The Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Board of Commissioners for Beach Mosquito Control District was called to order by Chairman Couch at 5:00 P.M., April 8th, 2013. Couch requested the roll be recorded, and noted that all commissioners were present.

Present:

Commissioner:

Larry Couch, Chairman

Commissioner:

John Smith, Treasurer

Commissioner:

Joyce Dean, Secretary

Director:

James Clauson

Attorney:

Amy Myers

Fiscal Assistant:

Sherry Bennett

Guests Present:

Jason Pense

Tom Easter

Lou Carroll

Approval of Minutes

Secretary Dean confirmed that everyone had received and reviewed the minutes of the meeting, and asked if there were any corrections. Hearing none, Dean moved the minutes be approved as submitted; Smith seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Financial Reports

Treasurer Smith referenced the financial reports and commented that we had collected \$44,584.00 this last month of which just over \$2,000.00 came from State Funds for the first time. He noted that we are still about 20% off on the total to be collected for the year. Smith then asked if there were additional questions or comments. Hearing none, he recommended the financial report be filed for audit.

New Business

At that time Chairman Couch requested that Jason Pense of Localedge address the board with his presentation. Jason began by thanking the board for their time and mentioned that he and James have been working together for the past year. He handed out some reports and graphs reflecting the results of what his company does for their clients on a broader scale and a list of the products that Hearst and Localedge provide. He referenced the information contained in the reports and mentioned the Dashboard that they provide for BMCD which shows the activity results for the different products that we have with Localedge. At Clauson's request Jason had put together a synopsis of what Localedge has been doing to get our name out more. He noted that there are a lot more facets but because of time constraints in his reports he just touched on how our visibility has become more prevalent on the internet. He stated that their main focus over time is to get us found more often when people are looking for the things that we can provide for them. He went on to explain Search Engine Optimization, key words, where we were at the beginning when we first started and where we stand now. He reiterated that the goal is to get more people going to our main website; the package we have is doing

that but the key to Search Engine Optimization is longevity. Jason brought up that the cost has increased from \$113.00 to \$136.00 per month for our fixed campaign and includes the 25 plus clicks each month and we can add content usually at no additional charge. A discussion ensued and James brought up that he was going to devote more time with working on this project and doing the posts to help with getting more interest to our website.

Old Business

Couch then referred to Old Business and the next item listed on the agenda, the Annual Report. Clauson stated that the Annual Report has been completed and it will be emailed out by the end of this week.

Attorney's Report

Myers gave a short update on the BP Claim; she began by saying that BP has not accepted any public entity claims at this time. She went on to report that the news reflects that they are challenging the private side's settlement criteria process they had previously agreed to and the judges shot them down. There is a chance that they might start accepting the public entity claims; she added that their team assumes that they will not. Myers brought up that they plan to file suit in the middle of the month on behalf of all their public clients and we are included in that group. Smith wanted to know the timeframe for that process and Myers stated that it will probably be at least six months before something happens.

Director Report

Clauson started his report with the calendar review and went over the events for April and May. He brought up that Cindy and Phillip were at Camp Helen this past Saturday and added it was a beautiful day and the event went well; but was not overly crowded with about eighty or ninety people attending. Clauson added that we have a staff meeting and employee luncheon scheduled for Wednesday and next week on the 16th Dale is going to Manatee County Mosquito Control for the State Entomologist workshop which he also participated in last year. On the 18th of April Cindy and Sherry will be at the Boardwalk for the Panama City Beach Chamber Business Expo's "Rock the Boardwalk". Cindy will be at Breakfast Point Accademy the week of the 22nd through the 26th. On the afternoon of the 25th the Florida League of Cities, our insurance company, is providing a free meeting where they will discuss Hurricane Preparedness and anything relating to insurance. It is a proactive and educational meeting held at Sandestin Hilton. Jim's Birthday is on the 27th and to finish up the month of April, Cindy will be at Hutchinson Beach Elementary on the 29th and 30th. Beginning with May, Cindy will be at Hutchinson Beach Elementary on the 1st through the 3rd; the following week she will be at Breakfast Point Academy May 6th through the 10th and on Thursday night the 9th she will be back at Hutchinson Beach Elementary for their Science Night which is similar to what she did at Breakfast Point on the previous Friday. Clauson added that Cindy did an interview with Emily Balazs from GC 90.7 FM radio regarding mosquitoes and the upcoming season; the interview is going to be put on our website. On Saturday May the 11th Cindy is going to meet with the Bay County School Board for a Science Workshop to let the school board know what we are doing in the schools. Clauson went on to report that the May Board Meeting is scheduled for the 13th and the Staff Meeting will be on the following Wednesday. Then we have another event on the 17th for the Direct Insurance Community Association Event. Beginning on the 20th of May, Cindy will be back at Breakfast Point for the 6th grade classes that Monday, Tuesday and

Wednesday. The 27th is Memorial Day Holiday; Cindy will be back at Hutchinson Beach Elementary for the 4th graders on Tuesday the 28th through Friday the 31st. Clauson mentioned that it is also the same week that he will be going to China leaving on the 23rd and he will be back on Monday, June the 3rd.

Several graphs and reports were provided for the Operations Update. The Monthly Summary Report and the Service Request Log for the month of March were presented for review and discussion. During review and discussion, Clauson related that mosquito counts were starting to pick up with the warmer weather and we had quite a few mosquitoes last week. Clauson reported that we sprayed for the first time on Friday, doing some spot spraying. He went on to say that we are going to spray in the morning with three trucks. Most of the mosquitoes are on the east end so we will begin on route one, two and three. We are not showing a lot of activity down on the beach but the Colony Club and route six by 79 also has some mosquitoes so they will be jumping around doing about two and a half hours of spraying with three trucks. We only received 4 requests since the last meeting and Clauson said he suspects that we will be receiving more. He went on to say that we want to get ahead of it and begin doing some larvaciding and adulticiding. He reported that the larvacide hopper has been put back on the helicopter so we are ready to go as soon as we find enough larvae to justify aerial spraying.

A Statement of Operations report for the month of March, prepared by Eddie Summers, was provided for review and discussion. The report included service requests, employee hours for specific activities, material usage, spray routes and supporting graphs. Clauson stated that Eddie included a couple of more pages in this report that he printed directly from VMCS. Smith commented that he noticed a lot of Larvaciding activity and asked Clauson if that was with the Altosid we just purchased and Clauson affirmed that it is the 150 day briquettes we are placing in the catch basins and reported that we are about 60 to 70 percent finished on the catch basins and expect to knock it out this week. Clauson added that we are going to set aside some of the catch basins for evaluation of the Altosid Briquettes. Smith asked about the Natular and Clauson answered by saying that we have a little bit of Natular left and Frank Clarke said they would give us some more to reevaluate since it didn't do so well last year. Clauson said that he had talked to Dale about setting aside some catch basins, perhaps the same ones we used last year for the study and try to replicate it.

At that time Clauson provided information on the Legislative Update and stated that they are still looking at the State paid money and some activities of certain senators that have diverted 1 million dollars from the general Mosquito Control Funds to go to FMEL for research. In the years past, the money has gone to the districts; so from 2.1 million it is now 1.1 million minus the 5 percent overhead that DACS charges to administer the program. Senator Hayes had put that proviso language in there and on the House side Representative Albritton has 2.25 million marked for Mosquito Control without any proviso language for FMEL research. Clauson went on to say that he went up to Tallahassee last week and met with Kathleen Daily, the Lobbyist for FSU. They went to both Albritton's and Hayes' office and talked to their aides and briefed them on the situation regarding where the money comes from and where it goes. Smith said that one thing to add is that Bob Betts, FMCA President, said that he had communicated with Chris Lyons and apparently Chris Lyons and the IFAS Lobbyist have approached Senator Hayes' office about trying to do something about the proviso language. They don't like taking

that much money away from Mosquito Control and the impression Smith got was that they were going to try and do something about it. Smith went on to say that he was contacted by the lobbyist for FSU regarding the million dollars that FMEL was in line to get for Mosquito Control Research and wanted to know why they aren't trying to get some of that money. So FSU is now on board with trying to get the money as well. Since then Kathleen sent a message saying that it would be a good idea for FSU to network with their local legislative delegation and make them aware of what is going on. Smith continued by saying that the proviso language now says "one million dollars will be for Mosquito Research to be conducted by UF IFAS FMEL". Smith added that FSU wants them to add to the existing proviso language "and Florida State University". He said that they were not worried about the money side because it should take care of itself. Smith also added that he suspects that Chris Lyons and the mosquito control people were working to reduce that a little by going through the conference committee. Couch questioned the amount that FMEL received last year and Smith gave a short explanation concerning what has happened to the money over the past few years.

Clauson then brought up the Dibrom purchase from Anastasia County that was discussed at a previous meeting. He reported that he had talked to Rudy this morning and he agreed to sell it to us at the same price they paid for it which is \$166.89 a gallon. He added that they have eight 30 gallon drums and they will pay for transportation.

Clauson reported to the board that we are changing from Nextel to Verizon. The main reason being that at the end of June Nextel is switching over to Sprint. After calling around, Clauson found out that Verizon offered the push to talk service at a cheaper price and he decided to go with them.

Clauson asked the board what their thoughts were on having our minutes and agenda placed on our website; the board was in agreement and Clauson added that he would check into having that done.

Clauson then asked the board if they would approve him taking April 29th through May 3rd as vacation time to help his daughter in Colorado move and the board approved his request.

Tom Easter mentioned that since we were discussing the phones; he wanted to know if we have ever thought about going to Smart Phones because of their capabilities. Clauson interjected that the data plans for the Smart Phones are much more expensive than the push to talk phones. Clauson added that the new phones have texting but he requested that feature be blocked because of safety factors.

New Business

Couch then moved on to the next agenda item, the Budget Amendment and also asked if there was any other discussion regarding Localedge that Jason Pense had reported on at the beginning of the meeting. Clauson said as far as the rate increase to \$136.00 from \$113.00, he would like to continue with them on a month to month basis and make more of an effort to really put it out there and get more people going to our website. He added that we could revalue it in six months to see if it is making a difference. Smith wanted to confirm that this was being charged to the Promotional Activities line item account. Couch mentioned the increase of about \$25.00 and whether we have enough to cover it and Clauson affirmed.

At that point Clauson addressed the Budget Amendment and said it for \$30,000.00 to be moved from the contingency fund to the chemical fund account solely for the Dibrom purchase. This will leave zero in contingency which is not favorable but if we really got into dire straits we could take money from the reserves. A discussion ensued regarding the funding and Dean brought up whether a motion for the purchase would be required. Smith made a motion to approve the budget amendment moving the \$30,000.00 to chemicals and the purchase of the Dibrom and the BTI Grandulars. Dean seconded the motion and it carried without dissent.

Smith inquired about the \$179,000.00 we need to collect from the tax collector and wanted to know if we are in line and if we should be concerned with that. There were no concerns expressed and Clauson made mention that we still have until September.

Couch then brought up the Secretary Position to which Clauson answered that he is leaning on not filling the position at this time and see how it is when we get into the busy season. Clauson added that he has discussed sharing the responsibilities with Sherry and make it work with just the two of us in the office. Couch questioned how it has been since the loss of that position. Clauson brought up that he would like to give Sherry a raise of \$1.00 an hour starting with tomorrow. Couch and Dean agreed and Couch added that he wanted to make sure it was an amount that would not be taken away later if we do end up having to hire someone. Smith wanted to know what percentage of Sherry's current salary the dollar raise would represent; the percentage works out to be about 5.88%. Dean moved to accept Clauson's proposal to give Sherry a \$1.00 raise per hour beginning tomorrow. Smith seconded and the motion carried without dissent.

Tom Easter interjected that he had to go but wanted to know what the mosquito count is down at the Conservation Park. Clauson answered him by saying that we don't have a trap there. Easter said that he had talked to someone that works at the Conservation Park and the mosquitoes are eating them alive. Easter wanted to know if we larvacided that area. Clauson then said that is a large area and expensive to larvacide so unfortunately we may have to just treat by adulticiding when the counts get high enough. If we decide to start treating that area we will have to allow more money in our budget. A short discussion ensued regarding that area and the cost of treatment and it was noted that Tom Easter had brought the Conservation Park and their mosquito problem before the board to which the board showed their appreciation and thanked him for doing so.

Clauson brought up the last item on the agenda, that being Dale's retirement, and reported that as it stands now the 30th of June will be Dale's last day. Clauson had asked Dale where he wanted his retirement celebration and he was leaning towards Camp Helen where we could possibly have a cook out but that is not finalized. Clauson then brought up the job description for Dale's position that he had placed in the board packets and said that he had referred to what Ed Hunter used back in 96 or 97 when Dale was hired. He was thinking of using the same job description and putting it out there for FMCA and maybe sending it to Tallahassee for them to send out to see what kind of interest we can generate. Clauson also mentioned that he had talked with a fellow while in Atlantic City, named Mike Riles, who had also met with John and Dale. He is a senior, about to finish up at Western Carolina University in

North Carolina and his wife lives in Lynn Haven working for the Fresh Water Fish and Game Commission. Mike sent Clauson his resume and a nice letter mentioning a couple of things he is currently working on there with mosquitoes and things of that sort. He expressed interest in interning with us the end of May and all of June. Clauson said he sounds like a good fit and is going to meet with him in early May when he is here with his wife. He is currently taking summer classes in North Carolina and will be graduating in December. At this time we would pay him to intern with us and hopefully he would be interested in coming back to work with us. In the meantime Clauson said he would like to get the job description out there to see what kind of interest it generates. Smith asked Clauson about the two job descriptions that were placed in the board packets and Clauson said that one is a scaled down version of the first one that Ed must have changed from the previous version. Clauson said he would like to change it a bit and add that a Bachelor's Degree from an accredited college or university with a major in one of the Biological Sciences, Entomology or Biology be required. Smith added it is certainly needed for that position.

Smith wanted to revisit having the minutes posted on the website and expressed concern that the minutes sometimes will not tell the full story. We have them available if anyone wants to read them and someone could get the wrong impression. Myers interjected that it is a public record and encouraged us to at least post the Agenda on the website. Dean agreed that since we really do not have a demand for the minutes that just the Agenda be posted on the website. The Board agreed.

Announcements

There were no announcements and no further business to come before the board, and Chairman Couch adjourned the meeting at 6:25 P.M.

Larry Couch, Chairman

John Smith, Treasurer