

Minutes of Board Meeting
Pasco County Mosquito Control District
October 12, 2020

Regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order at the District office on October 12th, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. Those present were Chairperson Joiner, Treasurer Abbott, Secretary Randy Evans, Executive Director Rogers, Operations Director Hansen, and Administrative Manager Stevens. Also present were Public Education Specialist Jillian Meek, Attorney Steve Booth and candidate Shanon Holm.

All present stood and repeated the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Commissioner Evans made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Abbott seconded. Motion Carried.

Commissioner Evans made a motion to approve the minutes of the last board meeting. Commissioner Abbott seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Evans made a motion to accept and approve the purchase orders as presented. Commissioner Abbott seconded. Motion carried.

New Business:

Commissioner Joiner noted that candidate Shanon Holm had signed up for the public comment section and invited him to speak. Mr. Holm discussed the recent issue of a campaign donation made to Commissioner Joiner from the realtor that the District is currently doing business with and stated that although not illegal, he felt it made for poor appearances. He added that if he would be elected to the position that he would not accept any contributions from individuals that the District is in business with. Commissioner Joiner stated that it is within his legal right to accept the donation. Attorney Steve Booth confirmed that there were no legal issues with accepting the donation. Commissioner Evans stated that those types of donations happen all the time.

Candidate Holm then proceeded to comment on the agenda item of Public Comment Policy and that he hoped that the District wasn't looking to change the recently adopted policy. He stated that he felt that the policy was a good and fair one and that changes could silence the public and that they deserve to be heard.

Executive Director Rogers presented the Board with the Budget Amendment. She explained that the amendment was to assign funds that were over the estimated ending bank balance. Commissioner Evans made a motion to approve the Budget Amendment as presented. Commissioner Abbott seconded. Motion carried.

Executive Director Rogers updated the Commissioners on the most recent parcel presented from the realtor group Berkshire-Hathaway. She stated that the owner has ordered several land studies and we were awaiting the results. She added that she hoped to have results and further information by the November meeting.

Old Business:

Executive Director Rogers updated the Board on COVID-19. She stated that 1 employee had tested positive (results received on Friday, September 18th). The specified individual remained working from home until they tested negative. All staff were notified within a couple of hours. Any employees that had been in close contact with the positive individual went for testing and stayed out of the office until they received a negative test result. She added that all employees that tested were negative. The cleaning company was immediately contacted, and additional sanitation services were added to our regular weekly cleaning happening that weekend. She added that the specified positive employee remained out for 18 days and then tested negative.

Executive Director Rogers updated the Commissioners on the hangar project. She stated that the engineering and permitting was underway.

Commissioner Abbott asked about the status of the new helicopters. Executive Director Rogers stated that everything was on track and that the ships were nearly ready for the finishing center. She added that the District had picked a paint scheme and that assembly was nearing completion.

Commissioner Joiner brought up the Public Comment Policy and asked if either of the other Commissioners had any input on how the policy was written. Commissioner Evans and Commissioner Abbott both stated that they felt that the policy was good as it is currently written.

Other Business:

Executive Director Rogers informed the Board that the District received a records request recently pertaining to the issues surrounding FMCA. She stated that the request was rather substantial and required staff time to review the files for protected content. As a result, she stated that the District sent an invoice to the individual as per District policy. She stated that if payment is received, the files would be sent.

Public Education Specialist Meek reviewed the Arbovirus activity for the State, adding that there was currently 1 positive chicken in Pasco, from the Moon Lake flock.

Executive Director Rogers informed the Board that there was a recent incident in 3 Lakes RV Park in Hudson. She stated that on October 7th, a ULV driver was blocked in by a resident in a golf cart. The resident proceeded to bang on the windows of the truck. The Pasco Sheriff's office was called, no arrests were made but a report was filed. Operations Director Hansen reached out to the Manager of the RV Park and the issue was discussed. It was indicated that the individual in question may have been dealing with a significant amount of personal stress at the time. They stated that they would discuss it with the resident. We informed her that we would not be coming back into the park unless we felt that we could be confident of the driver's safety.

Commissioner Joiner stated that he had recently attended some football games in the County and that the mosquitoes were very bad. It was discussed that some of the fields in question are near State lands that we are currently unable to treat. It was added that Executive Director Rogers would be working on trying to modify the ability to treat on State lands.

Executive Director Rogers informed the Board that the District recently used a loaner A-1 Mister to conduct a trial. She stated that they treated 3 neighborhoods with varying vegetation coverages. She stated that the results were very favorable, with 92-100% mosquito kill in the open areas and 82% in the dense vegetation areas. She stated that the District would be purchasing one in the early part of 2021.

Executive Director Rogers informed the Commissioners that staff evaluations had been completed and that the overall percentage of raises given was 2.95%.

Public Education Specialist Meek asked Attorney Booth if there was anything that could be done if a retired employee was discussing confidential, personal information about a current employee. Attorney Booth stated that he did not feel that this was a District issue and it would need to be handled outside of the District.

The Board conducted the evaluation for Executive Director Rogers. Commissioner Joiner stated that he felt it was difficult to do a complete evaluation since she had only been in the position for a short time and that he would like to wait another 6 months. Administrative Manager Stevens reminded Commissioner Joiner that per the employment contract, the Board was obligated to conduct the evaluation at this time. Commissioner Abbot stated that he felt that Executive Director Rogers was a strong leader who is very involved in the day-to-day operations. He outlined his goals for her for the 2020-2021 fiscal year and added that he felt she was doing a superb job. Commissioner Evans reviewed the evaluation form and his notes. He stated that he felt she was doing an exceptional job, was at the top of her game, and that the District was very fortunate to have her. Commissioner Joiner stated that he understands that she was rushed into the position but he feels she is doing a fantastic job so far. Commissioner Abbot made a motion to approve a 3% raise for Executive Director Rogers, retro back to October 1, 2020. Commissioner Evans seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Evans made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:25 a.m. Commissioner Abbott seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Date: 9 NOVEMBER 2020 Attested:

