

MOSQUITO ABATEMENT

ST. TAMMANY PARISH

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

David C. Stuart, *Chairman*
Dr. Peter J. Gerone, *Secretary-Treasurer*
Anthony Alfred, *Commissioner*
Dr. Andrew J. Englande, *Commissioner*
Dr. Vicki Traina-Dorge, *Commissioner*

DIRECTOR

Dr. Kevin A. Caillouet

MINUTES

Board of Commissioners Meeting June 19, 2019

OPEN

The meeting of the Board of Commissioners, St. Tammany Parish Mosquito Abatement District, was called to order at 1:00pm by Chairman David Stuart, in the District office at 62512 Airport Road, Building 23, Slidell, Louisiana.

Present were Mr. Anthony Alfred, Dr. A.J. Englande, Jr., Dr. Peter Gerone, Mr. David Stuart, and Dr. Vicki Traina-Dorge, Commissioners; Dr. Ron Francis and Dr. Bob Lowrie, Advisors; Mr. Jake Abdalla, Legal Counsel; Dr. Kevin Caillouet, Director; and Mr. Calvin Smotherman, Assistant Director. Advisor Dawn Wesson was absent from the meeting. Laboratory Manager/Entomologist Nick DeLisi was a guest at the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Chairman Stuart opened the floor for public comment. There were no members of the public present.

MINUTES

The minutes from the May 15 meeting were presented. Commissioner Alfred moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Traina-Dorge seconded the motion. Commissioner Englande abstained, because he was not present at the May meeting. The motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT AND CREDIT CARD PURCHASES

Director Caillouet presented and discussed the Treasurer's Report. The CPA firm of Ericksen, Krentel & LaPorte will attend the July meeting to present the 2018 audit exit conference.

Commissioner Traina-Dorge reviewed all credit card purchases for May and reported that credit card accounts were found reasonable, accurate and consistent with District purchasing policies. Chairman Stuart and Commissioner Gerone will verify the credit card purchases before the July meeting.

Commissioner Gerone moved to accept the Treasurer's Report and credit card reconciliation. Commissioner Englande seconded the motion. Carried.

ARCHITECTURAL PROPOSALS - CAMPUS EXPANSION

The Architectural Proposal Evaluation Subcommittee, comprising Commissioner Alfred, Legal Counsel Abdalla, Director Caillouet, and Assistant Director Smotherman, reviewed all 15 architectural proposals opened at the May meeting. The committee reviewed responses to the RFP criteria and identified eligible firms with project experience of similar size, scope and cost. The Director also requested professional reference surveys from former clients of each firm. The subcommittee created a five firm shortlist and evaluated in-house architectural presentations, which allowed each of the five firms to present their qualifications, experience, education, training, past performance, etc. The committee proposed awarding the campus expansion architectural services to Moates, Savoie, Hunley. MSH Architects use technology based, streamlined delivery processes that provide quality control and three-dimensional visualization throughout the project. This interactive process allows clients more opportunities to participate in the design and development, while reducing change orders. MSH has also designed and consulted on a wide variety of similar projects for numerous public entities.

Commissioner Gerone moved to award the proposal for architectural services to the design firm of Moates, Savoie, Hunley Architects LLC. Commissioner Englande seconded the motion. Carried.

HELICOPTER ASSESSMENT

Laboratory Manager/Entomologist Nick DeLisi provided a summary of the helicopter larviciding trials. A fine mist of water-dispersible *Bti* was aerially applied over 2,000 homes in Tammany Hills subdivision, once weekly for four consecutive weeks. He reviewed cup placement mortality, treated and untreated trap collections, and the average number of trapped *Culex quinquefasciatus* in treatment vs. control neighborhoods. He noted it was challenging to observe adult repercussions from larval treatments, due to high variability and little evidence indicating an effect on adult *Cx. quinquefasciatus*. In addition, water quality field tests were performed by simulating clean, pool, container and septic ditch habitats. Tests indicated that highly organic water negatively affects the efficacy of *Bti* larvicide. Further testing by diluting septic water showed improved larvicide efficacy. Larviciding trials also indicated that aerially applied helicopter applications of *Bti* worked well in contained, clean environments; however, highly polluted water inhibited the efficacy of *Bti*. A 63% larval count reduction was observed in highly organic septic ditches and 71% in containers breeding mosquitoes. In conclusion, *Bti* helicopter applications were comparable to truck/hand larvicide applications in septic ditches, but not as effective as hoped.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY CONTRACT-LEGAL COUNSEL COMPENSATION

Legal Counsel Abdalla reported that he was unable to contact the District Attorney's Chief of Administration Tony Sanders. He requested that the Board table this item until the next meeting.

Commissioner Alfred moved to table the District Attorney Contract-Legal Counsel Compensation until the July meeting. Commissioner Englande seconded the motion. Carried.

BOARD APPROVALS

A. Travel - none

B. Contracts -

Xerox Printer/Copier Lease Agreement - Legal Counsel Abdalla reviewed the Xerox lease agreement and would like to explore contract requirements further. He requested that the Board table this item until the next meeting.

Commissioner Alfred moved to table the Xerox lease agreement until the July meeting. Commissioner Traina-Dorge seconded the motion. Carried.

Microsoft 365 Subscription Agreement - Director Caillouet provided a summary of the MS 365 email system upgrade, as recommended by the District's IT Specialist Weber Janssen. Legal Counsel Abdalla reviewed and approved the agreement. The cost for the annual subscription is \$1,700.

Commissioner Gerone moved to approve the Microsoft 365 Subscription Agreement for \$1,700. Commissioner Traina-Dorge seconded the motion. Carried.

Adulticiding Spray Nozzle Atomizers and Pump

Director Caillouet sought Board approval to purchase two unbudgeted rotary spray nozzle atomizers and one pump totaling \$5,621.64, for aerial adulticiding use by Blackstar Helicopters. The Director asked Legal Counsel Abdalla to draft an agreement granting the District right of ownership for the spray equipment and requiring that Blackstar Helicopters maintain insurance coverage for the nozzles and pump.

Commissioner Englande moved to grant the Director authority to purchase two spray nozzles and one pump, for use by contractor Blackstar Helicopter, at a cost of \$5,621.64. He further moved that Legal Counsel Abdalla draft an agreement between the District and Blackstar Helicopters establishing full right of ownership to the District and requiring that Blackstar obtain and maintain, at its own expense and for the duration of the contract, adequate insurance coverage for the spray nozzles and pump. Commissioner Traina-Dorge seconded the motion. Carried.

C. Director's Time Card - Chairman Stuart reviewed and approved the Director's time card for May 12-June 15, 2019. Commissioner Gerone moved to accept the Director's time card as presented. Commissioner Alfred seconded the motion. Carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Heather Durr, et al vs. Atlantic Specialty Company, STPMAD, et al - Chairman Stuart suspended the open session at 1:57pm and called for a motion to move into an executive session. Commissioner Alfred so moved and Commissioner Traina-Dorge seconded the motion. Carried.

Chairman Stuart called for a motion to close the executive session at 2:38pm. Commissioner Gerone so moved and Commissioner Alfred seconded the motion. Carried. Commissioner Alfred moved to resume the regular session of the meeting. Commissioner Englande seconded the motion. Carried. Commissioner Alfred moved to table Heather Durr, et al vs. Atlantic Specialty Company, STPMAD, et al, until the July meeting. Commissioner Traina-Dorge seconded the motion. Carried.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The Director reviewed recent operational highlights and upcoming events.

- Aerial applications of Vectobac WDG (*Bti*) by helicopter over Tammany Hills
- LADDL notification of first WNV-infected mosquito pool, collected May 21
- Architectural subcommittee proposals review, presentations and selection
- Louisiana Legislative Auditor site visit
- District insurance policy review with Lowry-Dunham, Case & Vivien
- State Attorney General Training
- Interviews with Sarah Pagonis, The Advocate and Liz Smith, Edge of the Lake
- Presentations at Covington Elementary School, Lee Road Jr. High School, Little Hawk Day Camp Insect Adventure (Archbishop Hannan High School) and Tiger Camp at Florida Avenue Elementary, (subsequent presentation at Little Hawk Camp 6/24)
- Laboratory Manager/Entomologist Nick Delisi will participate in topical insecticide resistance assays with USDA and UF, June 26-28, Gainesville, FL
- Monthly staff meetings

MOSQUITO CONTROL REPORT

Assistant Director Calvin Smotherman reported that the District received reports of two WNV-infected mosquito pools, out of the 2,049 pools submitted this year. Both positive pools were *Cx. quinquefasciatus*, the southern house mosquito, and from adjacent sites in Tammany Hills subdivision. There have been no reports of human cases to date. He further reviewed WNV vector populations of *Cx. quinquefasciatus*, *Cx. salinarius*, and *Cx. nigripalpus*.

This season ground ULV adulticiding operations sprayed 325,060 acres or 8,939 miles, with 76,986 acres and 2,117 miles treated to date in June.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Commissioner Englande moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:47pm. Commissioner Traina-Dorge seconded the motion. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter J. Gerone
Secretary/Treasurer

