

Commissioner Ellis called to order the regular scheduled meeting of the Lee County Mosquito/Hyacinth Control Districts (LCMHCD) on 2/22/2024 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, not present

Seat 2- Commissioner Brian Farrar present via Zoom

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, not present

Legal Counsel- John Agnew

STAFF:

Executive Director- Dr. David Hoel

Assistant Director- Aaron Lloyd, not present

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

IT Director- Keith Lowe

Executive Administrative Assistant- Sabina Vilarchao

VISITORS:

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

The following citizens addressed the Board: None

Legal Counsel, John Agnew, stated Commissioner Hart has joined us, therefore we have an in-person quorum. Commissioner Farrar has joined the meeting via Zoom.

Commissioner Farar commented "I am remote today due to a family medical emergency."

Commissioner Ellis requested a motion to allow Commissioner Farrar's remote appearance and be able to vote based on extraordinary circumstances. Commissioner Hart moved to approve remote status and voting. Commissioner Bowen seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously, motion passed.

MINUTES APPROVAL:

Commissioner Ellis requested Board approval for the 01/26/2024 LCMHCD 10269 Board meeting minutes. Commissioner Bowen moved to approve the 01/26/2024 minutes. Commissioner Burke 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/_docNoneuments/2024-8-arbovirus-surveillance.pdf

CONSENT AGENDA:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

10270_ Aviation Fuel tank purchase – Many shortcomings were discovered with our heliport jet fuel tanks and some minor problems with our tankers that can be easily fixed. Our heliport tanks have been in use for decades. Among their problems are:

- A lack of epoxy lining inside the tanks or epoxy badly eroded
- Tanks with water in them (since drained)
- Wrong water testing paste
- Inadequate sump clearance space and malfunctioning sump spigots
- Wrong pipe material (not stainless steel or aluminum)
- Some are not double walled
- Some without vents and/or at the proper height of 12'
- Fuel hoses in poor condition
- Fueling nozzles lacking dust caps

LCMCD will have to purchase new Jet fuel tanks and replace those at the heliports. Depending on the amount of use, this will require either 2,000 gal or 4,000 gal tanks. Estimated cost will be over \$200K. This price DOES NOT include the fuel and insecticide cabinets.

LCMCD intends to purchase a diesel-powered jet fuel tanker truck so our people can re-fuel the heliports. The other tankers we have carried both jet fuel and water for use in the field, and some ferrying of water or fuel to heliports. The two fuel trucks we currently have are Army surplus and are decades old and outdated. Estimated truck cost is \$250K.

Commissioner Burke asked “You said the Department of Environmental Protection has been inspecting and they’ve been clearing us for a couple years. Was it that group at this most recent inspection that called us out or was it just a new inspector?” Dr. Hoel responded, “No, this was a gentleman who is an engineer, and his specialty is jet fuel/tanking systems for them. Our lead aircraft mechanic, Wayne Luettich, suggested this as he was wondering about the quality of the fuel.”

Commissioner Bowen commented “I just want to clarify that the Department of Environmental Protection, inspections are primarily for containment of fuels so that it doesn’t escape the tanks and get into the soil. They don’t inspect the tanks for the quality of the fuel or anything. Therefore, their inspections would have had nothing to do with what was discovered. Once we get the new tanks, it would be in our best interest to have ongoing inspections.”

Commissioner Hart asked “Can you remind me the purpose for the fuel cabinets? Secondly, let us discuss budget, you mentioned taking out of our reserves?” Sean responded, “The fuel cabinets that we are ordering actually have all the

pumps in there, hose reels, and are completely self-contained. All the components we had that pumped the fuel instead of being out in the open, will be inside the cabinet. Therefore, in the event of any natural disasters, we can just pick it up and haul it away. The tanks and tanker mentioned by Dr. Hoel are not in the budget.

Commissioner Ellis asked “In next month’s meeting, can we bring this agenda item back together in a package? Can it be presented to the board so we can go down the lists and see what everything costs?” Dr. Hoel responded, “I believe Sean has already submitted 3 requests for proposals. If that information is collected, we will package it.”

OPERATIONS & FACILITIES REPORT: Executive Director, Dr. Hoel, updated the Board.

Operations report – The rain this month has produced mosquitoes along the coast. We have moved our loading and fueling operations out of Buckingham for the time being due to our heliport situation. Even though this isn't optimal, we have managed to keep up with the larviciding efforts and the service request calls have remained low overall. LCMCD has recently upgraded their Drop Vision microscope to aid in droplet characterization of our adulticiding equipment. The larviciding department has recently had training from an industry expert, Mike Riles, about integrated mosquito control techniques. We are working to continue training this winter in preparation for this upcoming mosquito season.

Facilities report– New Fleet Storage Building – the LDO has been submitted to Community Development for review and approval. Other plans are on hold at this time pending the electrical testing being conducted at the Auto Shop building. If the test determines there is not enough power available to jump from that building to the new storage building, then a line will have to be run from the Bailey Building or from the Miller Building which will increase costs.

Quad Breakroom/Locker Room Overhaul – Plans are complete and have been submitted to Community Development; a tentative schedule has been set up for the RFP to select a contractor. As of now the RFP to select a contractor should be released the week of March 4th so the Board will have something to approve in the April 25th meeting.

Chiller Upgrade – LCMCD staff met with contractors bidding on the job on February 8th and gave them a tour of the site with ADG Architecture, our project manager. The RFP bidding process will close on March 8th and a contractor will be selected to present to the Board at the March 28th meeting.

Pine Island Property Sale – a revised contract has been executed for the next six months with the district’s realtor. The realtor is re-listing the property to reflect the split between the saleable portion and the lake portion.

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

Aircraft update:

- Airbus H125
N765MC – is down for 72-month inspection.
N866MC – is down waiting for Safran to repair the HMU, no word on when we will get that back.
- Fixed wing
N146RD (DC-3) is still in Arkansas getting paint, engine and prop work done.
N484MC (C-90) had engine runs this week for the first time since major work was done due to corrosion.
N762MC is down to a fuel leak that started yesterday. It will be up and running as soon as the parts get here, it could be used if we absolutely had to have it.

Woodstock parking – An interlocal agreement, drafted by Ben Few, has been submitted to Jesse Cottrell, Fire Chief, Upper Captiva Fire & Rescue, for review by their board. Terms are \$500/month and hold harmless for any mishaps to LCMCD. Upper Captiva will begin using the property as soon as the interlocal is agreed upon and signed. They are presenting to their board at the end of the month. Corkscrew heliport – Commissioner Brantley to review territory of east Lee County along Corkscrew Road for possible heliport sites, then schedule with LCMCD for aerial flyover inspection.

Pine Island Center Sale progress – Our property has been re-STRAPPED with 0.6 acre lot attached to the lake as a single property. We have offered this property to the Pine Island Fire District free of charge, pending their Board’s approval and acceptance of responsibility for the lake. The remaining property is now listed at \$790K. I have signed the Realtor agreement.

Dodd Short Courses – Thank you to our three commissioners who attended the commissioner caucus, important legislative issues were discussed. LCMCD had 30 members in attendance and three presenters.

Festival of Lights parade – Edison Festival of Lights Parade. Best one ever! The districts hosted five floats including a flatbed truck with 25 family members in attendance. LCMCD won 1st place!

Upcoming events:

- IAEA visit Dr. Rui Cardoso, Head of the Insect Pest Control Section, is coming from IAEA HQs to visit and confer with our SIT department. IAEA seems happy with the progress we are making in downtown Fort Myers. Our first release of 100,000 sterile male *Aedes aegypti* occurred this week. The event was reported on NBC2 11:00 news on Feb 20th.
- AMCA annual meeting Dallas. LCMCD is sending 11 people to attend, 9 will present on a variety of topics.
- 19th Arbovirus workshop at Anastasia MCD last week of March with 3 presenters.
- Miller Building costs. Estimated at \$2.3M.
- Charles Chapman, C4 Strategies, LLC. Hired to develop a strategic plan that will meet the requirements of new Special District legislative requirements. We will work with him to produce reportable metrics for review by the Board.
- The Chamber of SW Florida is hosting the Post Legislative Session Luncheon on the 13th at the Pelican Preserve Golf Club.
- Spring Regulator Tour with EPA, March 15th.

FISCAL REVIEW:

10271_LCMCD

10272_LCHCD

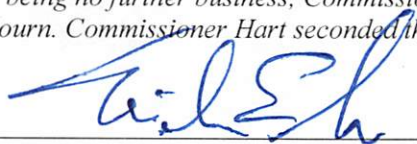
Commissioner Burke presented the LCMCD Treasurer's report for January 2024. Commissioner Bowen moved to approve the Mosquito Control District financials, 10271_LCMCD. Commissioner Farrar seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously, motion passed.

Commissioner Burke presented the LCHCD Treasurer's report for January 2024. Commissioner Bowen moved to approve the Hyacinth Control District financials, 10272_LCHCD. Commissioner Farrar seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously, motion passed.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Commissioner Burke asked “Regarding the fuel tanks that we were using, which had water getting into them. It sounded like they were from a military surplus from years ago. My concern is about safety and equipment damage. Can we contact other individuals using these kinds of tanks, and get the word out?” Dr. Hoel responded “I do not know what the other districts are doing. I know out of the 15 or so special districts in the state of Florida a certain proportion do have an aircraft.”

There being no further business, Commissioner Ellis requested a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Bowen made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Hart seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 10:56 a.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Ellis", written over a horizontal line.

Commissioner Mike Ellis, Chairman

Term: November 2020 – November 2024

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William Burke", written over a horizontal line.

Commissioner William Burke, Secretary/Treasurer

Term: November 2020 – November 2024