The Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Board of Commissioners for Beach Mosquito Control District was called to order by Chairman Smith at 5:00 P.M., August 13, 2012. Smith requested the roll be recorded, and noted that all commissioners were present. There were no guests.

Present:

Commissioner:

John Smith, Chairman

Commissioner:

Larry Couch, Secretary

Commissioner:

Tom Easter, Treasurer

Director:

James Clauson

Attorney:

Amy Myers

District Secretary:

Joyce Dean

## Approval of Minutes

Secretary Couch confirmed that everyone received and reviewed the minutes of the July 03, 2012 meeting, and asked if there were any corrections. Hearing none, Couch moved the minutes be approved as submitted; Easter seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

## **Financial Reports**

Treasurer Easter referenced the financial reports and commented that it appeared the District was in good shape as far as percentage of budget spent to date. Smith commented that \$448,564.84 remained for the rest of this fiscal year. Easter asked if there were questions or comments. Hearing none, he recommended the financial report be filed for audit.

## Old Business

Chairman Smith referenced the letter to FAMU regarding the District's decision to decline the lease and in which the District offered assistance in removing several of the remaining surplus mosquito control equipment and supply items that would have usefulness to the District. Smith stated there had been no response from FAMU to date.

Smith noted for the record that he abstained from vote on the motion regarding the lease, and Form 8B has been completed, signed, and will be made a part of the minutes. Smith mentioned that the Memorandum of Understanding between the District and Florida State University, with the attached list of equipment on loan to FSU for Smith's use, was in the board's packet and was discussed during the July meeting.

Smith stated he had asked that the History of Tax Revenues and Expenses for fiscal years 2001 through October, 2011, be placed on the agenda for discussion, since the board would be making decisions on the budget in September. He distributed a report he prepared from this data, in which he plotted the budget increases and decreases. He reviewed the millage rates, percentage increases and/or decreases, and the resulting dollar amounts since the current board took office in fiscal year 2004/2005. Couch commented that revenue was almost back down to where it was when the current board took office. Smith said his calculations indicate the budget has increased only about 8% since fiscal year 2004/2005.

Smith continued that this was a small increase. He reiterated that he has always maintained taxes should not be increased when property values are falling; however, he suggested the board must be reasonable and consider the inflation factor each year. He recommended the commissioners consider the information provided prior to the first budget hearing in September. Smith stated he was trying to be reasonable when making a decision on the budget for the upcoming year. He emphasized that he was not saying how he would vote, but he would certainly be looking at the inflation factor and trying to determine a reasonable amount for the budget at this point in time. Couch pointed out that the District will need to devote more funds to mosquito control product than was previously anticipated due to the recent chicken sero-conversions and the West Nile concerns. Smith added that the District facility roof is leaking, and the board has not addressed the costs for facility repair.

# **Attorney Report**

Attorney Myers distributed copies of a Memorandum to the Board of Commissioners and Executive Director James Clauson, in which she proposed different options for legal services for the upcoming fiscal year. She reviewed the current arrangement, and discussed alternatives the board might wish to consider which may be more effective for the District. The commissioners discussed and clarified the various possibilities with Myers. Easter moved that Attorney Myers and her firm be retained on an asneeded, hourly basis at \$170 per hour, with board meeting attendance as requested and with a one-week notice, and with her routine review of the minutes, beginning with the new fiscal year of October 1, 2012. Couch seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

#### **Director Report**

Clauson reviewed the events for August and September. August 2<sup>nd</sup> was Joyce's birthday; also on the second, Cindy Mulla did a very good job in an interview on WKJC; the DR 420 was sent to the property appraiser's office; the primary election is August 14<sup>th</sup>; Wednesday, August 15<sup>th</sup> will be the staff meeting to review tonight's board meeting, along with an employee luncheon to celebrate Joyce's birthday; August 24<sup>th</sup> is the deadline to mail TRIM. Regarding the TRIM, Clauson corrected an earlier board discussion regarding the roll-back rate. He stated the roll-back rate had been referenced as .1588 when the actual roll-back rate is .1511, lower than previously discussed. Continuing with scheduled events, Clauson related September 3<sup>rd</sup> is Labor Day and a District holiday; the First Budget Hearing is scheduled for September 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:01 P.M.; the final budget will be advertised on September 7<sup>th</sup>; the Final Budget Hearing will be September 10<sup>th</sup> beginning at 5:01 P.M., with the Regular Board Meeting to follow. The board will need to determine the meeting dates and times for the upcoming fiscal year during the September 10<sup>th</sup> meeting, with appropriate advertising of meeting dates to follow. John Smith's birthday will be September 24<sup>th</sup>, with Brad Gunn and James Clauson's birthdays on September 28<sup>th</sup>. The District will again bring our outreach program with the education trailer to the Zoobalee at Zoo World on September 29<sup>th</sup>.

Several graphs and reports were provided for the Operations Update. During review and discussion, Clauson related that mosquito counts were very high, and noted the District sprayed twice by air recently, using 60 gallons each time, which covered the majority of the District.

The reports from the traps near the Conservation Park were reviewed, and a brief discussion ensued including the potential for spraying at the park and the species of mosquitoes there. Clauson noted that the sentinel chickens conversions were at the 14<sup>th</sup> Street trap site, and the question is whether the infected mosquitoes are coming from the park or not. He explained that is why Dale Martin is performing the study with the traps located south of the park. Clauson stated he continues to remain in contact with the City of Panama City Beach regarding Conservation Park. He commented that the area involves several acres, and would cost quite a bit to larvicide the entire area. The protocol for the health department issuing an advisory was reviewed, and Clauson commented an advisory had not yet been issued. Smith cautioned that, although it was the responsibility of the health department to issue any advisories, it was important that the District ensure they are well-informed of the parameters that would require an advisory to be issued, and when those parameters had been reached in the District. Clauson stated he is in frequent contact with the health departments in Tallahassee as well as Bay County, and will contact them tomorrow to determine how they calculate conversion historical averages before issuing an advisory.

The Monthly Summary Report and the Service Request Log were presented for review and discussion. A new Statement of Operations report was prepared by Eddie Summers and provided for review and discussion, covering the period from October 2011 to July 2012, and included service requests, employee hours for specific activities, material usage, spray routes and supporting graphs. Smith explained that basically this report shows the commissioners what the workers are doing, and suggested the report be provided on a monthly basis, to provide a better picture of the level of activity, especially during the mosquito season. Current year level of activity could then be compared to the same time period from previous years. The same should be applied to mosquito counts and sentinel chickens. Clauson pointed out the spray routes outlined and numbered that he asked Summers to place on the large map in the board room. The report reflects the employee hours spent for each spray route. A discussion ensued regarding floodwater mosquitoes farther inland than the specified spray routes. Clauson explained the District treats larval areas where they find them, but because there are no roads and therefore no truck access to areas farther north, there are areas that are not being treated. He continued that to larvicide the expanse of land to the north with the helicopter would be cost prohibitive at this time.

Clauson reviewed the letter from the Department of the Navy in which they expressed appreciation for the District's support during the 1012 Summer Safety and Health Fair. He also pointed out the various complimentary emails and comments the District received from several District residents.

Clauson related that he applied for an FMIT Safety Grant, which was approved and the District will receive \$871.00, which is reflective of one-half the total of the invoices submitted with the grant application.

The board discussed the Executive Order from the Office of the Governor regarding special districts, (hospital/mosquito control/water management districts), the request for information from the District and the response for same. The governor's office has since requested additional information from all

special districts concerning insurance and benefits, particularly those received by commissioners of the various boards. Smith reminded the board that benefits for commissioners had been discussed in detail; the attorney had reviewed the policy and found it acceptable. Attorney Myers added that she has the research records and the opinion issued in her files which could be provided if needed. Discussion continued regarding the possible reasons for the review of all special districts, and supposition as to the time frame for the review. Clauson added that he knows the District operates efficiently and does not waste funds, and feels that most mosquito control districts do likewise. He expressed confidence that once the review is completed, the governor's office will conclude that the taxpayers are getting their money's worth with mosquito control services.

Clauson reminded the board that the First Budget Hearing will be held Wednesday, September 5, 2012 beginning at 5:01 P.M., and the Final Budget Hearing, followed by the regular monthly board meeting, will be held Monday, September 10, 2012, also beginning at 5:01 P.M.

## Announcements

There were no announcements and no further business to come before the board, and Chairman Smith adjourned the meeting at 6:10 P.M.

Tom Easter, Treasurer

John/Smith, Chairman

Larry Couch, Secretary