

Minutes of Board Meeting
Pasco County Mosquito Control District
2308 Marathon Road, Odessa, FL 33556
February 14, 2023

Regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order at the district office on February 14, 2023, at 9:01 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Those present were Chairperson Cox, Treasurer Abbott, Secretary Evans, Executive Director Rogers, Agne Prasauskas, Michele Donagrandi, Lina Castro and Andrew Pupke from InVision Advisors, Jon Ford, and Ritesh Patel.

Approval of Agenda: Commissioner Evans motioned to approve the agenda; Commissioner Abbott seconded – All approved. Commissioner Cox asked to speak before moving to the next item. He stated that during the Director's Caucus at the DODD Short Courses last month, Florida Keys Mosquito Control District Commissioner, Goodman, presented detailed information on Robert's Rule of Order. Robert's Rule provides instruction for small meetings, which the PCMCD Board meetings fall under. For such meetings, Robert's Rule allows for more flexibility by the Chairman to make motions without a second being necessary. Commissioner Abbott then stated that in years past, the meetings were held up by this issue, and adopting this rule would allow for more free flow of ideas and would not lock out the chairman. Commissioner Cox asked if the Board was willing to adopt the idea and Commissioner Abbott asked if we needed to prepare the entire guidelines. Commissioner Cox asked Executive Director Rogers to put this on the agenda for the March meeting.

Approval of Consent Agenda: Commissioner Evans motioned to approve the consent agenda; Commissioner Abbott seconded – All approved.

Public Comment: None

New Business:

- A. Investment Option Selection. A discussion on investment options for District funds ensued. Commissioner Cox began to talk about the options for investment, starting with Florida FIT. He stated he did not see a lot of disclosure documents and the firm that runs it is local, independent financial advisor. He stated recent returns were roughly 3.9% but they did not disclose what the fees were. Florida Prime, as the second option, is administered through the state Board of Administration and there was some discussion on this. Commissioner Evans asked how much money we were thinking of investing. Executive Director Rogers stated that \$1.8 million was set aside this budget year for financing the new campus, however due to delays in the project, those funds will not be utilized for the campus this fiscal year. She also stated that \$3 million in capital outlay was set aside for the professional service fees associated with the project and the remainder of those funds could be used for investment. There was then discussion on FDIC insurance. Commissioner Cox recommended that we invest \$4 million. Commissioner Abbott asked if we needed to speak to a representative regarding the fees and Commissioner Cox stated no and that he was confident that the structure was good. There was additional discussion on the short term investment options and published returns of FL Prime. It was also mentioned that monies could be taken out without fees or penalties. Commissioner Abbott made a motion to invest \$4 million in FL Prime funds. Evans seconded, all in favor. Motion approved.
- B. FMCA Membership Discussion. Commissioner Cox began a discussion on recent events with the Florida Mosquito Control Association and a Board member using their position of authority to wrongfully attack the PCMCD and the Director, recommending that the FMCA has overstepped their bounds and we should consider revoking our sustaining membership. Commissioner Abbott stated that we should fight the issue head on and get to the root cause of it and if we pull out of the membership then it sends a message that we are not going to put up with fabrication and accusation against our Executive Director. The discussion went on to further support the work of the Executive Director and recent actions regarding personnel. The decision was made to move forward with writing a letter from Chairman Cox to the FMCA Board asking them to take action against the individual making the false claims.

Unfinished Business:

- A. Campus Financing Discussion. Jon Ford, Ford & Associates, Inc. discussed options for financing of the new campus; certificate of participation lease/purchase structure, private placement, bank loan. One big

questions for consideration is how long the PCMCD wants to amortize the debt. He also discussed the timeline for getting documents prepared prior to obtaining the financing, which is roughly 120-150 days to get the public offering together (which is more work for staff to prepare and maintain) and roughly 90-120 days for the bank offering (less work on staff). Executive Director Rogers stated that the intent was to use cash on hand for some of the site work and finance the rest as needed.

- B. Campus Budget Discussion. InVision Advisor recommended to use the average of the 4 lowest figures presented at the January 30th meeting for the estimated budget, which is \$36,896,722. Commissioner Evans made a motion to approve this amount for the project budget. Commissioner Abbott seconded. All approved, motion passed.

Director's Report:

- A. Campus Update: Lina Castro presented an update on the campus design, the progression of events, and associated timeline. Design Development stage is estimated for completion in April with review by the PCMCD. Executive Director Rogers tasked Lina to work on getting Spring Engineering, Inc. to present at the April 11th Board meeting.

General Information:

- A. District Operations: Executive Director Rogers provided an update on the status of District administration and current operations. Rogers also provided an update on the special district accountability issue and recent communication from OPPAGA. It was discussed that at least Commissioner Evans would be present for the initial interview with the Balmoral Group and Executive Director Rogers informed the Board she would request Doug Carlson be present on the call. Rogers also informed the Board of new reporting dashboard that would soon be available from MapVision data, items for presentation during Board meetings was discussed as well as additional information to post on the District website.
- B. Safety Reports: Executive Director Rogers informed the Board of safety issues within the last month.
- C. Arbovirus Report: Executive Director Rogers provided an update on the arboviral activity throughout the state and within Pasco County.

Good of the Order:

- A. Commissioner Abbott asked Executive Director Rogers to create a chart of professional level staff with background information and credentials to put in a prominent position on the website to show the level of expertise on staff and the years of service to the mosquito control industry.
- B. Commissioner Cox put an emphasis on the finalization of the strategic plan, stating that there is a lot of emphasis on this for the OPPAGA review.

Meeting Adjourned:

Commissioner Evans made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:29 a.m. Commissioner Abbott seconded. Meeting Adjourned.

Date: 3/14/2023

Attested: 