

Minutes of Board Meeting
Pasco County Mosquito Control District
2308 Marathon Road, Odessa, FL 33556
March 12, 2024

Regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order at the District office on March 12, 2024 at 9:00 A.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

Those present from the District were Chairperson Evans, Treasurer Cox, Secretary Abbott, Executive Director Rogers, Nick McFaul, Michele Donagrandi, Edwin Martinez, Jose Freundt, Karen Mojica and Maria Johnson, all representing PCMCD. Lina Castro from InVision Advisors was also present.

Approval of Agenda: Commissioner Cox motioned to approve the Agenda; all approved.

Approval of Consent Agenda: Commissioner Cox motioned to approve the consent agenda; all approved.

Public Comment:

Gary Joiner:

Mr. Joiner stated he has resided in Pasco County for 63 years and stated his address for the record, commenting that he has been there 46 years. He then stated he was at the meeting to ask each Commissioner, "Have yall changed your mind on going to a 5-member Board?" Mr. Joiner asked Commissioner Abbott, and Commissioner Abbott stated, no. At this time, Commissioner Evans stated that this has been discussed before. Mr. Joiner stated he is just asking questions and proceeded to ask Commissioner Cox the same question. Commissioner Cox stated he is "open to what the people of the County want." Mr. Joiner then said, "Well, according to what you are saying, you said 'No.' My committee and I will proceed with the other option that we have, going to a 5-member Board and yall were informed of it." Mr. Joiner asked if [the Board] realized "how much acreage that you're losing, you treat, per day, and are losing an average of 2 acres per day to developments. That's a lot of acreage. When you figure the private sector, the County, their streets, the roads, the highways you are down to treating less than 30% from the air." He asked, "so why do you need two \$4 million dollar helicopters. You should have been looking at this down the road. Things have changed in Pasco County." He stated by 2027 we will have over a million people in Pasco County and there is over seven hundred thousand now. He then said "if you haven't been over the county to see all the development, it's changing and will change every day. Moffitt Cancer Center bought 750 acres, building their own City, their own hospital, their own school, everything." Commissioner Cox stated that Mr. Joiner voted to buy those helicopters! Mr. Joiner stated things have changed since then. Commissioner Cox stated that Mr. Joiner must be living under a rock, stating the County has been growing so consistently ever since he has come here, and Mr. Joiner has come here. The County has been constantly growing, stated Commissioner Cox and reiterated that Mr. Joiner voted to buy those helicopters. Mr. Joiner agreed and stated he would not deny that. He also stated "what did we have to go by? And that was what the Director, Dennis Moore and Wayne Daniels, the pilot told us we needed. We're not a pilots and not out there doing the spraying every day. They are, they knew what we needed, they told us, and we approved it! Now, what is your rebuttal to that?" Commissioner Cox stated Mr. Joiner voted to buy them. Mr. Joiner stated Commissioners were not listening to what he was saying, that the County has changed. Commissioner Evans stated Mr. Joiner's 3-minute allotment for public comment was up.

Cathy Julian:

Ms. Julian stated, "I wasn't going to come this morning, and then yesterday I got about an hour and half call from somebody that should have really been calling you guys." She then stated she is "going to call her back and tell her to come to the next Board meeting, but unfortunately, she says she has a conflict in the morning and can't get there this early." Ms. Julian stated this person was a CPA that is now retired but has done financial statements and financial reporting for many corporations and non-profits and "things like that." Ms. Julian proceeded to state that "she went through the financials, and she pointed out something to [Ms. Julian], that she had totally missed." Ms. Julian said the District has "35% of non-current liabilities are pension, and compensated absences, and post-employment benefits. That's 35% of your current liabilities, plus your liabilities for the aircraft. You really just don't have the money; you really don't have free cash to be buying or building a new property. When I first looked at your financial statements, I would look at it and be like wow, you have nine million dollars of revenue every year and nine million dollars in reserves. That

seems excessive but when you look at the balance sheets, [the CPA]is absolutely right, there really is not free cash. The other thing that I noticed, and I hope that has been corrected, and I think it has, is when I pulled up the entire financial statements, there is nine million dollars in the bank and only sixteen hundred dollars in interest income. That is really poor cash management if you're not earning any interest on any of the money that is in the bank. And I know there was money moved in December but you should have plan in place where if you have over two million dollars...in the regular checking account it should be automatically moved and there shouldn't have to be a Board meeting, it should be decided up front. So, I think there are some financial issues that we need to address before you consider building." She also stated in the report the District doesn't have a five-year strategic plan, acknowledging the report is 18 months old. She stated "if you don't have a strategic plan you shouldn't be investing thirty million dollars in a new building, you shouldn't be investing any money in a new building." She, again, stated she is going to talk to this woman and have her call and she should come meet with us directly, rather doing it thru Ms. Julian, as she is "not the greatest speaker in America. She did point out some real concerns and she thinks that this is something that when taxpayers hear about it, they're not, they are not going to be happy." Ms. Julian then mentioned that the District's event was very nice and she really enjoyed participating in it. She said she met a lot of nice people and our "employees are really super people. But, her friends noticed that we have a lot of brand new equipment. That's a huge investment and wished they could have brand new equipment like that. Also, the other thing is the helicopter that was in the shop on the other Coast for four months and we have two pilots, that makes no sense." Commissioner Cox thanked her for participating in the event. Ms. Julian stated it was nice and that she was really impressed. She also stated it was really nice to get to talk to all the Commissioners.

New Business:

New Campus Roadway improvement and offsite utility discussion – Executive Director Rogers reported that later this week the bid opening of the roadway improvements and offsite utilities will be taking place. Commissioner Cox moved that the recommendation from the review committee is accepted, and we can proceed to the next stage; all approved.

Unfinished Business:

Commissioner Abbott asked about the OPEB liability, which is approximately five hundred thousand dollars in the budget. He recommended that District staff investigate how to adjust the dollar value accordingly. Commissioner Cox asked when the last time it was looked at and tasked Executive Director Rogers with investigating when it was done last to be reviewed. Commissioner Abbott asked to see who the possible vendors are and what their fees might be.

General Information:

- A. Campus Update: Lina Castro, with In-Vision Advisors presented an update on the campus design. The design effort has progressed from 75% to 100% and IVA and Spring Engineering have been working with the District on any remaining revisions. Spring Engineering is recommending additional geo technical testing be performed. A proposal for this work is pending and will be passed along to the District. Commissioner Evans asked the foundation for justifying Spring Engineering's request for additional testing. Ms. Castro stated there is some concern over the onsite water levels being adequate to sustain the lake. She then discussed engaging an arborist, suggested by District staff, to look at the health of the existing trees on-site and potential relocation to fit the campus design.
- B. District Operations: Executive Director Rogers reminded the Board and those in the room that just because the County is becoming rapidly development, doesn't mean there is not a need for mosquito control services any longer. Urban mosquito control is even more important because that is where predominant disease occur! She also stated, as Mr. Joiner has pointed out, a lot has changed! A lot has changed in the manner in which the District is performing mosquito control applications and the acreage covered since Mr. Joiner was on the Board. In the last year alone, a number of operational enhancements have been made, which has changed since Mr. Joiner was on the Board. Overall, that has created a much more compressive coverage in county-wide mosquito control activities. Executive Director stated "there is a lot that goes into the necessary treatments being made and as a reminder, every control application done is based on science and the data collected daily. We are not just putting the helicopters in the air because we want to! We are making effective applications because we have mosquito breeding or disease transmission." Director Rogers shared that Mosquito Fest and Citizen

Appreciation Day was another successful event, with over 200 people in attendance. She then commended the staff for their tremendous hard work and preparation prior to the event, executing the event for the 4th year in a row stating that the event is a great experience and opportunity to understand what the District does and how they protect public health. She gave a special compliment to Karen Mojica, who was the main person pulling it all together. Director Rogers also thanked our community vendors for partnering with us to make the event a success. She then reported that the AMCA conference in Dallas last week was a positive experience for staff. A small number of District staff along with Commissioner Abbott attended. Ms. Rogers noted that it's always great to learn the new trends, innovations, and concerns that are plaguing our industry. She also shared that the District will be hosting the FDACS Regional Roundtable Workshop soon, which is another great opportunity to share and learn with other mosquito control professionals.

- C. Safety Report: Nick McFaul provided the Safety Report and trainings held with staff. Mr. McFaul also shared the Safety Training coming up. Operations Director McFaul also pointed out the fleet looks brand new because the District takes incredible pride in their equipment. Staff are required to keep their equipment in clean, operating order to increase the longevity of the equipment.
- D. Community Outreach: Ms. Johnson provided an update on community engagement and outreach activities.
- E. Arbovirus Report: Executive Rogers provided an update on the arboviral activity throughout the state and within Pasco County.

Good of the Order:

Commissioner Cox commended and was proud of staff for Mosquito Fest. He stated he had good conversations with the public during the event and looks forward to next year. He also stated he met with the County Attorney regarding taking over Marathon Road, as it could cause a problem when someone tries to buy the property. He stated that the County's Attorney will discuss it with the County Administrator. Commissioner Cox also stated we should analyze our banking services. Mr. Jose Freundt, Finance Director, stated he would investigate options. Commissioner Abbott shared that the Senate Bill passed and is on the Governor's desk for signature. Commissioner Evans thanked everyone for Mosquito Fest. He stated he attended the Founder's Day Parade and he heard praise from the residents in our efforts of mosquito control.

Meeting Adjourned:

Commissioner Cox made amotion to adjourn the meeting at 10:02 A.M.; all approved. Meeting Adjourned.

Date: APRIL 9, 2024 Attested: 