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., May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Couch requested the roll be recorded, and noted that all commissioners were present.

Present:

Commissioner:

Larry Couch, Chairman

Commissioner:

Joyce Dean, Secretary

Commissioner:

John Smith, Treasurer

Director:

James Clauson

Fiscal Assistant:

**Sherry Bennett** 

**Guests Present:** 

Brad Gunn

# **Approval of Minutes**

Secretary Dean confirmed that everyone 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 have received \$87,073.94 and it looks like we are about 10% short on total collections. Smith asked if there were additional questions or comments. Hearing none, he recommended the financial report be filed for audit.

#### Old Business

Chairman Couch called for Old Business and began with the rate of pay for the Entomologist Position. Clauson wanted to know what the board had in mind for the Entomologist's beginning rate of pay. A lengthy discussion ensued and it was decided that the beginning rate of pay would be \$35,000.00 annually, with the closing date for applicants being the end of June. Clauson is going to submit the Job Opening to FMCA and AMCA to see what response is initiated. Clauson added that if the intern, Mike Riles, does not return in December or January, and the position has not been filled, Cindy can fill in and help out until someone is hired in the interim through the season.

Clauson then brought up Dale's retirement, the end of June. Clauson informed the board that Dale has decided to have a retirement lunch at the district on Wednesday the 26<sup>th</sup> of June. Clauson added that we could have our staff meeting luncheon and make it longer to include Dale's Retirement Celebration. Clauson ended by saying that Dale has picked out his retirement watch and the luncheon would be really nice.

### Attorney Report

No report

## **Director Report**

Clauson reviewed the events for May and June; he reported that Cindy has been busy. She and Phillip were at Beach Elementary for Science Night with a big turnout. She did a presentation at Gulf Coast with the Bay County School Board on May 11<sup>th.</sup> The turnout was not as much as anticipated so they are planning on having Cindy return in the fall. She is at Breakfast Point this week and there is an event on May 17<sup>th</sup> at Direct Insurance. The Fire Department will be there as well. She will be back at Breakfast Point the 20<sup>th</sup> through the 24<sup>th</sup> and James leaves on May 22<sup>nd</sup> for the meeting in China. Moving into June; Clauson reported that he will be back in the office on June 5<sup>th</sup> getting back late on the 4<sup>th</sup>. Danny has a birthday on June 2<sup>nd</sup> and we will have a staff meeting luncheon on the 12<sup>th</sup> of June. Cindy has an event at Gulf World on June the 8<sup>th</sup> and Dale's last day is on June 28<sup>th</sup>. Not listed on the calendar; Dale's Retirement Luncheon on June 26<sup>th</sup>.

Clauson then brought up that the Florida Association of Special Districts is having a meeting on June 11<sup>th</sup> through June 15<sup>th</sup> in Weston, Florida and presented the related materials to the board. Clauson mentioned that he was able to get the registration fee waived. Clauson added that it would be a good opportunity and he could go by Cape Coral Resort where the upcoming FMCA Fall Meeting is being held. Clauson related to the board that he is the Exhibits Chair for FMCA's Fall Meeting and needs to look at the area where the exhibits are going to be located to make sure the space is adequate for the vendors. He added that he would be returning on June 15<sup>th</sup>. Smith brought up Clauson's travel and the length of time he would be away from the district; Clauson assured the board that he felt comfortable with the employees' capabilities in doing what needs to be done.

Clauson then went on to the Legislative Update; he began by saying that it is on the Governor's Desk and the senate and the house have the same proviso language; at that time he requested that Smith continue since he was familiar with it. Smith reported that it looks like Mosquito Control is going to get 1.66 million dollars to distribute and DACS got their bill approved to have the authority to change the distribution plan. Smith continued to say that they will be having hearings throughout the last quarter or two of this year with the Mosquito Control Districts to determine what the distribution plan should be. He added that the confusing part is that part of that distribution plan is setting aside about a quarter of a million for research. That means that because of the proviso language that Senator Hayes had put in they are going to take one million dollars out of the Mosquito Control pool and put it towards research. Five hundred thousand will go into a pot where any Florida University or college can submit proposals and five hundred thousand dollars will go to FMEL to carry out the PHEREC Mission. Smith finished by saying that the Governor can veto any of those lines and doubts seriously that he would veto the State Aide Money. Couch questioned the amount and Smith clarified that there is 2.66 million total and one million is being set aside for research leaving 1.66 million for Mosquito Control which initiated a lengthy discussion.

Couch then moved on to new business and realized that the Operation's Update had been skipped and requested that Clauson give an Operation's Update.

Several graphs and reports reflecting May's activities were provided for the Operations Update. During review and discussion, Clauson related that the Reports show the mosquito counts by traps. Couch and Smith commented that the counts at Frank Brown Park looked good, Smith interjected that the other counts went up, and Clauson responded by saying that the counts are on a down swing now and went on to say that the guys have been spending a lot of time at Frank Brown Park due to all that has been going on there. The Monthly Summary Report and the Service Request Log for May were presented for review and discussion. A Statement of Operations report covering the month of May was prepared by Eddie Summers and provided for review and discussion, which included service requests, employee hours for specific activities, material usage, spray routes and supporting graphs.

Clauson also reported that Brad had aerial larvacided sixty seven acres to try out Terry Couch's (Becker Microbials) new granular BTI product. Smith wanted to know if any dips had been done since the spray and Clauson said that Eddie went out the following Thursday and Friday and sent Clauson an email stating that there was not much larva showing up in those areas.

Clauson related that he had received a phone call this morning from a resident that has Honey Bees; requesting that we not spray his area, and Clauson assured him that we would try to accommodate him.

## **New Business**

At that time the Boot Purchase was addressed and Clauson pointed out that as stated in the minutes of a previous board meeting from 1996 it was required that the employees other than office personnel obtain and wear safety boots with the employees required to do so to be allotted eighty dollars for their purchase. Clauson brought up that he would like to have the amount doubled to one hundred and sixty dollars every two years and provide a boot allowance. Dean interjected that they could get a good quality snake boot and Clauson agreed. Smith inquired if all of the employees would be going in the areas that would require snake boots. Couch clarified with Clauson that this is something that he would like to start now and then every other year and Clauson confirmed.

The 2013/2014 Fiscal Year Budget was next on the agenda. Clauson began by presenting a draft of the proposed budget to the board and mentioned that the highlighted items are the changes from last year's figures. He related that he had wanted to put something in the budget for COLA and stated that we have June and July to discuss the budget before it goes to Tallahassee and even then it can be changed.

Clauson reported that he saw Jim Garner at their dinner and Jim told him that the audit is almost complete. Clauson said that our contract with them is almost up and we could wait until he makes his presentation to discuss the contract. He then referred to the draft of the budget mentioning a few of the listed items. Smith brought up the Leading Edge purchase and questioned if the amount of \$76,000 was for another module. Clauson answered by saying that it was for the complete package and it would replace VCMS. He went on to say that it would never go out of date because we would get the updates and changes with our needs. Dean questioned if there would be a monthly charge and Clauson responded by saying that the monthly service agreement is included in the \$76,000.

Smith then expressed concern about the condition of the building and putting money towards replacing the building. Clauson responded that he had included that in the budget and a lengthy discussion ensued.

Couch then went on to the next item that being the internship. Clauson said he wanted to discuss Mike Riles' rate of pay and said that he had mentioned \$13.00 or \$14.00 per hour to him but wanted to bring it before the board. Clauson added that he will be here for a little less than a month and he would not get any holidays or benefits. The board agreed that \$14.00 an hour would be a good rate for Mike during his internship.

# **Announcements**

There were no announcements and no further business to come before the board, and Chairman Couch adjourned the meeting at 6:03 P.M.

Larry Couch, Chairman

John Smith, Treasurer