

MOSQUITO ABATEMENT

ST. TAMMANY PARISH

MINUTES

Board of Commissioners Meeting September 18, 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. Peter Gerone, Mr. David Stuart, and Dr. Vicki Traina-Dorge, Commissioners; Dr. Bob Lowrie, Advisor; Mr. Jake Abdalla, Legal Counsel; Dr. Kevin Caillouet, Director; and Mr. Calvin Smotherman, Assistant Director. Dr. Dawn Wesson, Advisor, participated in the meeting through video conferencing. Commissioner A.J. Englande, Jr. and Advisor Ron Francis were absent from 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 August 21 meeting were presented. Commissioner Alfred moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Traina-Dorge 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 Alfred reviewed all credit card purchases for August and reported that credit card accounts were found reasonable, accurate and consistent with District purchasing policies. Commissioner Traina-Dorge will verify the credit card purchases before the October meeting. Commissioner Alfred moved to accept the credit card review. Commissioner Gerone seconded the motion. Carried.

CAMPUS EXPANSION UPDATE (Appendix 1)

Director Caillouet reported that the preconstruction due diligence process continues. The Director presented and reviewed architectural drawings illustrating the basic concepts of the campus expansion design. Architect Michael Hunley suggested moving the lab to the new building, rather than retrofitting the shop with costly plumbing and mechanical requirements. This option allows conversion of the existing shop space into a wet lab and is more fiscally responsible.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY CONTRACT-LEGAL COUNSEL COMPENSATION

Director Caillouet met with District Attorney Chief of Administration Tony Sanders and discussed Legal Counsel Abdalla's current consulting and financial services arrangement with the District. Mr. Sanders is now drafting a formal agreement and compensation plan.

BOARD APPROVALS

A. Travel

LMCA Annual Meeting, Baton Rouge, LA, December 3-5, 2019

The Director reported that the LMCA Annual Meeting will be held in Baton Rouge, December 3-5. Commissioners interested in attending the conference should advise the Director by the October 16 meeting.

AMCA Annual Meeting, Portland, OR, March 16-20, 2020 (Appendix 2)

Director Caillouet reviewed the AMCA Annual Meeting travel request form and modification/cancellation clause. Commissioners interested in attending the meeting should complete and return the travel request form no later than the November 19 meeting.

B. Contracts - None

C. Director's Time Card -

Chairman Stuart reviewed and approved the Director's time card for August 18-September 14, 2019. Commissioner Alfred moved to accept the Director's time card as presented. Commissioner Traina-Dorge seconded the motion. Carried.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- The Director reviewed recent operational highlights and upcoming events.
- Live on Fox 8 West Nile virus discussion
- Seasonal interns/students final workday
- First helicopter adulticide application
- City of Slidell Engineering & Planning Department meeting
- Hurricane Impact on WNV* manuscript submitted to JAMCA
- New Orleans Mosquito & Termite Control Board (NOMTCB) personnel learned topical insecticide resistance bioassays from Lab Manager/Entomologist Nick Delisi.

- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) weather modeling
- PCR resistance assays at NOMTCB
- St. Tammany Parish GIS meeting
- Dr. Kristen Healy of LSU reviewed *Mansonia spp.* collection techniques at the Guste Island marsh.
- LMCA Insecticide Resistance Committee meeting
- NOAA data access meeting
- Society of Vector Ecology Conference, Puerto Rico
- USFWS Wild Things Festival in Lacombe
- October staff meeting

MOSQUITO CONTROL REPORT

Assistant Director Smotherman reviewed West Nile virus vector populations of *Culex quinquefasciatus*, *Cx. salinarius*, and *Cx. nigripalpus*. Director Caillouet stated that this season the Louisiana Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (LADDL) reported 42 WNV-infected mosquito pools, out of 3,434 submitted for arbovirus testing. At this time last year, 65 out of 3,412 pools returned positive for WNV. LADDL also reported one infected SLE and one infected EEE mosquito pool. The Louisiana Department of Health & Hospitals reported one WNV-NID case in St. Tammany Parish, and 12 human cases in Louisiana, down from 79 cases last year at this time.

Director Caillouet provided an overview of *Mansonia titillans* and *Coquillettidia perturbans* marsh breeding habitat in the Guste Island area. These larvae attach themselves to the roots or submerged stems of dense aquatic vegetation, making larval control difficult and labor intensive. Lab personnel will test the efficacy of different formulated larvicide products for the control of these species.

Assistant Director Calvin Smotherman provided a recap of ground larviciding operations, treating a total of 7,554 miles or 3,296 acres of roadside septic ditches, since resuming in February. In addition, ground adulticide operations sprayed 39,113 miles or 1,422,554 acres year-to-date.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Commissioner Traina-Dorge moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:47pm. Commissioner Alfred seconded the motion. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter J. Gerone
Secretary/Treasurer

Appendices

1. MSH Architectural Drawings
2. Travel Request Form

