

Anastasia Mosquito Control District of St. Johns County

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BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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



DISTRICT DIRECTOR

Dr. Rui-de Xue



Thursday, December 14, 2023

Thursday, January 11, 2024 – 5:00 PM~ Next Regular Meeting

MINUTES

The regular Board meeting for the Anastasia Mosquito Control District of St. Johns County was held on Thursday, December 14, 2023, at 5:00 P.M.

Board members in attendance:

Mrs. Gayle Gardner, Chairperson
Mrs. Trish Becker, Vice-Chairperson
Mrs. Gina LeBlanc, Secretary/Treasurer
Mrs. Catherine Brandhorst, Commissioner
Mrs. Martha Gleason, Commissioner

Also in attendance:

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

Chairperson Gardner called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Brandhorst led the Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag

ROLL CALL: Chairperson Gardner noted ~ all were present

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: For Items not on the Agenda. None

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

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

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

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

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

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

Consent Items ~ APPROVAL OF:

1. Chemical inventory
2. Minutes: Regular Board Meeting, October 12, 2023
3. Host NACCHO/CDC's Hurricane Response Workshop, April 23rd – April 25th, 2024
4. Host FCCMC Meeting and Dedication Ceremony for the SIT Mass Rearing Facility, January 18, 2024
5. Appointment of Dr. Hanh from UF as Adjunct Professor (Volunteer) to Help AMCD SIT Program

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Item 1: Discussion and Approval of Health, Life, Vision and Dental Insurances Recommended by Committee ~ Mr. Don Lohr (call-in)

- Mr. Don Lohr spoke about the insurances offered including the Committee recommendation on renewing our current Florida Blue Health Insurance (with a 4.48% Increase), United Concordia Dental Insurance (no increase), Vision (no increase) and Guardian Life Insurance (no increase).
- Commissioner Becker asked if Florida Blue offers telehealth for acute illness, mental health ect.
- Mr. Lohr confirmed Florida Blue does offer telehealth with a copay and has many resources for mental health needs.
- Commissioner Becker asked if Florida Blue is offering free covid testing for AMCD employees.
- Mr. Lohr could not confirm or deny, he mentioned preventative care requires no copay or met deductible and Florida Blue is in network with many providers.
- Commissioner Gleason asked how much the District matches for AMCD employee Health Savings Account (HAS)?
- Staff confirmed single families receive \$2,700 dollars and families receive \$6,200 dollars.

A. A motion was made to approve the Health, Life, Dental and Vision Insurances as presented.

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

Item 2: Financial Report and Budget Amendment ~ Mr. Scott Hanna, C.F.O.

- Mr. Hanna reviewed the treasurer's report/vouchers with the Board of Commissioners. Mr. Hanna answered Commissioner Becker's questions about Sweep account and Commissioner Gleason's question about investment policy for January meeting, also explained usually budget amendments are to amend over spending, however, the District earned more revenue than the budget originally anticipated.

A. A motion was made to approve the Financial Reconciliation as presented.

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

B. A motion was made to approve the budget amendment as presented.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Item 1: Discussion and Approval of Commissioners to attend the FMCA Fly in Class, Manatee MCD from January 9th – 11th, 2024, Tallahassee Legislation Day, January 22nd -23rd, Dodd Short Course's Commissioner Class, Gainesville, Feb 1st, 2024, AMCA Meeting, Dallas, March 4th -8th, and Lee County Aerial workshop, April 15th-18th, 2024 ~ Dr. Rui-De Xue**

- Dr. Xue began by explaining based on Commissioner Handbook and policy requests, Commissioners who travel out of St. Johns County need to be approved by the Board. He continued explain the following Florida Mosquito Control Association (FMCA) and American Mosquito Control Association (AMCA) meeting and other events will be held in different places in 2024. Dr. Xue asked Commissioners to let Anastasia Mosquito Control District (AMCD) staff know what meeting they are interested in joining and travel arrangements will be made after the Boards approval. An outline of the dates mentioned below.
 1. January 9th-11th, The FMCA's Fly-In Class, Manatee County Mosquito Control District (MCMCD). Staff: Mr. smith, Mr. Duett, Mr. Weaver, and Dr. Xue.
 2. January 18th, The Florida Coordinating Council of Mosquito Control (FCCMC) meeting and SIT facility dedication ceremony. All commissioners are invited to join the SIT dedication at noon.
 3. January 22nd-23rd: The FMCA Tallahassee Legislation Meeting. Staff: Mr. Weaver, Dr. Qualls, Commissioners Ms. Gardner, and Mrs. Gleason.
 4. January 31st-Feb 1st, The FMCA Dodd's Commissioner class (required 4hrs ethical training on Feb 1st Gainesville, FL. All 5 Commissioners.
 5. March 4th-8th, The AMCA annual meeting, Dallas. Commissioners Ms. Gardner, Mrs. Becker, and Mrs. Gleason.
 6. March 25th at 3P.M., The AMCD Adjunct & Consulting meeting at AMCD.
 7. March 26th-28th, AMCD & United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)/ Center for Medical, Agriculture and Veterinary Entomology (CMAVE's) 19th workshop, workshop dinner & lecture on March 26th at 6P.M. Located at AMCD. All commissioners are invited.
 8. April 16th-18th, Lee County Mosquito Control District (LCMCD) aerial hand-on workshop, Ft. Myers: Aviation crew (4).
 9. April 22nd-25th, National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)/ Center for Disease Control (CDC) hurricane workshop. AMCD hosts the workshop.
 10. May 13th-16th, The AMCA Washington DC legislation meeting. Staff: Mr. Weaver and Dr. Xue. Commissioners: Ms. Gardner, Mrs. Gleason, Mrs. Becker
 11. November 4th-7th, The FMCA annual meeting, Orlando. Commissioners: Ms. Gardner, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Gleason, Mrs. LeBlanc, and Mrs. Brandhorst.
- Commissioner Brandhorst expressed her desire to attend the AMCA meeting in Dallas Texas. The board came to a consensus to allow it.
 - **NO MOTION WAS MADE ON THIS ITEM**

2. **Item 2: Interview and Selection of District Attorney**~ *Dr. Rui-De Xue*

- Dr. Xue gave an overview of the RFP for a new District Attorney, a request for proposal (RFP) was released by AMCD to hire a qualified attorney/firm to represent AMCD on September 25, 2023 and was opened on December 4, 2023, by staff and distributed to the Board of Commissioners for ranking on December 6, 2023. The Board of Commissioners were responsible for scoring/ranking, interviewing and choosing a qualified attorney/firm. Four firms, St. Augustine Law Group, TG Law Group, Hand Arendall Harrison Sale, and Douglas Law Firm, gave overviews of their firms and interviewed with the Board of Commissioners. After interviews were conducted Commissioner LeBlanc made a motion to approve Hand Arendall Harrison Sale as the new District Attorney.

A. **A motion was made to exclude Commissioner Brandhorst score sheet from determining what attorneys are interviewed**

- Motioned by: Commissioner Gleason
- Seconded by: NONE
- **MOTION FAILED DUE TO LACK OF SECOND**

B. A motion was made to approve Hand Arendall Harrison Sale as the new AMCD District Attorney

- Motioned by: Commissioner LeBlanc
- Seconded by: Commissioner Gleason
- VOTE: Accepted by Commissioner Leblanc, Gleason, Gardner, and Brandhorst
- VOTE: Rejected by Commissioner Becker
- **MOTION PASSED 4:1**

C. A motion was made to allow the Chairperson and Mr. Flowers to negotiate new lawyers contract

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

REPORTS:

Director ~ Dr. Xue reported one human case of Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE), four travel related Dengue Fever cases, two horses with EEE, five sentinel chickens with EEE, and 57 sentinel chickens with West Nile Virus (WNV). Dr. Xue noted Saint Johns County (SJC) is still under mosquito borne illness advisory. He mentioned AMCD has received multiple grants for the applied research program, from agencies like the CDC, FDACS, NACCHO and several industries. Dr. Xue thanked all the staff for their hard work, Board support, and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and happy new year.

Attorney ~ Mr. Flowers thanked the lawyers that showed up to be interviewed and noted he has enjoyed his time as the District's attorney.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Gardner ~ Thanked Mr. Flowers for his 13 years of service and wished everyone a merry Christmas.

Commissioner Brandhorst ~ Thanked Mr. Flowers for his service as District Attorney and wished everyone a merry Christmas.

Commissioner LeBlanc ~ Thanked the staff for all their hard work, Mr. Flowers for 13 years of service and wished everyone a merry Christmas.

Commissioner Becker ~ Thanked Mr. Flowers for his service and willingness to answer all her questions. I will be hosting a STEM girls' event at the Disease Vector Education Center for middle school girls. Also, have a call with congressman Rutherford soon. Lastly welcomed Mrs. Myers as the new District attorney.

Commissioner Gleason ~ Thanked Mr. Flowers for his service as the District attorney for 13 years and spoke about how valuable he was to the District. Welcomed Mrs. Myers to AMCD team, thanked staff for all their hard work and wished everyone a merry Christmas.

ATTACHMENTS: ~

1. None


ADJOURNMENT:

Chairperson Gardner adjourned the meeting at 6:20 P.M.

ATTEST



Chairperson, Commissioner



Secretary/Treasurer, Commissioner

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.