

Commissioner Ellis called to order the regular scheduled meeting of the Lee County Mosquito/Hyacinth Control Districts (LCMHCD) on 8/22/2024 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
Seat 2- Commissioner Brian Farrar
Seat 3- Commissioner Mike Ellis, Chairman
Seat 4- Commissioner Steve Bowen
Seat 5- Commissioner William Burke, Secretary/Treasurer
Seat 6- Commissioner Thomas B. Hart, not present
Seat 7- Commissioner Bruce Scott, not present
Legal Counsel- Vee H. Leonard

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, not present
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

MINUTES APPROVAL:

Commissioner Ellis requested Board approval for the 07/25/2024 LCMHCD 10311 Board meeting minutes. Commissioner Bowen moved to approve the 07/25/2024 minutes. Commissioner Brantley 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/2024-34-arbovirus-surveillance.pdf

CONSENT AGENDA:

10312_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:

10300_Auditor selection committee – Request the Board approve a new Committee member of the Districts' Auditor Selection Committee to select an audit firm for the District's FY24 audit. The prior committee member will not be able to serve. An alternate member has been selected for approval by the Board. Dr. Daniel Acheampong, an accounting professor at Florida Gulf Coast University has agreed to serve on the committee.

Commissioner Ellis requested Board approval to add Dr. Daniel Acheampong to 10300 to serve on the committee. Commissioner Bowen moved to approve 10300. Commissioner Farrar seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously; motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

10313_Mosquito Control Strategic Plan Approval – Approve legislatively-mandated five-year strategic plan for the Mosquito Control District. Provides mosquito control with a detailed comprehensive strategic plan with specific goals and objectives that are budgeted with timelines for completion.

Commissioner Brantley asked “How are we articulating the aircraft transition plan?” Dr. Hoel responded, “We changed it, removing aircraft-model specific language, in order not to rush our selection to replace our aging fixed wing fleet with 3 new or good used aircraft with low engine hours bringing the fixed wing fleet to 5 aircraft (DC-3s remain).”

Commissioner Brantley commented “It would be helpful to print the strategic plan with all of our board packets to reference during the meeting.”

Commissioner Ellis requested Board approval for the 10313_Mosquito Control Strategic Plan. Commissioner Farrar moved to approve 10313. Commissioner Bowen seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously; motion passed.

10314_Hyacinth Control Strategic Plan Approval – Approve legislatively-mandated five year strategic plan for the Hyacinth Control District. Provides hyacinth control with a detailed comprehensive strategic plan with specific goals and objectives that are budgeted with timelines for completion.

Commissioner Ellis requested Board approval for the 10314_Hyacinth Control Strategic Plan. Commissioner Bowen moved to approve 10314. Commissioner Brantley seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously; motion passed.

10315_Fuel Contract Renewal (gas and diesel) – Award and authorize the expenditure of funds for the Annual Price Agreements for mid-grade gasoline and diesel fuel for District vehicles and equipment. This action will allow the Purchasing Manager to order mid-grade gasoline and diesel fuel as needed, based on District tank levels, over the term of the agreements from January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.

Commissioner Ellis requested Board approval for the 10315_Fuel Contract Renewal. Commissioner Farrar moved to approve 10315. Commissioner Brantley seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously; motion passed.

10316_Grant Budget amendment – Amend the Lee County Mosquito Control District 2024 budget to:

Increase budgeted revenues and expenditures to recognize grant proceeds received from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-funded grant to the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) and the Florida Department of Health (FDOH). This budget amendment will increase the FY2024 budgeted revenues and expenditures to reflect the receipt of the grant proceeds and the purchase of chemicals.

Commissioner Ellis requested Board approval for the 10316_Grant Budget amendment. Commissioner Farrar moved to approve 10316. Commissioner Brantley seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously; motion passed.

10319_Reschedule First Public Hearing date – Request the Board to ratify moving the first public hearing date for the proposed budget from September 5th to September 4th. Per Florida Statutes, special districts are prohibited from conducting public hearings for the proposed budget on dates that are used by the School Board and the Board of County Commissioners. The date of September 5th had been selected by the School Board as their budget hearing date. Moving the District's meeting to September 4th will remove this scheduling conflict.

Commissioner Ellis requested Board approval for the 10319_ratify the moving of the first public hearing date for LCMHCD. Commissioner Brantley moved to approve 10319. Commissioner Farrar seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously; motion passed.

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

Facilities report – Nothing to report.

Operations report – Mosquito have not been bad county-wide with exception of N. Ft. Myers and part of Pine Island. Aerial missions have contained this hatch offs for the time being. Nothing further to report.

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

Aircraft update:

- N146 (DC-3) has had both atomizer and engine problems. A tachometer wire came loose, delaying one spray night, and a rotary atomizer had to be hand-rotated to make function after landing at Page Field. This was fixed and the plane flew this week.
- King Air 200 has experienced several atomizer malfunctions, cancelling or delaying 3 spray nights. We believe we have found the problem being the insecticide filter and we have replaced it with a larger mesh filter that should prevent clogging.
- All 6 H125 helicopters are up and flying.
- Fixed wing replacement options – A completely rebuilt DC-3 is for sale at Bassler Turbo Conversions who do body work for our DC-3s, for \$13M. Right now, we are leaning on replacing our 3 older King Air 200s with later model King Air 200s with lower engine hours.
- Pine Island Center realtor contract – A new contract with our realtor, Tim Foster, will be signed in the next couple of days. Asking price is \$790,000. The 0.6 acre lot bordering the lake will be removed from the remaining property being sold and held by us to allow access to the lake, weir, and berm.
- DOH/FDACS chemical grant update – The final grant payment of \$586,000 was made last week, total grant was \$956,945. The process took a year and a half to complete. Once insecticide was ordered instead of equipment that had various build and complete dates that were difficult if not impossible to meet, the insecticide grant went quickly, completed in 5 months. In the future, when CDC or other emergency grants are offered in the wake of hurricanes or other damaging events, we will order insecticide and backfill material needs from our insecticide funds.

Miscellaneous:

- Calusa Land Trust– Brian Cotterill said that the Calusa Land Trust reviewed the PI Center lake and rejected taking it.
- Commissioners check their LCMCD email account at least once a week.

FISCAL REVIEW:

10317_LCMCD

10318_LCHCD

Commissioner Burke presented the LCMCD Treasurer's report for July 2024. Commissioner Burke moved to approve the Mosquito Control District financials, 10317_LCMCD. Commissioner Farrar seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously; motion passed.

Commissioner Burke presented the LCHCD Treasurer's report for July 2024. Commissioner Burke moved to approve the Hyacinth Control District financials, 10318_LCHCD. Commissioner Bowen seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously; motion passed.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Commissioner Brantley commented “Thank you again for the strategic plan, very pleased with the way it turned out. I would encourage you to present it and review it regularly with all staff members.”

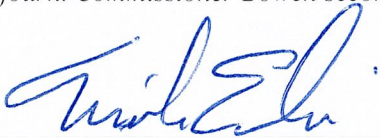
Commissioner Brantley commented “I want to share an observation with you regarding the aircraft plan. In Labelle there is a nice looking DC-3 sitting on the runway. So, if it is, Henry County or somebody out there could be a potential source for replacement parts.”

Commissioner Bowen commented “The strategic plan that was just approved, please remove the Draft watermark and C4 Strategies, LLC.”

Commissioner Ellis commented “Just another note on the strategic plan, we should add that we review it annually.”


Commissioner Farrar commented “I want to thank staff for their diligent work on the workshop today. All the information that we've reviewed today was very thoughtful. I think we have a good plan moving forward.”

There being no further business, Commissioner Ellis requested a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Farrar made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Bowen seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 10:47 a.m.



Commissioner Mike Ellis, Chairman

Term: November 2020 – November 2024



Commissioner William Burke, Secretary/Treasurer

Term: November 2020 – November 2024