

Anastasia Mosquito Control District of St. Johns County

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BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Gary Howell, Chairperson
Vivian Browning, Vice-Chairperson
Catherine Brandhorst, Secretary/Treasurer
Janice Bequette, Commissioner
Jeanne Moeller, Commissioner



DISTRICT DIRECTOR

Dr. Rui-de Xue



Thursday, July 14, 2016

Next Meeting(s): Thursday, August 11, 2016 – 6:00 PM

MINUTES

The regular Board meeting for the Anastasia Mosquito Control District of St. Johns County was held on Thursday, July 14, 2016 at 6:00 P.M.

Board members in attendance:

Mr. Gary Howell, Chairperson
Ms. Vivian Browning, Vice-Chairperson
Mrs. Jeanne Moeller, Commissioner

Board members absent:

Ms. Janice Bequette, Commissioner (due to family emergency)
Mrs. Catherine Brandhorst, Secretary/Treasurer (due to illness)

Also in attendance:

Dr. Rui-De Xue, Director
Mr. Wayne E. Flowers, Attorney
Ms. Juliann Klein, Lombardo, Spradley, & Klein

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 ~ Commissioners' Moeller, Howell, and Browning were present. Commissioners' Bequette and Brandhorst were absent.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: For Items not on the Agenda ~ Mr. Ed Slavin, P.O. Box 3084, St. Augustine, Florida; thanked the Board for being open and accountable and for cancelling the helicopter a while back as we don't need one. When AMCD wisely gave the county the land for the EOC, it set a precedent which is binding.

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 Moeller
- Seconded by: Commissioner Browning
- 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 Moeller
- Seconded by: Commissioner Browning
- 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 of June 9, 2016 at 6:00 P.M.
5. DACS Work Plan Narrative
6. Public Hearing Dates (First Public Hearing, Thursday, September 8, 2016 at 5:30 P.M. and Final Public Hearing, Thursday, September 22, 2016 at 5:30 P.M.)
7. Revised Education Specialist Job Description

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Item 1: AUDITOR'S REPORT UPDATE (FY 14/15) FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2015 ~

Ms. Julieann Klein, Lombardo, Spradley, & Klein

- Ms. Klein wished us all well with the new complex. She stated that the report's lateness was due to the GASB 68 and the new standards (which did not come out until late April 2016) where we must now report our portion of the FRS pension liability which makes a change in the accounting principle and because of implementing the standard, we had to restate the prior year's net position. The report stated there were no compliance violations discovered, no significant deficiencies or material weaknesses discovered and no significant control deficiencies. She also noted a reminder on the Florida Statutes 189.069 "Special District's; required reporting of information; web based public access" for the financial information on the District's website.

A. A Motion was made to accept and approve the Auditors Report for FY 14/15 for period ending September 30, 2015.

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

Item 2: 500 OLD BEACH ROAD PROPERTY DISPOSAL UPDATE ~ Mr. Wayne Flowers

- Mr. Flowers stated that he, Dr. Xue, and Chairperson Howell met with the City of St. Augustine Manager, Mr. John Regan, and their attorney to discuss their intentions concerning the 500 Old Beach Road property and they indicated that there may be interest by the City of St. Augustine in the property but they would have to discuss this with their Board to determine what their intentions are. Mr. Flowers stated that during their discussions, the City of St. Augustine showed interest in wanting compensation if we sell to another government entity or private entity, if necessary in releasing the Reverter Clause ; if the property is sold or disposed of to a government entity the Reverter Clause would not have any bearing, the government entity getting the property would have to abide by it though; if sold to a private entity the Reverter Clause could be invoked; Mr. Flowers, Chairperson Howell, and Dr. Xue will contact and meet with the county to see what their interest is in the property, if any, since the property is in the County's jurisdiction.

- A. **There was a consensus of the Board that Mr. Wayne Flowers, Chairperson Gary Howell and Director, Dr. Xue will set up a meeting with the St. Johns County government to see what their interest is in the 500 Old Beach Road property, if any, and bring this back to the August 11, 2016 Board meeting.**

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Ed Slavin, P.O. Box 3084, St. Augustine, Florida; stated that the best use of our 500 Old Beach Road property would be as a park, not as condos, parking lots, or a fire station; government is not a business and the notion that AMCD would sell this property for 150 times more than what we paid for it was immoral and illegal; he has not received items from his public records request yet from the attorney's meeting with the City of St. Augustine (Mr. Flowers noted there were no notes taken at this meeting); he asked why we didn't meet with the City of St. Augustine Beach when we met with the City of St. Augustine because they want the property for a park; he stated that Mr. Wanchick, St. Johns County Administrator, can't be trusted because he would put condos or trucks on the property and this would be a dead loser to give it or sell it to the County.

Mr. Joe Howell, City of St. Augustine Beach Public Works Director, stated that he was here just to observe as they do have an interest in the property.

- Dr. Xue stated that the Board approved putting out an RFP back in April 2016 for government and private entities for selling the 500 Old Beach Road property but he suggested we do an amendment to the RFP. Mr. Flowers stated we could move forward with the RFP if we put it out to only government entities but he cautioned that we should finish our talks with the City of St. Augustine first and the Board agreed.

B. A Motion was made to move this item for discussion and decision, on the Disposal of the 500 Old Beach Road property, to the August 11, 2016 Agenda.

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

Item 3: APPROVAL OF RFP FOR DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT OF 8 ACRES RESEARCH PROPERTY ~

Mr. Richard Weaver

- Mr. Weaver stated that six (6) companies requested the RFP packet and only two (2) companies returned the RFP; Harrell Construction Company, Inc. and VIA Concepts, LLC. They both were scored and the recommendation was to award the RFP to Harrell Construction because they scored higher overall, especially on experience, knowledge, financial and timing.

A. A motion was made to approve the recommendation to award the RFP to Harrell Construction Company, Inc. and for them to bring a contract back to the Board to submit at the August 11, 2016 Board meeting.

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

NEW BUSINESS

Item 1: APPROVAL OF DACS WORK PLAN BUDGET ~ *Dr. Rui-De Xue*

- Dr. Xue stated that the Budget deadline is tomorrow, July 15th, and he recommended that the Board approve the tentative budget by approving the DACS Work Plan Budget as presented. He also noted, changes can be done in the next couple of months.
 - A. **A motion was made to approve the DACS Work Plan Budget as presented.**
 - Motioned by: Commissioner Moeller
 - Seconded by: Commissioner Browning
 - VOTE: Accepted unanimously by all commissioners
 - **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Item 2: DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE ~ *Dr. Rui-De Xue*

- The present year's millage rate is 0.1773 and Dr. Xue recommended the proposed millage rate for FY 16/17 be set at 0.2000, which is approximately \$478,000 more than the present year, due to the Zika virus and keeping enough in the budget for operations; at 0.200 (if someone owns a \$150,000 house with a \$50,000 exemption, they would still only pay \$20 for the whole year for mosquito control). Dr. Xue stated it has already cost \$2-\$300,000 in just three months for the Zika eradication in downtown St. Augustine plus additional work for staff. It was then discussed by the Board that with the Zika Virus, even the 0.2000 would not be enough and was suggested that the proposed millage rate be set at 0.2150; we can still lower it before the Final Budget Hearing, but not raise it.
 - A. **A motion was made to approve the proposed millage rate at 0.2150 for the FY 2016/2017.**
 - Motioned by: Commissioner Browning
 - Seconded by: Commissioner Moeller
 - VOTE: Accepted unanimously by all commissioners
 - **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Item 3: APPLIED RESEARCH COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT ~ *Commissioner Janice Bequette*

- Dr. Xue gave the report for Commissioner Bequette at her request; the Applied Research Committee met on June 2, 2016 and discussed the budget for applied research; Dr. Daniel Dixon joined the committee; there were 2 intern students hired and paid with grant money through the University of Florida; we finished the MGK project in cooperation with the University of Florida; received a report that there were 2 positive honey cards for EEE; and the ATSB project and new spray projects are under way.
 - **THERE WAS NO MOTION ON THIS ITEM**

Item 4: EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING, OPEN HOUSE, AND NATIONAL MOSQUITO CONTROL AWARENESS WEEK REPORTS ~ *Mr. Christopher Bibbs*

- Mr. Bibbs reported that the meeting's emphasis was for everything to be in place for the Open House, to discuss the research property and the Mosquito Control Awareness Week's events at the Alligator Farm, hardware stores like Home Depot, the radio, and interagency relations; the DOH invited them to their incident management team, met with Animal Control, will meet with the Infectious Diseases Department, and the St. Johns County schools and nurses. AMCD's Education Program has been in 22 schools this year and may get more in September. He answered the question that we have approximately 8-10 vector mosquitoes in St. Johns County.
 - **THERE WAS NO MOTION ON THIS ITEM**

REPORTS:

1. **Director** ~ Dr. Xue stated there were 435 service requests in June; we provided *Aedes aegypti* nationwide (USDA, Navy, New Mexico University, State University of California, UC Davis), they wanted to help us figure out where Zika comes from and what is happening; St. Johns County is under a Mosquito Borne Illness Advisory for EEE - 6 sentinel chickens and two honey cards tested positive for EEE; still 2 imported cases of Zika in St. Johns County; one volunteer scientist from University of Florida returned, Dr. Mohamed Sallam and an intern (paid by UF) for three months, 1 additional seasonal employee hired in June, which makes a total of 6 seasonal inspector sprayers hired this year. Mosquito Control Technician Jerry Iser, had a heart attack a couple of months ago, is recovering well and will start back to work on Monday, July 18th.
2. **Attorney** ~ Mr. Flowers stated he had nothing further.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Browning ~ stated she attended the Trail Master Plan meeting, the County will get money for a horse trail and dirt bike trail and we need to contact them to give them a mosquito control plan for the trails; thanked the staff for helping Mr. Ed with the Conquistador.

Commissioner Bequette ~ absent

Commissioner Moeller ~ stated that the FMCA Legislative Committee is talking about asking for an increase in our funds and the return of the \$500,000 that we give to IFAS from our budget; thanked the staff for their hard work.

Commissioner Howell ~ stated that he was in touch with several elected officials and when speaking to Representative Stevenson, she stated she will help us any way she can; thanked the Commissioners and commended the audience for being there and sharing information with us.

Commissioner Brandhorst ~ absent

ATTACHMENTS: ~
None

ADJOURNMENT:
Chairperson Howell adjourned the meeting at 7:42 P.M.

ATTEST 
Chairperson, Commissioner Gary Howell


Secretary/Treasurer, Comm. Catherine Brandhorst

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.