

Anastasia Mosquito Control District of St. Johns County

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BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Jeanne Moeller, Chairperson
Trish Becker, Vice-Chairperson
Gina LeBlanc, Secretary/Treasurer
Catherine Brandhorst, Commissioner
Gayle Gardner, Commissioner



DIRECTOR

DISTRICT

Dr. Rui-de Xue



Thursday, October 14, 2021

Next Meeting(s): Regular Meeting.; Thursday, December 9, 2021 – 5:00 PM

MINUTES

The regular Board meeting for the Anastasia Mosquito Control District of St. Johns County was held on Thursday, October 14, 2021, at 5:00 P.M.

Board members in attendance:

Mrs. Jeanne Moeller, Chairperson
Mrs. Trish Becker, Vice-Chairperson
Mrs. Gina LeBlanc, Secretary/Treasurer
Mrs. Catherine Brandhorst, Commissioner
Ms. Gayle Gardner, Commissioner

Also in attendance:

Dr. Rui-De Xue, Director
Mr. Wayne Flowers, Attorney (by phone)

Chairperson Moeller called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Brandhorst led the invocation.

Chairperson Moeller Led 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 Catherine Brandhorst
- Seconded by: Commissioner Trish Becker
- 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 Gayle Gardner
- Seconded by: Commissioner Gina LeBlanc

- 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, September 9, 2021 at 5:00 P.M. 1st public hearing, September 9, 2021 at 5:30 P.M. Final public hearing, September 23, 2021 at 5:30 P.M. Special meeting about helicopter repair and insurance, September 23, 2021 at 5:00 P.M.
5. Annual physical inventory
6. Agreement between AMCD and Mobisoft for the data service hosting
7. Board members attend the AMCA annual meeting, Jacksonville, FL, Feb 28-march 4, 2022
8. Holidays work schedule
9. Job descriptions (Chief Pilot/Aviation Manager, Pilot, and Mosquito Control Engineer)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Item 1: Discussion and approval of a policy for Board members to contact legislators and media reporters... ~ Mr. *Wayne Flowers*

- Mr. Flowers explained he was tasked with developing a draft policy to establish protocols for Commissioner contacts with media and legislators as well as related use of AMCD facilities for Commissioner initiated tours or other events. This draft was presented to the Board at the September Board meeting for comments and Mr. Flowers has not received any comments. Mr. Flowers then reviewed the proposed policy. Commissioner Becker read a prepared speech stating that she felt that she was being bullied and that this policy was aimed at restricting her speech, Commissioner Becker objected the policy. Chairperson Moeller asked Mr. Flowers for clarification on the points raised by Commissioner Becker and Mr. Flowers explained the policy did not limit personal contact only contact on behalf of the AMCD Board. Chairperson Moeller call for the vote.

A. A motion was made to approve the Media/Legislative Contacts policy as presented.

- Motioned by: Commissioner Catherine Brandhorst
- Seconded by: Commissioner Gina LeBlanc
- VOTE: Accepted by Commissioner Moeller, LeBlanc, Brandhorst and Gardner
- VOTE: Opposed by Commissioner Becker
- **MOTION PASSED 4:1**

Item 2: Discussion and approval of MoU for helicopter landing in county property ~ Mr. *Wayne Flowers, Dr. Rui-De Xue*

- Mr. Flowers reviewed the contents of the MoU for the Board. Dr. Xue also reviewed the contents of the MoU and explained a little history as to why the Board is developing this MoU and asked the Board to approve the draft. Chairperson Moeller asked that the acronyms be spelled out. Commissioner Becker asked if "Public Events" includes schools, Chairperson Moeller explained that schools were not "county" and explained school protocol. Commissioner Gardner asked Dana Smith, Chief Pilot a question and while answering Mr. Smith requested that "class D airspace" be added to the document. Dr. Xue explained that the county still needed to review and approve the

MoU and the county might make changes. Mr. Flowers added that there were some typographical errors and that he would clean up the document.

A. A motion was made to approve the proposed MoU with the stated changes and corrections

- Motioned by: Commissioner Gardner
- Seconded by: Commissioner Brandhorst
- VOTE: Accepted unanimously by all commissioners
- **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

NEW BUSINESS

Item 1: Update about the SIT build project progress ~ Mr. Richard Weaver

- Mr. Weaver reviewed the status of the project, outlined the meetings that have taken place and explained that AMCD and Harrell were in the site and building design phase which would last about 90 days, then the permitting stage would start and last until May of 2022 when construction should start.

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

Item 2: DOD grant progress report/Ppt (survey part) ~ Dr. Vindhya Aryaprema

- Dr. Aryaprema presented the PowerPoint; Establishing Mosquito Control Action Thresholds and explained that the broad objective was to establish evidence-based action thresholds for mosquito control in different geographic regions in the world.

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

Item 3: Discussion about COVID-19 and vaccination for Board members and employees) ~

Chairperson Jeanne Moeller

- Chairperson Moeller talked about the need for Board members and employees to be vaccinated and tested for COVID-19 before traveling to meetings, and in particular the FMCA and the AMCD meetings that were coming up in November 2021 and February 2022. Mr. Flowers pointed out that it would be hard to require vaccines but that the testing would not be an issue. The Board discussed when tests should happen before and after travel. Mr. Weaver asked why the Board was worried about AMCD travel when employees are attending large events like sports and concerts. Chairperson responded that this was to protect the district when employees are on District business. Dr. Qualls asked if the tests that are required will employees be allowed to get either PCR or rapid tests. The Board agreed that any test would qualify. Mr. Hanna, as the HR person, asked who would be responsible for tracking who needs testing and what the results are. The Board responded that the testing would be on an honor basis. Mr. Smith explained that next week he would be going to pick up aircraft parts and would be returning late at night to store the parts and getting tested before storing the parts would be hard because he would be traveling. Chairperson Moeller responded that this was meant for the FMCA and AMCA meetings. Dr. Xue asked if store purchased rapid tests would be acceptable. Board consensus was yes.

B. A motion was made that staff has to get a COVID test 72 hours before and after travel for the rest of the year.

- Motioned by: Commissioner Trish Becker
- Seconded by: Commissioner Catherine Brandhorst
- VOTE: Accepted by Commissioner Becker, Brandhorst and Moeller

- o VOTE: Opposed by Commissioner Gardner and LeBlanc
- o **MOTION PASSED 3:2**

REPORTS:

1. **Director** ~ Dr. Xue: Reported to the Board the manuscripts that have been submitted for publication, suspected infected chickens, traps results, operations information, research project status and educational work. Dr Xue also reviewed September meetings, the start of the new budget year and HR matters including a review of the number of employees that have been affected by COVID. Dr. Xue also reported the hiring of a new Education Specialist, Taylor Ballantyne, a seasonal inspector resigning, Dena Autry being promoted from assistant supervisor to supervisor, Mosquito Control Technician (MCT) Rick Stockley being promoted to the new Information Technology position and MCT and part time pilot Michael Phillips promoted to Full Time Pilot. Dr. Xue also mentioned that employee Kay Gaines has been nominated for the FMCA Meritorious Service Award, Employee Richard Weaver was running for Vice-President Elect to the FMCA and that employee Dana Smith was awarded the Leadership award, to be presented in November, for saving AMCD a lot of money purchasing surplus aircraft equipment.
2. **Attorney** ~ Mr. Flowers; Thanked the Board for allowing him to attend the meeting via phone.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Gardner ~ No report.

Commissioner LeBlanc ~ Thanks the staff.

Commissioner Brandhorst ~ COVID is a scary disease.

Commissioner Becker ~ Talked about her internship with the district, had questions from the public, about retention ponds and who is responsible for placing fountains in them. Commissioner Becker also wanted to verify that it was okey to read stories at the library on October 25, 2021 and does she need permission. Commissioner Becker was assured she did not need permission to read stories

Commissioner Moeller ~ Thanked staff, asked that all employees vote in the FMCA election, and reminded everyone there was no Board meeting in November due to the attendance of the FMCA meeting.

ATTACHMENTS: ~

1. *None*

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairperson Moeller adjourned the meeting at 6:32 P.M.

ATTEST


Chairperson, Commissioner Jeanne Moeller


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.