Tuesday, May 9th & 10th. Congressman Curt Clawson has asked to meet with our delegation in person on Wednesday, May 11th. This is a very positive sign that he has requested to meet personally with us. He has sponsored one or two bills already for regarding Zika.


Commissioner Paul asked if Zika will impact our expenses in a negative way overall. Not unless we have endemic Zika because then our expenses will go up to handle the endemic cases which will increase our treatment and purchase of materials. The problem is that the way the State is investigating we will have no idea because no locals are being tested unless they have a travel history. If they do not travel and have symptoms they are not getting tested. Probably the way the money will be dispersed will be through the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), possibly using Ebola money and shifting it to Zika. The American Mosquito Control Association has provided a document to CDC explaining what we think it will cost to provide training. State aid will probably be run through the Health Department. This is problematic in Florida because the Health Department does not have control of Mosquito Control in Florida the Department of Agriculture does. Lee County probably will not get much funding from outside sources, maybe some funds will come to us to increase our lab capacity due to shortage of testing facilities. There are three labs in state that can do mosquito pool testing for Zika. The Governor has declared a state of emergency but the Department of Agriculture has made no emergency declaration.

FISCAL REVIEW – Commissioner Ellis, Secretary-Treasurer presented the Treasurer's report for March. Commissioner Ellis moved to approve both Mosquito and Hyacinth report as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dortch. The Board unanimously approved the report.

NEW BUSINESS – Chairman Brian Farrar - none

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Farrar at 11:11 a.m.


Secretary


Chairman