

# Anastasia Mosquito Control District of St. Johns County

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## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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



## DISTRICT DIRECTOR

Dr. Rui-de Xue



Thursday, September 10, 2020

Next Meeting(s): Final Public Hearing; Thursday, September 24, 2020 – 5:30 PM  
Regular Mtg.; Thursday, October 8, 2020 – 5:00 PM

## MINUTES

The regular Board meeting for the Anastasia Mosquito Control District of St. Johns County was held on Thursday, September 10, 2020, at 5:00 P.M. The meeting was interrupted at precisely 5:30 P.M. for the First Public Hearing and then when that completed at 5:39 P.M., the regular meeting reconvened.

Board members in attendance:

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

Also in attendance:

Dr. Rui-De Xue, Director  
Mr. Wayne Flowers, Attorney  
Mr. Matt Baker, Thompson Baker Insurance Company

Chairperson Moeller called the meeting to order.

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

**ROLL CALL:** Chairperson Moeller noted ~ All were present

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:** For Items not on the Agenda ~ None

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

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

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

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

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

- Motioned by: Commissioner Gina LeBlanc
- Seconded by: Commissioner Gary Howell
- 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: August 13, 2020 at 5:00 PM
5. No November 12, 2020 Board Meeting
6. Cintas Uniform Contract Renewal
7. Subcontract with UF, (CDC Grant for smart cage, for adulticide testing)
8. Budget Amendments ~ \$39,254.07 from Receipts to Expenditures

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Item 1: Approval of Fleet/Liability and Workers Compensation Insurance Renewals ~ Mr.**

*Matt Baker, Thompson Baker Ins. Co.*

- Mr. Baker stated he just received the quote today from the company. This is the second year of the approved 2 year rate guarantee that we approved last year. The coverages have gone up in rates in the overall market, however, the underlying rate is the same as last year and the differential is attributed to more property and an increase in payroll.
- A. **A motion was made to approve the proposal for the renewal of the Fleet/Liability and Workers Compensation Insurance with Thompson Baker Insurance Company at \$141,948.00 as presented.**
  - Motioned by: Commissioner Howell
  - Seconded by: Commissioner LeBlanc
  - VOTE: Accepted unanimously by all commissioners
  - **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**The regular meeting was interrupted at 5:25 P.M. for a short break, then at 5:30 P.M., the First Public Hearing was held and then adjourned at 5:39 P.M., where this meeting was reconvened at that time.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Item 1: GMO and SIT Project Update Report ~ Dr. Whitney Qualls**

- Dr. Qualls stated that GMO is an animal, plant, or microbe whose DNA has been altered genetically. Oxitec, using GMM, which is a self-limiting gene that prevents female offspring from surviving, allows for male only production where the male survives carrying a copy of the self-limiting gene and passes it onto the offspring where the female offspring don't survive. Oxitec submitted overwhelming amounts of data for EPA review over a four month time. They had 90 percent suppression during that time. SIT is Sterile Insect Technology where the male mosquitoes are sterilized with radiation. Collaborations on the SIT project; 2017 with USDA;

2018 with USDA and FDACS; and 2019 with MosquitoMate and the CDC, where these projects demonstrated successful use of SIT technology with a 70-90 percent reduction in mosquito populations.

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

**REPORTS:**

1. **Director** ~ Dr. Xue; there was one sentinel chicken positive with WNV and two sentinel chickens positive for EEE; the mosquito population has increased with all the rain we have had; we have started ULV spraying and next week will change from a larvicide to an adulticide emphasis.
2. **Attorney** ~ Mr. Flowers; the governor has extended the Emergency Order through November 4, 2020.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:**

**Commissioner Girvan** ~ we have discussed many issues; thanked all for what they have done.

**Commissioner LeBlanc** ~ thanked the staff for all they are doing, it's a rough mosquito time right now; thanked the field and Administration staff.

**Commissioner Becker** ~ thanked the committee that put the budget together, is super proud of our District, we may lead in a new way; thoughts and prayers to those who have lost family members to COVID-19; shout out to teachers and parents; also noted that Mr. Flowers was awarded as one of the top lawyers in the nation. All applauded Mr. Flowers.

**Commissioner Howell** ~ thanked everyone for attending today's meetings; thanked the commissioners for supporting him in his motion to reduce the millage rate; thanked Dr. Qualls and her team; thanked Mr. Weaver on working on the Education facility and getting it ready to go out to BID; everybody does a great job; thanked Mr. Flowers for all he does.

**Commissioner Moeller** ~ thanked the staff for all their hard work; she spoke to Keith Fuller who worked with the Agricultural Center as a horticulturalist and he wants to volunteer with us in helping with the bee hives and plants for the Education Center; have a wonderful weekend everyone.

**ATTACHMENTS: ~**

1. *None*

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Chairperson Moeller adjourned the meeting at 6:13 P.M.

**ATTEST**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Chairperson, Commissioner Jeanne Moeller**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Secretary/Treasurer, Commissioner Don Girvan**

*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.*

