

# Anastasia Mosquito Control District of St. Johns County

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## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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



## DIRECTOR

## DISTRICT

Dr. Rui-de Xue



Thursday, February 10, 2022

Next Meeting(s): Regular Meeting.; Thursday, March 10, 2022 – 5:00 PM

## MINUTES

The regular Board meeting for the Anastasia Mosquito Control District of St. Johns County was held on Thursday, February 10, 2022, at 5:00 P.M.

Board members in attendance:

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

Board member absent:

Mrs. Catherine Brandhorst, Commissioner

Also in attendance:

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

Chairperson Moeller called the meeting to order.

Vice-Chairperson Becker Led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

**CEREMONY:** Chairperson Moeller reads a proclamation for black history month and presents it to Mr. Floyd Phillips.

**ROLL CALL:** Chairperson Moeller noted ~ Commissioner Brandhorst was absent

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

**COMMENTS:** Commissioner Becker asks the Chairperson about Mr. Flowers absence. Chairperson Moeller answered that Mr. Flowers is to call in. Chairperson Moeller reported the Compass was first on the agenda but were running late, she asked if they could be moved to New Business if there is no objection.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Chairperson Moeller called for approval of the agenda with change.

A. A motion was made to approve the agenda as changed.

- Motioned by: Commissioner Gayle Gardner
- Seconded by: Commissioner Gina LeBlanc
- VOTE accepted unanimously by all commissioner's present
- **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 present
- **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Consent Items ~ APPROVAL OF:**

1. Treasurer's Report
2. Vouchers (*Cancelled Checks*)
3. Chemical Inventory
4. Minutes: Regular Board Meeting, January 13, 2022 at 5:00 P.M.
5. 2022 committee member update.
6. Senior Mechanic job description.
7. Commissioner Gardner's travel request for Lee CMD aerial workshop and visiting Collier MCD, April 18-20.
8. Resolution of AMCD's open seats for election in 2022.
9. Budget Calendar.
10. Quarterly budget analysis.
11. Budget amendment.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Item 1: Update about Education building progress... ~ Moved to New Business #1**

**Item 2: Update about helicopter repair and maintenance... ~ *Mr. Dana Smith***

- It was noted that Mr. Smith has two presentations tonight, Mr. Smith stated that he would be combining the reports into one report. Mr. Smith gave a PowerPoint presentation. Mr. Smith talked about personnel, equipment, reviewed the three helicopters status, talked about helicopter costs and how the 2020/2021 budget was spent for aviation, reviewed the acquisition of parts from the Army and the cost versus value, spending \$190,331.00 and getting a value of \$1,216,360.00, and then highlighted some valuable assets like engines and transmissions. Next Mr. Smith talked about the area treated by aviation in the 2021 season, the annual cost of aviation operations, new recordkeeping procedures, training, positive impacts like good press for the district in nationally distributed publications. Mr. Smith ended his presentation and asked if there are questions, Dr. Xue asked Mr. Smith to update the insurance status from the accident. Mr. Smith explained that once the aircraft is started and run the claim will close and final costs will be calculated. Mr. Smith explained that to date about \$200,000.00 has been spent and AMCD should get back \$180,000.00, he hopes to also recover about half of the deductible in miscellaneous parts used from AMCD stock and labor spent in repairs by the AMCD A & P Mechanic. Commissioner Becker explained that she was very pleased about the bolt containers and thanked Dana for saving the district money

now and in the future. Mr. Smith then explained how we got the Education Center display helicopter for free, using \$40,000.00 of parts that AMCD cannot use, to trade for the helicopter. Chairperson Moeller said that she has seen the helicopter and it looks great and that the truck bed James Wynn built also looks good. Dr. Xue explained that Morgan has been transferred to the aviation unit and that the airboat operation will be part of the aviation unit. Commissioner Becker noted that during the fly-in she noticed that none of the aircraft had “Mosquito Control” on the aircraft and AMCD’s helicopters do and that we should be proud of our program. Dr. Xue pointed out that other districts have called AMCD to find out how we got the aircraft and parts from the government. Mr. Smith pointed out that the Navy is about to get rid of its aircraft and parts and that he may come to the Board if he finds any good deals. Chairperson Moeller thought that was a very good idea. Dr. Xue talked about the good job Mr. Smith was doing and the award he received. Commissioner Becker pointed out that the technical school had an aviation program with Northrup-Grumman and is that something AMCD could tie into. Mr. Smith said absolutely. Chairperson asked if there were any other questions. Commissioner LeBlanc said Mr. Smith was doing a fabulous job, Commissioner Gardner said thank you and Commissioner Becker asked if the parts were insured. Mr. Smith said he would look into that. Chairperson asked if Mr. Smith had any other reports, Mr. Smith replied no. Chairperson closed the discussion with a story about another district’s aircraft accident.

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

**NOTE:** At the beginning of Mr. Smith’s report Mr. Flowers joined the meeting via phone.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**COMMENTS:** Chairperson Moeller asked Dr. Xue if he would mind giving his report New Business # 2 first because Compasses report might get long. Dr. Xue started his report.

**Item 2: Report and approval of AMCD to collaborate with 4 organizations to apply for different grants (for CDC ATSB, NACCHO for mentor, Fujian Agricultural and Forest University for Gates Foundation about nano Bti, and COST for surveillance database) ~ Dr. Rui-De Xue**

Dr. Xue explained the needs for the grants, # 1 CDC, # 2 NACCHO have done two times before, # 3 Dr. Xue working with Dr. Zhang with nano Bti, # 4 COST building a database and a computer model and Dr. Qualls also applies to DOD for grant. Chairperson Moeller asked if there were any questions, there were none.

**A. A motion was made to approve staff request of the four grants collaborations and the fifth grant collaboration.**

- Motioned by: Commissioner Becker
- Seconded by: Chairperson Moeller
- VOTE: Accepted unanimously by all commissioner’s present

**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Item 1: Update about Education building progress... ~ Moved to New Business #1 Compass Construction, Mr. Grayson Mathewson**

- Chairperson Moeller started by telling the Board that she met with Dr. Xue, Mr. Weaver, Mr. Flick and Mr. Mathewson that morning and introduced Mr. Mathewson. Chairperson Moeller also asked Dr. Xue that she wanted very detailed minutes of this discussion. Mr. Mathewson apologized for being late and proceeded to give his Progress Report reading from the report attached. Commissioner Becker asked to clarify what is the “store front” he is talking about, Mr. Mathewson explained these were the front and side doors. At the end of the report Mr.

Mathewson explained about graphics content delivery dates not being met and that Compass met with Mr. Weaver and Mr. Flowers to try to resolve the issue. Mr. Mathewson said that he believes that a resolution was made at the earlier meeting with Chairperson Moeller. Mr. Mathewson then said that there are several incomplete design coordination items and are working through that but this requires the design team of record to properly coordinate the process and that may or may not be in process he wasn't sure, Mr. Mathewson said those scheduled impacts, Compass still plans on having the building portion done by July 8, that ended his report. The Chairperson asked if the board had questions. Commissioner Becker asked if, when he was talking about graphics, was if media on computers or on the walls. Mr. Mathewson replied, both and stated that everything that is an instrument of education was included. Chairperson Moeller then explained that she met with Mr. Flick and Mr. Mathewson and that Compass wants to remove all media work from the contract and give back the money allotted for this work in the contract to AMCD an amount of \$63,431.48, Mr. Weaver, Dr. Xue and Chairperson Moeller tentatively agreed that AMCD should definitely let Compass out of the media contract for a verity of reasons. One reason is going to mediation and after speaking to Mr. Flowers there was no way of knowing the amount of time it would take or if AMCD would win. Chairperson Moeller also pointed out the attorney cost could be high and that this change will not affect getting the certificate of occupancy but may set the district back getting the program opened. She said that what the district envisioned for the project is not what Compass envisioned and the quality of the project the district wanted is not really what Compass really thought the district wanted. She continued on to say everything the district has done in the last 15 years has been done with excellence and we need to continue to do that and the truth of the matter is anyone could build the building, but not everyone can do the level of media or digital that the district was expecting. She continued that allowing Compass out of the contract and having the \$63,000.00 refunded to us is in the best interest of the district, and the fiduciary responsibilities to the taxpayer. She said that she spoke to Mr. Weaver and the district still has \$1.3 million in the budget for this project and will get the \$63,000.00 back and said she made it clear to Compass that the district was not interested in being nickel and dimed with change orders and were not expecting more, asking Mr. Mathewson that, he responded "not at this time", she continued that Mr. Mathewson needs to be careful with that and this is taxpayers money and she is hoping they will not be a lot more change orders. Chairperson Moeller then said that Dr. Xue and Mr. Weaver had given the Chair two motions but the Board should probably hear from Mr. Weaver. She would like to make the motions so the board can move ahead and also wants to make sure with Mr. Flowers that what they are doing is legal and, in the districts, best interest, she again stated that it is apparent that Compass wants out of this portion of the agreement and the other bidder had almost the same amount for graphics as the building, she then recapped and asked Mr. Mathewson that if she had misspoken now is the time to speak up. Mr. Mathewson responded everything sounds accurate based on our conversation this morning. Commissioner Becker asked Mr. Mathewson for the taxpayers that didn't see the letter Compass sent to please explain the problem and remedy. Mr. Mathewson replied that the problem was the lack of completed research to be able to properly design and finish the design of the graphics to go on the walls, to date we have not gotten the content technically written, complete with images, in a format to be put on the walls. Commissioner Becker asked if the gentleman who was in charge of the tech form another company was that not his job? Mr. Mathewson replied Are you talking about A/V? he is fine. Chairperson Moeller said that Mr. Weaver has pointed out that AMCD needs to know exactly what, and what not, compass is going to do. Mr. Mathewson said Compass was clear that they will do drywall and paint but nothing that goes on the wall or component that goes on the wall. Chairperson Moeller asked what about the signs? Mr. Mathewson responded, they will provide life safety signs required for a CO, but no other signage. Chairperson Moeller then said that Mr. Weaver said that there were parts

ordered for the sign over the theater will you do that? After a short back and forth between Mr. Weaver and Mr. Mathewson, he responded, that will not be done by Compass and was included in one of the credit lines on the change order. Chairperson Moeller then asked if Mr. Mathewson had any other comments and to let Mr. Weaver have a chance to speak. Mr. Mathewson said "fair enough". Mr. Weaver said that it sounds like every sign in the building was not being done by Compass and that needs to be spelled out. He then went on to explain that this is about scope, AMCD staff thought that the content designer/graphic artist would work with the set designer, set builder, I.T. and be part of that team, Compass wanted data that was almost a finished product. Mr. Weaver said that was not in the AMCD staff's capabilities and was never imagined to be part of our work or scope and what staff has provided is layouts, photos and research and then described the process of the development of the content. Mr. Weaver then explained why photos were not provided, staff was waiting on the coordination between the graphics person and AMCD before purchasing the photos because photos are very expensive, he then talked about the fact that they are at an impasse and there are only a few options but they basically AMCD will have to take over the work and the cost will be \$300,000.00 plus and will entail hiring many contractors but at this point to keep the project going AMCD has to have control over the artistic development, he wanted to make sure Compass would work with any AMCD contractors to get the job done and not go to the nuclear options that could jeopardize the project. Mr. Weaver then said Mr. Flowers should weigh in and asked for questions. Chairperson Moeller said at some point we have to agree to disagree and whatever we do is going to cost the district money and why spend money when we have no idea how mediation will go and how they (Compass) would feel if we won. If the district needs to figure out where to get more money, we can do that. Mr. Weaver responded that at this point the district has money and the Board has already authorized spending up to 10% of the contract cost, that the real cost will be known closer to the end of the project and that the content developer cost alone will most likely be \$100,000.00 to \$150,000.00 range and that these changes are a lot of work, 50 to 75 displays will be affected. Mr. Weaver went into some detail on the amount of work that will be needed. Commissioner Becker asked if Staff had contractors in mind. Mr. Weaver responded that this change has happened fast and staff has not had time to do much but he has feelers out and is looking and will also contact Pizazz who would have been working with Harrell. Chairperson Moeller stated that Pizazz had a good grasp on what the district wanted and then asked if Mr. Flowers had comments. Mr. Flowers responded there is no perfect solution in this circumstance and he has confidence in Mr. Weaver, the district is at an impasse and the chair is trying to find a practical solution to avoid delays and costs, Mr. Weaver is correct in the need to be very clear about what is being excluded from the project and this resolution is a practical resolution to the impasse and a way to move forward. Chairperson Moeller asked the Board members if they have questions. Commissioner Becker asked Mr. Mathewson to go over the lines in the change order and explain what these are. Mr. Mathewson said line item # 1 is a \$2,000.00 deduction for taking content and turning them to graphics, line item # 2 is production and installation of the signs, pictures, murals and interpretive signs in the building. Commissioner Becker asked if that would include the wall of commissioners? Mr. Mathewson responded that that is correct, he continued, line item 3 is a continuation of signs including the exterior signs, and he said that there was no indication of what the district wanted and that Compass has constructed the monument but will not provide the sign. Line item 4 are the section signs that one was \$20,945.25. Commissioner Becker asked how come that can't be done? Mr. Mathewson responded that it is an element that is not needed to finish the work and needs further design and costs, the media specialty sign for the classroom, the marquee, that Mr. Weaver discussed earlier... Commissioner Becker asked didn't we pick one of those out in the meeting? Mr. Mathewson shook his head no, Commissioner Becker continued has this been ordered, Mr. Mathewson responded "no". Mr. Mathewson continued, the media installation scope is hanging the media on the walls, The last item is the hardware for

mounting the graphics. Commissioner Becker asked that Compass is taking everything on the wall so it is easier or is there some stuff Compass is putting up and some stuff the district is putting up? Mr. Mathewson responded that Compass is not putting anything up but life safety signs. Chairperson Moeller said that Compass does not want to do anything to do with media, Commissioner LeBlanc said they just want to do the building. Commissioner Becker asked if Compass was going to do the mosquito out front. Mr. Mathewson said that Compass has nothing in the drawings about the foundation requirements and that would not be a part of Compasses scope. Commissioner Becker asked what about the garden area? Mr. Mathewson responded Compass was still doing that and continued that every major component on the outside will be done. Commissioner LeBlanc asked the total amount to be refunded? Mr. Mathewson responded \$63,431.48. Commissioner LeBlanc said that seems like a small amount and that the district will have to come up with quite a bit of money. Chairperson Moeller said that was why we are at an impasse. Commissioner Becker said that is why Harrell Construction said the price was too cheap when we had the discussion with all the contractors. Chairperson Moeller asked if there were more questions then asked Mr. Weaver, if we need a base for the mosquito sculpture, shouldn't that be part of Compasses contract? And that was not discussed in our meeting and I don't want Compass to pick and choose what they are going to do. Mr. Mathewson said that was not a part of the Compass scope. Mr. Weaver said that the sculpture was an allowance item but it was pretty obvious that the contractor would be responsible for attaching it and let me make this clear overall Compass under bid the project by \$500,000.00, at least, and they are back tracking and Compass can say whatever, they can say AMCD didn't do this or do that, it's AMCD's fault, it's not on the drawings, that's all fine but the reality is Compass can't afford to finish the job. Chairperson Moeller asked if Mr. Flowers if he had any more comments, he replied no. She asked if there were any other comments from the Board. Commissioner LeBlanc said the district needs to sign the agreement and move forward. Commissioner Becker asked; besides all the media stuff the rest of the building was on track and the district will be able to work with Compass? Mr. Mathewson replied "yes". Chairperson Moeller asked Commissioner Gardner if she had any comments, she asked how much in change orders the district has had. Mr. Mathewson responded that Compass had issued change orders in the amount of negative \$388,705.61 plus this change order. Commissioner Becker said the amount can be found on the second page of the change order, Mr. Mathewson said that number includes the positives. Mr. Weaver said that he just did a quick calculation and the positive change orders are at about \$87,000.00 so far, he continued, \$50,000.00 was cabinetry and some of these change orders have not been signed yet because of disputes but if the Board wants to move forward the district will have to bite the bullet and spend money because again, Compass bid to low. Mr. Weaver gave an example using insect boxes to explain how Compass ended up with low-cost points for display items. Mr. Weaver then talked again about being at an impasse with Compass and having to hire a contractor consultant to help with change orders and RFI's and even after the consultant sees issues with CO's and RFI's there is no compromise form Compass. Chairperson Moeller said it is apparent that the Board needs to move on. She went on to say, Dr. Xue and Mr. Weaver have drafted two motions "Allow staff to negotiate and attorney to review a detailed version of the Compass Change Order #024 removing most media from scope for a reduction in the Compass contract of \$63,431.48", Chairperson Moeller then said, that is my motion do I have a second? Commissioner Becker asked that the second motion be read, or reread the first motion. Chairperson reread the first motion. Chairperson Moeller reminded the Board that there are four commissioners at the table and asked for a second. Commissioner Becker asked Mr. Mathewson if the Board passed the motion and relived Compass of this obligation the Board will not get a letter from a lawyer asking for more money? Mr. Mathewson replied that it is a "no harm" change order, Compass will finish the building and get the CO. Commissioner asked if Compass was still doing the benches? Mr. Mathewson said

that was a fixed item. Commissioner Becker asked about bathroom signs, Mr. Mathewson responded that for a certificate of occupancy he has to have those signs, Commissioner Becker continued asking if the cracker house will still be built by Compass, Mr. Mathewson replied that that is actual construction. Chairperson asked the Board if there were any other questions and asked for a second. Commissioner Becker seconded. Chairperson Moeller called the question

**A. A motion was made “Allow staff to negotiate and attorney to review a detailed version of the Compass Change Order #024 removing most media from scope for a reduction in the Compass contract of \$63,431.48”**

- Motioned by: Chairperson Jeanne Moeller
- Seconded by: Commissioner Trish Becker
- VOTE: Accepted unanimously by all commissioner’s present

**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

➤ Chairperson Moeller read the second motion, “Allow AMCD staff to hire the necessary contractors to complete the scope of work removed from the Compass contract”. Commissioner Becker asked if this was so the staff can put out and RFP, Chairperson Moeller said it would be an RFQ and asked Mr. Weaver if it would be an RFQ. Mr. Weaver said staff would put out RFQ’s, he felt this was okay and pointed that the Board made policy and can do what it wants, he said the plan was to do a request for quotes and chose the lowest qualified contractor and then asked Mr. Flowers if that was okay. Mr. Flowers responded that that would satisfy procurement requirements. Chairperson Moeller said that the Board has the right to hire whoever it wants and do not have to go with the lowest bid and that is in Chapter 388, she then called for a second. Commissioner LeBlanc seconded the motion, Chairperson Moeller called the question

**B. A motion was made “Allow AMCD staff to hire the necessary contractors to complete the scope of work removed from the Compass contract”**

- Motioned by: Chairperson Jeanne Moeller
- Seconded by: Commissioner Gina LeBlanc
- VOTE: Accepted unanimously by all commissioner’s present

**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**REPORTS:**

1. **Director** ~ Dr. Xue reported: Employees attended the DODD short course, employees volunteering for the AMCA meeting, the DC legislation meeting will be in middle of May. Chairperson asked Dr. Xue now that Doug Carlson has retired who is in charge of DC team? Dr. Xue replied Chris Lesser.
2. **Attorney** ~ Mr. Flowers; No report this month.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:**

**Commissioner Gardner** ~ None.

**Commissioner LeBlanc** ~ Thanks to staff, lot of work ahead and thanks to Tayler and Olivia for judging the science fair.

**Commissioner Becker** ~ Thanked Mr. Weaver, and said she saw the metal sculpture and it is looking good (Mr. Weaver gave the Board a picture to pass around). Thanked Mr. Smith for amazing work especially during the fly-in. Fly-in was a good event, DODD was really good and she presented in the commissioner caucus, she noted that AMCD should attend the cat seminar, downtown, and talk about heart worms, she asked permission for her to represent AMCD and ask for proclamations from the local government Boards.

**Commissioner Moeller** ~ Thanks staff, she understands there will be more work, she talked about the Compass meeting and her opinions on the deal and that AMCD will get a better job without Compass and that Compass will not nickel and dime AMCD with change orders. She also said she doesn't want shoddy materials and that Compass is very ridged and there is no compromise. She said they still need talking points from FMCA legislative committee for the lobbyist, she also talked about the drone bill pending in the legislator.

Chairperson Moeller asked if there were any more comments, Commissioner Becker asked if anyone had heard from Commissioner Brandhorst, a discussion ensued and it was decided that AMCD staff would do a safety check on Commissioner Brandhorts and report back to the Board members. Mr. Flowers was asked if he had sent a letter to Commissioner Brandhorts and Mr. Flowers confirmand he had.

**ATTACHMENTS: ~**

1. None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Chairperson Moeller adjourned the meeting at 7:31 P.M.

ATTEST

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

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary/Treasurer, Commissioner Gayle Gardner

*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.*