

Anastasia Mosquito Control District of St. Johns County

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BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Gary Howell, Chairperson
Jeanne Moeller, Vice-Chairperson
Gina LeBlanc, Secretary/Treasurer
Don Girvan, Commissioner
Trish Becker, Commissioner



DISTRICT DIRECTOR

Dr. Rui-de Xue



Thursday, February 14, 2019

Next Meeting(s): Thursday, March 14, 2019 – 5:00 PM

MINUTES

The regular Board meeting for the Anastasia Mosquito Control District of St. Johns County was held on Thursday, February 14, 2019, at 5:00 P.M.

Board members in attendance:

Mr. Gary Howell, Chairperson
Mrs. Gina LeBlanc, Vice-Chairperson
Mrs. Jeanne Moeller, Commissioner
Mr. Don Girvan, Commissioner
Mrs. Trish Becker, Commissioner

Also in attendance:

Dr. Rui-De Xue, Director
Mr. John Wallace, Lewis Longman & Walker, Attorney (*for Mr. Wayne Flowers*)
Mr. Bill Youker, V.P., Harrell Construction Co., Inc.

Staff notified the Board that the audio/video equipment is not working for this meeting.

Chairperson Howell called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Howell led the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

ROLL CALL: Chairperson Howell noted ~ All were present

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: For Items not on the Agenda ~ None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Chairperson Howell called for approval of the Agenda.

A. A motion was made to approve the Agenda as presented.

- Motioned by: Commissioner Girvan
- Seconded by: Commissioner Moeller
- VOTE accepted unanimously by all commissioners
- **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Chairperson Howell called for approval of the Consent Agenda.

A. A motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

- Motioned by: Commissioner LeBlanc
- Seconded by: Commissioner Girvan
- VOTE: Accepted unanimously by all commissioners
- **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Consent Items ~ APPROVAL OF:

1. Treasurer's Report
2. Vouchers (*Cancelled Checks*)
3. Chemical Inventory
4. Minutes: Regular Board Meeting – January 10, 2019 at 5:00 PM
5. Budget Calendar 19/20
6. Change Data Manager's Title to Business Manager
7. Dodd Short Course Report
8. Update Assistant Supervisor Job Description
9. Budget Amendments ~ \$46,713.44 (from Receipts; to Operating Expenditures for Personal Services and Benefits, Operating Expenses, Printing, Misc. Supplies, & Training)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Item 1: 8 Acre Parcel & Research Property Construction Project Update ~ Mr. Bill Youker, V.P. Harrell Construction Co., Inc.

- Mr. Youker stated the hangar is up, framed, and painted; building 800 is close to being done, plumbing and all is in, it just needs cleaned and a systems check done; chicken house is also close to being done, they will soon install the cages; there is still an issue with the permit for the septic system; they had a meeting in Gainesville with the state health department; the permit was applied for through St. Johns County, they then had them apply for a variance through the state, the state then put it back to St. Johns County; the utility department doesn't want to accept the waste from the chickens because of the ammonia; we are waiting on St. Johns County to let us know what we need to do at this time; Commissioner Girvan suggested using a bagging system and Mr. Youker suggested checking with the St. Johns County Agricultural Center to see if they could use it as fertilizer on their gardens. Mr. Youker stated the Certificate of Occupancy for the Guest House will possibly be in by the end of February.

- **THERE WAS NO MOTION ON THIS ITEM**

Item 2: Discussion and Approval of the Concept for District Expansion ~ Dr. Rui-De Xue

- Dr. Xue stated the Board needs to authorize staff and the attorney to conduct a study on related laws and regulations for expansion of this type and the procedures and process of steps with timelines; Commissioner Moeller stated Chapter 388.021 states: "(1) The abatement or suppression of arthropods, whether disease-bearing or merely pestiferous, within any or all counties of this state is advisable and necessary for the maintenance and betterment of the comfort, health, and welfare of the people thereof and is found and declared to be for public purposes. Areas where arthropods incubate, hatch, or occur in significant numbers so as to constitute a public health, welfare, or nuisance problem may be controlled or abated as provided in this chapter or the rules promulgated hereunder. Therefore, any city, town, or county, or any portion or portions thereof, whether such portion or portions include incorporated territory or portions of two or more counties in the state, may be created into a special taxing district for the control of arthropods under the provisions of this chapter."
http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&Search_String=&URL=03000399/0388/Sections/0388.021.html

- Dr. Xue stated there is approximately 10 square miles in Flagler County that isn't being sprayed and the same in Nocatee area, Duval County. Mr. Wallace stated this can be done through an Interlocal agreement and the Department of Agriculture would have to approve it; it also needs to be initiated by the residents of these counties and to have it approved by their City Council.

A. A motion was made to approve staff, Dr. Xue, and the attorney to have the ability to research this project and discuss the first steps and bring this back to the Board in June.

- Motioned by: Commissioner Moeller
- Seconded by: Commissioner LeBlanc
- VOTE: Accepted unanimously by all commissioners
- **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Item 3: SIT Project Report (Ppt) ~ Mr. Christopher Bibbs

- Mr. Bibbs presented a PowerPoint explaining the Sterile Insect Technique (SIT) Project; they tried to apply this to the *Aedes aegypti* in our county; they marked and then released them, tracked them to see if they do what we wanted them to; the main focus is the mating behaviors; the Davis Shores area was used as it is surrounded by water, they marked the male mosquitoes with fluorescent colored dyes and set the traps, then checked them twice a week; the release was done every 2 weeks; they had 100 % positive results; the USDA also believes the eradication of females may be able to sterilize them and stop them from blood feeding.

- **THERE WAS NO MOTION ON THIS ITEM**

NEW BUSINESS

Item 1: Aerial Program Report (Ppt) ~ Mr. Peter Paul Leone

- Mr. Leone presented a PowerPoint explaining the aerial program; working on a 4 phase program from budgeted funds: 1) modernizing the VHF radios and transponder, 2) installing AGNAV spray guidance computer, data probe, and integrated with Isolair modular spray systems, 3) installing radar altimeter, and 4) NVG cockpit modification; our white phosphor night vision goggles are better and safer at night than the standard green, FAA requirements - CAP approved December 2018, Official Call Sign is "Mosquito One", Part 137 certificate's tentative approval - summer of 2019, waiting on FAA scheduling confirmation for the NVG cockpit modification certificate.

- **THERE WAS NO MOTION ON THIS ITEM**

Item 2: Update on the 16th annual Workshop, March 26-28, 2019 ~ Dr. Rui-De Xue

- Dr. Xue stated we have 66 speakers scheduled for the workshop, we will have the 70th year celebration in conjunction with the workshop, he invited all commissioners to the dinner for the workshop which will be on Tuesday, March 26th. In the future we may need to control the number of people attending - as the attendees are increasing each year and the facilities may not be able to accommodate the huge numbers.

- **THERE WAS NO MOTION ON THIS ITEM**

Item 3: FMCA Tallahassee Legislation Meeting Items and Delegates and Travel Approval for March 18-19, 2019 ~ Commissioner Jeanne Moeller

- Commissioner Jeanne Moeller gave an overview of the FMCA talking points for the Tallahassee Legislation meeting, there is a \$2,660,000 budget; \$500,000 for research, \$500,000 for FMEL, and

\$83,000 for DACS, Commissioner Moeller will be team leader and will be setting up appointments between the House and Senate, there is a dinner at 6 PM at Georgio's Monday evening; Tuesday is an all day event with lunch on your own this year; she requested everyone that wants to go – to let Dr. Xue know and Commissioners' Becker, Howell, and Moeller all stated they wanted to go.

A. A motion was made to approve the travel for three commissioners to attend the FMCA Tallahassee Legislative Days on March 18-19, 2019.

- Motioned by: Commissioner Becker
- Seconded by: Commissioner LeBlanc
- VOTE: Accepted unanimously by all commissioners
- **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Item 4: Discussion and Approval for AMCA Washington, DC Conference, May 13-16, 2019 ~

Dr. Rui-De Xue

- Dr. Xue stated that the Washington, DC meetings begin Monday, May 13th and end Wednesday, May 15th by the end of the day; each person's hotel would be three nights at \$250 plus tax and a registration fee of \$70 each. Commissioner Moeller is the team leader.

A. A motion was made to approve the travel for Commissioner Moeller to attend the AMCA Washington, DC Conference May 13-16, 2019.

- Motioned by: Commissioner LeBlanc
- Seconded by: Commissioner Girvan
- VOTE: Accepted unanimously by all commissioners
- **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

REPORTS:

1. **Director** ~ Dr. Xue; employee training was done yesterday, we have finished all the annual performance evaluations, 4 field technicians had complaints of conflicts with their Supervisor, they all sat together and worked on helping the situation, everyone is preparing for the surveillance program, we need to order the chickens the first of March, we finished the Annual Program Report and will release it next week, we are preparing a grant application with the University of Florida cooperation, March 4th MosquitoMate will be here for 6 months, our intern Caroline Blunck will now be working for them and \$10,000 was received from them to hire other interns also to help, for a total grant of \$30,000.

2. **Attorney** ~ Mr. Wallace; stated he had no further comment.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Becker ~ she attended the FMCA Dodd Short Course Commissioner's Caucus and learned a lot, is proud of the good team and Commissioner Moeller's and Christopher Bibb's teachings, our District is awesome.

Commissioner LeBlanc ~ thanked the staff for their hard work and appreciated Mr. Paul Leone's presentation.

Commissioner Girvan ~ the Dodd Short Course Commissioner's Caucus was well presented, the staff and accounting here at AMCD do a great job.

Commissioner Moeller ~ has been looking at the AMCD policy manual and in looking at the "Staff Numbers Policy", would like the Board to approve looking into it as with the aerial program, do we need that many seasonal employees?, would like this brought back to the Board in March to reflect accurate numbers; shared the annual report with several people and they believe we are ahead of IFAS in all our presentations; there is one correction needed (one place states the millage rate was a slight increase, another place says it stayed the same)

Commissioner Howell ~ agrees the Gainesville lab visit was a good one, studied honey bees, AMCD is number one and he wants us to look good and know what we are talking about, wants our commissioner's well trained, the commissioners' input is good and he appreciates it; thanked everyone.

ATTACHMENTS: ~

1. *2018 Annual Program Report DRAFT*

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairperson Howell adjourned the meeting at 7:03 P.M.

ATTEST 
Chairperson, Commissioner Gary Howell


Secretary/Treasurer, Commissioner Gina LeBlanc

These minutes are not intended to be a verbatim transcript of this meeting and could easily be misinterpreted by a reader who was not present. To obtain a full and accurate record of the meeting, an individual should view/listen to the entire proceedings via the District's DVD visual/recording system.