

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., October 8, 2012. Smith requested the roll be recorded.

Present:	Commissioner:	John Smith, Chairman
	Commissioner:	Larry Couch, Secretary
	Commissioner:	Tom Easter, Treasurer
	Director:	James Clauson
	Fiscal Assistant:	Sherry Bennett
	District Secretary:	Joyce Dean

Guests: None

Approval of Minutes

Secretary Couch confirmed that everyone received and reviewed the minutes of the September 10, 2012 Final Budget Hearing and Regular Board Meeting, and asked if there were any corrections. There were no corrections or additions, and Couch moved that the minutes be accepted. Easter seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Financial Reports

Treasurer Easter referenced the financial reports, and noted that no tax revenues have been received. Fiscal Assistant Bennett pointed out that the financial report was for the fiscal year 2012-2013, which began October 1, and the first tax distribution would probably be received in mid-November. Smith commented that the total carry-over figure was \$346,347.80, and Bennett confirmed that the payment from the county for helicopter spraying was included in that figure. Easter asked if there were other questions regarding the financial reports, and hearing none, he recommended the financial report be filed for audit.

Old Business

As a follow-up to Commissioner Easter's recommendation that the District pay for employee memberships with a local gym, Clauson related that the gym had agreed to reduce the initial sign-up fee to \$29.00 per individual, and that six employees had expressed interest. He also contacted the District's health insurance agent, who related that there would be no insurance discount or allotment for a district-sponsored wellness program. Smith commented that the District should offer a similar incentive to those employees who might prefer a different wellness program. Couch agreed that it should be fair across the board, and added that the District may want to provide the same monthly payment toward another fitness program the employee may prefer. Easter stressed the importance of monitoring attendance, and stated the District should require a set number of days. Smith reminded the board that Attorney Myers had cautioned that the District should be aware of any tax consequences. Easter stated

he preferred for the District to pay the sign-up fee and the monthly fee, and moved that the District pay up to \$29.00 for a sign-up fee and up to \$15.00 per month. Discussion continued, and Easter amended his motion that employees pay the \$29.00 sign-up fee, the District pay the monthly \$15.00 fee, to a gym of the employee's choosing, provided the employee participates at a minimum of twice per week. After further discussion, the board chose to table the motion until any tax ramifications could be determined and more employee input was received.

Clauson related that the District's health insurance agency was unable to alter the renewal date to coincide with the District's fiscal year.

Director Report

Clauson reviewed events during the months of October and November: The District participated in the Pirates of the High Seas Parade on October 6; Cindy Mulla's birthday is today, October 8; Eddie Summers' birthday is October 9; Mulla will be at Breakfast Point teaching the 4th grade October 9 through October 11, and will be a guest speaker at the District Boy Scout Round Table Meeting the evening of October 11; she will also represent the District at the Under the Sea presentation at Gulf World on October 13; Mulla will teach at Patronis Elementary Monday through Thursday, the weeks of October 15, October 22, October 29 and November 5; the District will again participate in the Cops & Kids program at Arnold High on October 20; Phillip Harvey's birthday is November 3; the next board meeting will be November 5; Veterans Day is a District Holiday and will be observed November 12; the FMCA Annual Meeting will be held November 12 through November 14 in Sandestin, so any attendees will commute and will not need to stay overnight. Clauson suggested that since the one-day registration fee was so low, he recommended that employees be offered the opportunity to attend. Sherry Bennett's birthday is November 19 and Larry Couch's birthday is November 24; Thanksgiving Holidays are November 22 and 23, and the District will be closed on those days.

Clauson discussed the Operations Reports, including ULV spraying, aerial adulticiding, trapping results and service requests, and commented there are a lot of mosquitoes out there. He mentioned the information previously given to the commissioners regarding the human case of West Nile in Bay County, and confirmed the county is still under an Advisory, not an Alert. He added that another human case would elevate the status to Alert. Clauson notified the board that there was a human case of West Nile in Jackson County. He stated he had not had a new request from the county regarding helicopter spraying, but District spraying would take precedence over county spraying. The District had two more sero-conversions in chickens at Ed's Sheds, and a mosquito pool from St. Andrews State Park came back positive for St. Louis encephalitis; the mosquitoes were crucians. Clauson continued that the District has been spraying daily, through the weekend, and will be spraying again Monday and Tuesday mornings. He related that Dale Martin received a call from the State Park about the volume of mosquito complaints they are receiving, so there is a possibility the District will be asked to spray the park.

Clauson reviewed the Bioassay Data Sheet that he had asked Martin to prepare, to look for resistance, and the results were good. Smith commended Martin for the work he's been doing and the reports he has provided. Clauson added that everyone is aware of the West Nile situation and have all worked very hard. He noted the technicians have sprayed 37 times in September. Clauson clarified the discrepancy in the previous board reports provided by Eddie Summers, which has been corrected.

Clauson informed the board that the VCMS program currently being utilized is no longer being supported, and the District should think of having to replace the program in the future. MapVision has a component that easily integrates with the District's existing program, which will be a cost to the district, but something will need to be in place to replace VCMS. A brief discussion ensued regarding the modules offered through MapVision and the possible prices. Easter asked for an explanation of what the program does, and Clauson explained it enables the technicians to use the hand-held data collectors; while they perform various tasks in the fields, they enter the data, which drops into the VCMS program. He continued that the NPDES program makes it almost a necessity for reporting purposes of products used in U.S. waters.

Couch related a conversation he had with a service request customer, who expressed his appreciation for the outstanding service, professionalism, response time and knowledge of the District personnel. The customer continued that Phillip Harvey responded very promptly, was extremely informative and helpful, and did not stop until he had determined the source of the mosquito breeding. Clauson added that he also had received a very complimentary email recently regarding Phillip Harvey and his work.

Easter asked about the helicopter and Clauson told him the blades have been repaired and reinstalled. He continued that the bill has not yet been received, but he anticipates a cost of \$12,000 to \$15,000. He reassured the commissioners that the first tax distribution should arrive mid-November. Clauson further explained there were oil leaks on the helicopter, and Coastal has repaired that as well.

New Business

Clauson informed the board that the inventory has been taken and the audit has begun for the fiscal year 2011-2012. The price for the audit will probably be \$11,000. The DACS contract was provided for Chairman Smith's signature. He explained that basically the contract specifies that in exchange for the funds provided, the District will follow the stipulations outlined in Florida Statute 388 and provide the required reports. Easter moved that the contract be approved, accepted and signed. Couch seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Budget amendments for State and Local were presented and discussed. Clauson explained the state amendment was to decrease the total amount allotted for chemicals by \$688.79 due to the smaller carry-over than was anticipated. The local amendment requests moving \$20,000 from Contingency to Repairs and Maintenance, for the helicopter. Couch moved to approve the recommended amendments. Easter seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Smith disclosed to the board that he was opening a business called Public Health Entomology Services, which offers his services to mosquito control programs, public health arthropod control programs, and anywhere he can obtain business to do research, technical services and training. He continued that most of his work in training involves not only providing the actual training itself, but also coordinating training events like the FSU Workshop he coordinated last March. He emphasized that any participation by Beach Mosquito Control District would be purely voluntary. Smith stated the service he offers will be for all mosquito control programs throughout the Panhandle, and is a valuable service which will provide local training, allow networking and communication for Panhandle mosquito control people, but he reiterated that it is totally up to the mosquito control programs as to whether or not they wish to participate, from the standpoint of a student or an instructor. One of the first training events by this business is the Mosquito Identification Workshop scheduled for January 10, 2013. He related that he had a web conference not long ago with several of the mosquito control entities in the Panhandle as well as with Tyndall Air Force Base and the Navy Base in Pensacola, during which participants stressed how important it was to have a mosquito identification workshop. He stated he was making this workshop available through his business, but would be contracting through FSU for use of their facilities. He explained that at FSU, he is not technically an employee but rather a contractor. FSU contracts with him for certain things they want done, such as the development of a forensic entomology certificate program, and other forthcoming contracts, all of which have a specific beginning and ending date. In addition to the FSU contracts, he will be performing other services through his new business; the Mosquito Identification Workshop and the regional training that he did last year, scheduled for March 12 and 13, 2013. He will also be contracting with FSU for use of their facilities for the 2013 regional training. He reiterated that he wanted to fully disclose his business and give the commissioners the opportunity to ask questions, express opinions and concerns. Easter reminded the board of the position Commissioner Couch had taken regarding the District doing business with the company for which he works, because of a conflict of interest. Couch explained he did not wish to handle any District business through his company due to State restrictions. He cited an example of a former Panama City Beach Commissioner who was fined and had to repay the City for services rendered, due to violation of the State restrictions. He continued that he would be allowed to sell to the District, but could not exceed the State maximum of \$500.00 per year in payment to an elected official for services rendered by a business with which the official is associated. Smith asked where these restrictions were made and Couch responded that it was under the Sunshine Law. Couch added that exceptions could be made for something the District needed that was not available elsewhere, or if the District put the item out for bid. Smith mentioned that he coordinated the training held in March, 2012 through FSU; he would be doing the same things under his business. Easter stated that Smith wasn't profiting in that instance, and Smith replied that it was done under FSU. Couch commented that the check was payable to FSU and FSU is not on the board. Smith expressed his appreciation for the information, said he would research the matter, and emphasized that he did not want to do anything to jeopardize his position as commissioner with Beach Mosquito Control District. Commissioners Couch and Easter supported the opportunity to have training available locally. Smith noted that Attorney Myers will be reviewing the minutes and the board can review any comments she has regarding the requirements and restrictions.

Announcements

Easter asked if there had been any response from FAMU regarding the District receiving more equipment from the closed PHEREC facility. Smith replied that he continues to send emails and make telephone calls to FAMU requesting the equipment and supplies, but FAMU has not responded. He related a conversation he had recently with McClellan of the Airport Authority, regarding the status of the facility, as well as a discussion between McClellan and Bakker of FAMU. McClellan said DEP has not yet deeded the property to the airport and that he had made Bakker aware that BMCD wanted the surplus equipment and supplies and was told by Bakker that the District needed to inform FAMU immediately as FAMU planned to remove the items very soon. Smith has left word repeatedly by phone, email and letter to Bakker and other administrators with no reply. Smith updated the board on unconfirmed reports from Marine Transport Service personnel located adjacent to PHEREC regarding the property deed status. Easter recommended Smith attend the upcoming airport workshop meeting to learn more about the airports plans for the PHEREC property.

Easter suggested the board may want to consider changing District vehicles to natural gas. A brief discussion followed, and Clauson agreed to look into the possibility.

Clauson related that Fiscal Assistant Bennett had calculated the funds the District needs to cover upcoming bills and payroll. He advised the board that the first check from the tax collector will not come in until mid-November, and the District has four certificates of deposit. He suggested the board consider cashing in one of the \$60,000 certificates and accept the penalty of approximately \$92.00, in order to cover cash needs until the tax checks begin coming in. Easter asked if the fee could be waived, and Clauson said the bank would not be willing to do so. Following a brief discussion, Easter moved that the District redeem a \$60,000 certificate and accept the penalty. Couch seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

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



John Smith, Chairman

Tom Easter, Treasurer

Larry Couch, Secretary