

Commissioner Ellis called to order the regular scheduled meeting of the Lee County Mosquito/Hyacinth Control Districts (LCMHCD) on 6/27/2024 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
Seat 2- Commissioner Brian Farrar
Seat 3- Commissioner Mike Ellis, Chairman
Seat 4- Commissioner Steve Bowen
Seat 5- Commissioner William Burke, Secretary/Treasurer, not present
Seat 6- Commissioner Thomas B. Hart, not present
Seat 7- Commissioner Bruce Scott
Legal Counsel- John Agnew

STAFF:

Executive Director- Dr. David Hoel
Assistant Director- Aaron Lloyd
Deputy Director, Lee County Hyacinth Control District- Kevin Watts
Chief Financial Officer- Sean O'Neill
Human Resources Director- Jackie Small
Communications Director- Jenifer McBride
Public Health Education Specialist – Mark McCreary
Education Resource Specialist I- Amy Lucas
Education Resource Specialist I- Jason Burgess
IT Director- Keith Lowe
Senior Program Analyst- Thais Pineda Alfonso
Executive Administrative Assistant- Sabina Vilarchao

VISITORS:

Carr, Riggs & Ingram CPAs and Advisors- John Brielmaier

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

The following citizens addressed the Board: None

MINUTES APPROVAL:

Commissioner Ellis requested Board approval for the 05/23/2024 LCMHCD 10295 Board meeting minutes. Commissioner Farrar moved to approve the 05/23/2024 minutes. Commissioner Bowen 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/_documents/2024-26-arbovirus-surveillance.pdf

CONSENT AGENDA:

10296_Surplus

Commissioner Ellis requested board approval for the consent agenda item. Commissioner Brantley moved to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Farrar seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved; motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

10278_Fleet building purchase – Request Board approval for the purchase of a 80' x 100' metal building to replace Sun Shade 3 that was destroyed in Hurricane Ian. Per the District's purchasing policy, expenditures over \$150,000 require Board approval. This will authorize payment to Allied Steel Buildings of \$194,538.00 for a prefabricated steel building kit which includes six rollup doors and two standard doors. The building is rated for 165MPH winds, and the engineering plans are 8th Ed. 2023 FBC. The lead time is approximately four to five weeks for delivery. A separate request for proposal will be issued for the general contractor to prepare the concrete slab and assembly of the building.

Commissioner Ellis requested Board approval for the 10278_Fleet building purchase. Commissioner Farrar moved to approve 10278. Commissioner Bowen seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously; motion passed.

10297_Fleet building construction contract– Request Board approval to award the contract for construction services to assemble the new Fleet metal building and pour the concrete to Rycon Construction, Inc. for a not-to-exceed amount of \$683,560. Per the District's purchasing policy, expenditures over \$150,000 require Board approval. A Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued to solicit quotes for construction services to put up the new Fleet metal building and prepare the concrete foundation. Rycon Construction, Inc. was the only bidder. After reviewing the bid and negotiating with the Rycon representatives, a final adjusted price of \$683,560 was reached. The administration recommends approving the bid with Rycon to begin construction.

Commissioner Ellis requested Board approval for the 10297_Fleet building construction contract. Commissioner Bowen moved to approve 10297. Commissioner Farrar seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously; motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

10298_FY23 Financial audit LCMCD – The District's auditors, Carr, Riggs & Ingram, provided a report on the fiscal year 2023 audit. They provided a brief summary of the annual audited financial statements for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2023, for approval and provide authorization to transmit the audited financial information to the State of Florida Department of Financial Services for the District's required annual reporting.

Commissioner Ellis requested Board approval for the 10298_FY23 Financial audit LCMCD. Commissioner Farrar moved to approve 10298. Commissioner Scott seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously; motion passed.

10299_FY23 Financial audit LCHCD –The District's auditors, Carr, Riggs & Ingram provided a report on the fiscal year 2023 audit. They provided a brief summary of the annual audited financial statements for the fiscal year ending September

30, 2023, for approval and provide authorization to transmit the audited financial information to the State of Florida Department of Financial Services for the District's required annual reporting.

Commissioner Ellis requested Board approval for the 10299_FY23 Financial audit LCHCD. Commissioner Scott moved to approve 10298. Commissioner Farrar seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously; motion passed.

10300_Audit committee and auditor selection process – Request the Board activate the Districts' Auditor Selection Committee to select an audit firm for the Districts' FY24 audit. Per Florida Statute Section 218.39, the Districts are required to have an Auditor Selection Committee to select an audit firm to perform the annual financial audits of the Districts. The current audit contract expires with the completion of the FY23 financial audit and there are no more automatic renewals available. The Districts must activate the Committee and go through the process of selecting an auditor again.

Commissioner Ellis requested Board approval for 10300_the Creation of an Audit selection committee with Commissioner Burke as the chair. Commissioner Brantley moved to approve 10300. Commissioner Farrar seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously; motion passed.

10301_School board education budget FY25 – Obtain Board approval of the FY25 (July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025) Lee County Mosquito Education Program Budget. Authorizes the funding of personnel and operational expenses for the mosquito education program to the School District of Lee County for the FY25 Budget year in accordance with the inter-local agreement. Jenifer McBride, Amy Lucas and Jason Phillips provided an overview of the education program and the requested budget for FY25.

Commissioner Ellis requested Board approval for the 10301_School board education budget FY25 (July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025). Commissioner Farrar moved to approve 10301. Commissioner Bowen seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously; motion passed.

OPERATIONS & FACILITIES REPORT: Assistant Director Aaron Lloyd updated the Board.

Operations report – About 2 weeks ago we had approximately 14 inches of rain across the county. Our pretreat applications have been working really well, LCMCD has decided to delay our second pretreats because we're still seeing good control. As we monitor the weather and the larvae that are popping up, we will go full force with the rest of the treatments. However, we did have some of the mosquitoes pop off and had 8 plane missions since then. We've got 4 more scheduled this week, and we had 2 go out last night. Everything's been going well. Our service requests have leveled out, but our trap counts are down, which is nice to see. We were expecting very large trap counts, but the planes did well.

We have added an 18th chicken coop at the Corkscrew area. This is just to increase our Arbovirus surveillance capacity into southeast Lee County, and the chickens are providing samples every week as we speak.

This weather and this pattern of mosquitoes has really got the attention of the media. Jenifer McBride has been quite busy. Actually, one media story was about "why were the planes flying so low"; it started out as a potential fact-finding type story, and Jenifer turned it right around explaining the reasoning.

Facilities report– For facilities, because of our fixed wing plan that we're trying to develop, the Miller building is going to be put on hold. It's not going to completely stop.

We've got a chiller that's on site now getting ready to be installed, very soon. Currently our focus is to work on the fixed wing aircraft replacement.

The Quad – The construction company that got approved by the Board last month has already met with our facilities department, and they're planning on a start date around July 10th. That project should begin in a couple of weeks.

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

Aircraft update:

- DC3 N146 engine is running hot, need extra time for parts and repairs. Expected back by end of July.
- C90 droplet test due any day now.
- One helicopter down for 72-month inspection. Will be finished in 2 weeks.
- All other helicopters are up and running.

DOH/FDACS grant chemical order – Part of the grant money arrived, the remaining money is due before July 30th. LCMCD is purchasing large quantities of long residual larvicides. The second shipment of insecticide has been ordered; receipt of final grant money will be due as soon as we submit receipts.

Pine Island Center update – Lee County staff cancelled the Friday, 6/21 meeting with us at Pine Island Center to view the industrial park lake. They have decided to score the lake based on aerial mapping. POC is Renee Moneta.

IAEA visit – Rachel, Aaron and I visited two Sterile Insect Technique (SIT) laboratories supported by the IAEA to be updated on the latest SIT developments and procedures and to discuss our new release site in Fort Myers.

Our first visit was to an SIT facility outside of Valencia, Spain, which is primarily a fruit fly sterilization facility, but is now producing sterile male *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes, a dengue vector and closely related to our own *Aedes aegypti* species. Over the past 20 years, *Ae. albopictus* has colonized much of Europe. While in Valencia, we witnessed the first official release of these mosquitoes with city officials, IAEA, and media in attendance. Afterwards, we traveled to Vienna to visit the new SIT facility in Seibersdorf, 40 miles south of Vienna. They showed us the various new X-ray, Cesium, and Cobalt sterilization machines and gave a tour of their new facility. On the final day of the visit, we met with high-ranking IAEA officials at their headquarters in Vienna to discuss our new Ft. Myers operation and met with Ms. Lisa Wilkinson, a high-ranking political officer who works with international organizations for the U.S. Embassy in Vienna, for her report to the Embassy of our activities.

Form 1 Completion – A friendly reminder that your Form 1 Statement of Financial Interests, is due July 1st. If the annual form is not filed or postmarked by September 1st, an automatic fine of \$25 for each day late will be imposed, up to a maximum penalty of \$1500.

Strategic plan update – A 90-minute Zoom meeting was held with Charles Chapman on Monday, the consultant we hired to help us get our Strategic Plan up to OPPAGA standards and ready to submit by September 30th. We are in the process of culling excessive and minor goals and will focus on larger, trackable goals. Next meeting is July 4th. Mr. Chapman is pleased with the progress we've made to this point.

FISCAL REVIEW:

10302_LCMCD

10303_LCHCD

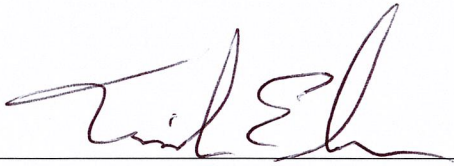
Sean O'Neill presented the LCMCD Treasurer's report for May 2024. Commissioner Farrar moved to approve the Mosquito Control District financials, 10302_LCMCD. Commissioner Bowen seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously; motion passed.

Sean O'Neill presented the LCHCD Treasurer's report for May 2024. Commissioner Farrar moved to approve the Hyacinth Control District financials, 10303_LCHCD. Commissioner Brantley seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously; motion passed.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

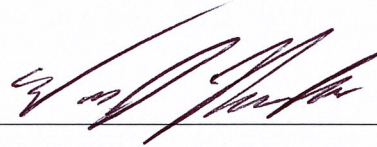
None

There being no further business, Commissioner Ellis requested a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Brantley made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Bowen seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 11:12 a.m.



Commissioner Mike Ellis, Chairman

Term: November 2020 – November 2024



Commissioner William Burke, Secretary/Treasurer

Term: November 2020 – November 2024