

# MOSQUITO ABATEMENT

## ST. TAMMANY PARISH

### MINUTES

#### **Board of Commissioners Meeting August 21, 2019**

#### **OPEN**

The meeting of the Board of Commissioners, St. Tammany Parish Mosquito Abatement District, was called to order at 12:59pm 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. Guests included Michael Hunley and Allison Lantier, MSH Architects.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

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

#### **MINUTES**

The minutes from the July 17 meeting were presented. Commissioner Traina-Dorge moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Alfred seconded the motion. The motion carried.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT AND CREDIT CARD PURCHASES**

Director Caillouet presented the Treasurer's Report. Commissioner Gerone moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Commissioner Alfred seconded the motion. Carried.

Commissioner Englande reviewed all credit card purchases for July and reported that credit card accounts were found reasonable, accurate and consistent with District purchasing policies. Commissioner Alfred will verify the credit card purchases before the September meeting. Commissioner Traina-Dorge moved to accept the credit card review. Commissioner Gerone seconded the motion. Carried.

**CAMPUS EXPANSION UPDATE** (Appendix 1)

Wetlands Determination - Update on Building Expansion

Director Caillouet reported that the US Army Corp. of Engineers will mitigate the wetlands delineation assessment of approximately 1.9 acres. The Director is also awaiting authorization from the City of Slidell and Slidell Municipal Airport to begin the environmental site assessment and survey.

Lease - Architect Michael Hunley and Director Caillouet will meet with City of Slidell engineers to discuss the lease agreement and site development.

Programming Design Phase - Architect Michael Hunley presented the programming design site plan to the Board. MSH Architects met with Director Caillouet and department heads to identify the project scope, construction and design budget, programming requirements, and specific ideas. Project construction cost exceeded the original \$3.5M budget, so several adjustments were made to satisfy budget constraints. The total project construction budget for the campus expansion and existing facility renovation is estimated at \$4.5M. Commissioner Traina-Dorge recommended including all alternate projects in the construction bid process, which could increase the cost to approximately \$5.5M. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Englande moved to approve \$4.5M for the campus expansion project and existing facility renovations. Commissioner Gerone seconded the motion. Carried.

**AIRPORT TRANSMISSION LINES AND ADJACENT PROPERTIES**

The Director reported that City of Slidell officials announced that Cleco and Entergy will finance the relocation of the transmission lines on the north end of the Slidell Municipal Airport. This safety measure resulted from the 2016 accident that caused the untimely death of two District pilots, when their aircraft hit an 80-foot transmission line tower and crashed north of the runway. The move will also allow a 1,000 foot runway extension, expand the airport to accommodate larger aircraft, and advance economic development.

Director Caillouet mentioned that the City of Slidell is interested in purchasing a 400-acre parcel of land adjacent to the airport property. The City plans to build a community recreation center on this site.

**2019 MID-YEAR BUDGET REVIEW** (Appendix 2)

Director Caillouet presented the 2019 mid-year budget projection. Actual and projected expenses through year-end totaled \$7,338,653, with anticipated receivable revenue at \$8,324,003.

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY CONTRACT-LEGAL COUNSEL COMPENSATION**

Director Caillouet scheduled an appointment with District Attorney Chief of Administration Tony Sanders to discuss Legal Counsel Abdalla's contract and compensation. He will provide an update at the September meeting.

**DIRECTOR'S UPDATED JOB DESCRIPTION** (Appendix 3)

Director Caillouet reviewed the updated job description for the position of Director. Commissioner Traina-Dorge moved to approve the revised Director's job description as presented. Commissioner Englande seconded the motion. Carried.

**LDAF COMPLAINT - COCOBEAR LARVICIDE OIL**

The Director informed the Board that a resident filed a complaint with the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry (LDAF) concerning the District's use of CocoBear larvicide oil. The resident inhaled fumes from a recent larvicide application and experienced a headache, dizziness, and nausea. The resident asked for notification before CocoBear applications and the District complied with the request. The LDAF investigation indicated no fault or findings against the District.

**CYBER LIABILITY** (Appendix 4)

Director Caillouet presented three quotes for Cyber Liability insurance. Cyber Liability covers costs associated with data security breaches and compromised sensitive employee data. Three quotes were received as follows.

HISCOX Insurance	\$3,035
Beazley Insurance	\$3,286
BCS Insurance	\$2,848

The Director recommended foregoing Cyber Liability coverage at this time. The Board concurred.

**BOARD APPROVALS**

**A. Travel**

1. Director travel to Richmond, VA; Research Collaboration - *Hurricane Impact on West Nile Virus Transmission* manuscript for the Journal of the American Mosquito Control Association-(July 31-August 2)
2. Director travel to San Juan, PR; Society of Vector Ecology Conference-(September 22-26)

Commissioner Alfred moved to approve Director travel for Richmond, VA and San Juan, PR. Commissioner Gerone seconded the motion. Carried.

**B. Contracts - Computer Programmer - Sumanth Vissamsetty**

The Director reported that the Board previously approved a full time computer programmer position for Mr. Sumanth Vissamsetty. Instead of full time employment, Mr. Vissamsetty has requested approval for a contract assignment. Legal Counsel Abdalla reviewed and approved the employment contract.

Commissioner Alfred moved to approve Sumanth Vissamsetty's computer programming services contract. Commissioner Englande seconded the motion. Carried.

**C. Director's Time Card -**

Chairman Stuart reviewed and approved the Director's time card for July 13 - August 17, 2019. Commissioner Gerone moved to accept the Director's time card as presented. Commissioner Englande seconded the motion. Carried.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

The Director reviewed recent operational highlights and upcoming events.

- o Lab Manager/Entomologist Nick DeLisi and Tangipahoa MAD Assistant Director Colby Colona completed topical IR assays
- o Director Caillouet traveled to Richmond, VA – collaboration on hurricane effects on WNV for JAMCA manuscript
- o First adulticide mission by helicopter performed in the State of Louisiana
- o St. Tammany Parish GIS meeting
- o Lab Manager/Entomologist Nick DeLisi chaired the first LMCA Insecticide Resistance Committee meeting
- o Live interview on Fox 8 with Director Caillouet
- o Director Caillouet met with Tony Sanders, DA's office
- o Seasonal research interns employment terms ended
- o Neighborhood control of Zika virus modeling manuscript
- o Weather modeling meeting with the National Weather Service
- o Monthly staff meetings

**MOSQUITO CONTROL REPORT**

Director Caillouet reviewed West Nile virus vector populations of *Culex quinquefasciatus*, *Cx. salinarius*, and *Cx. nigripalpus*. This season the Louisiana Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (LADDL) reported 34 WNV-infected mosquito pools, out of 2,943 submitted for arbovirus testing. At this time last year, 60 out of 2,793 pools returned positive for WNV. The Louisiana Department of Health & Hospitals reported one WNV-NID case in St. Tammany Parish, and nine human cases in Louisiana, down from 53 cases last year at this time.

Assistant Director Calvin Smotherman provided a recap of ground larviciding operations, treating a total of 6,082 miles or 2,654 acres of roadside septic ditches, since resuming in February. In addition, ground adulticide operations sprayed 16,863 miles or 613,304 acres year-to-date.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, Commissioner Alfred moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:25pm. Commissioner Traina-Dorge seconded the motion. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter J. Gerone  
Secretary/Treasurer

Appendices

1. MSH Architects Program Document
2. 2019 Mid-Year Budget Review
3. Director Job Description
4. Cyber Liability Coverage

