

Regular Meeting Minutes

Florida Keys Mosquito Control District
Marathon Office
503 107th Street Marathon, FL 33050

November 12, 2024 2:27 pm

The Board of Commissioners of the Florida Keys Mosquito Control District held a Regular Meeting on November 12, 2024 at the FKMCD Marathon office.

Present Were: Phillip Goodman, Chairman; Jill Cranney, Commissioner; Bette Brown, Commissioner; Brandon Pinder, Commissioner; Hunter O'Connor, Board Attorney; Scott Black, Board Attorney. Dr. Stanley Zuba, Commissioner, was present via telephone. Andrea Leal, Executive Director, was absent.

Employees Present Were: Mikki Coss, Director of Operations; Bruce Holden, Director of Finance; Michael Behrend, Director of Human Resources; Rob Lee, Director of Aircraft Maintenance; Chad Huff, Public Education & Information Officer; Deanna Darias, Executive Assistant; Tony Nunez, Chief Technology Officer.

Invited Guests Present: None

Community Input: Ms. Kate DeLoach from the Southern Group spoke about her lobbyist firm and what they can offer the district.

Approval of Consent Agenda: A motion was made by Commissioner Cranney, seconded by Commissioner Brown and passed unanimously to approve the consent agenda.

Approval of Agenda: Chairman Goodman asked the Board if there were any corrections or additions to the agenda, having none, the agenda was approved.

Treasurer's Report: None

Attorney's Report: None

Director's Report: Michael Behrend recognized Chad Huff for his 5 years of service with the district. Mikki Coss, Director of Operations, then provided an update on mosquito-borne illnesses, stating that the Keys are holding consistent with the three (3) local cases we had during the summer and four (4) travel-related cases. In all of Florida, we have had 59 cases of locally acquired dengue. With Cuba as the nation of origin, the number of Oropouche travel-related cases has been rising quickly and currently stands at 90 spread amongst 13 counties. Adult mosquitoes have been lower than historically, with no aerial adulticide missions since June. We had six (6) adulticide truck missions in October. Our aerial larviciding was also lower than our historical average. Service requests were also low, with a total of 170 for the month of October.

Chad Huff gave an update on community outreach and explained they will be attending truck days at the Key West Daycare in the next week. He stated that we participated in the Marathon Trunk or Treat and brought "Mojito," our inflatable mosquito, to her first public outdoor event, and she was very popular. FKMCD also participated in a few air shows, including the Marathon Airport Open House and Summerland Airstrip. The board had a lengthy discussion about presenting more to the public in the upcoming year and how important it is to get the word out in the community about mosquito control and our mission.

Michael Behrend, Director of Human Resources, gave an update on current open positions in the district. He also noted we received a refund from our aviation insurance company for having no accidents and that our new policy will refund us a pro-rated amount if we don't fly one of the helicopters for 30 consecutive days. The new service milestone policy will be starting in December, and the COLA increases were processed last month.

In October, we generated \$26,000 in interest revenue, with an average yield of 5%, as determined by Director of Finance Bruce Holden's review of the FLCLASS account statement and summary. We received our first installment for the taxes of \$400,000. The RFP for banking is on track for early next year.

Items for Board Discussion:

9a.) Commissioner Travel Plans – Deanna Darias, Executive Assistant, discussed the upcoming events that the district will be attending and asked if any of the Commissioners have interest in attending. The Board discussed each event and decided the following: Commissioner Brown and Chairman Goodman will attend Dodd; Commissioner Brown will attend AMCA, and Chairman Goodman will attend Tallahassee Days; Commissioner Cranney will attend Washington Days, and Chairman Goodman will attend FMCA.

Items for Board Review and Action:

10a.) Financial Reports – Bruce Holden, the Director of Finance, provided an update on the local and state accounts. Commissioner Brown asked why the cost of benefits was \$100,000 higher than it was the previous year. Mr. Holden clarified that this could vary annually and is dependent on the claims that employees submit to the insurance provider. A motion was made by Commissioner Cranney, seconded by Commissioner Brown, and passed unanimously, confirming the Board received the financial information from October of 2024 and the Board requests it be submitted for audit at the appropriate time.

10b.) Schedule 2025 Meeting Dates – Deanna Darias, Executive Assistant, discussed the 2025 meeting dates and the Board adjusted meeting dates to their schedules.

10c.) Resolution 2024-28: Department of Financial Services Authorized Signatures

A RESOLUTION OF THE FLORIDA KEYS MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT OF MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE CERTIFICATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. A motion was made by Commissioner Brown, seconded by Commissioner Cranney, and passed unanimously to adopt Resolution 2024-28 as written. After a roll call vote, it was unanimously accepted.

10d.) Resolution 2024-29: Vernis & Bowling Contract

A RESOLUTION OF THE FLORIDA KEYS MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT, APPROVING A ONE-YEAR EXTENSION TO THE CONTRACT FOR LEGAL SERVICES WITH DIRK M. SMITS, B.C.S. AND VERNIS & BOWLING OF THE FLORIDA KEYS, P.A. DATED NOVEMBER 10, 2020; PROVIDING FOR AUTHORIZATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. A motion was made by Commissioner Cranney, seconded by Commissioner Brown, and passed unanimously to adopt Resolution 2024-29 as written. After a roll call vote, it was unanimously accepted.

10e.) Resolution 2024-30: RFP 2024-08 H125 Pilot Refresher Course

A RESOLUTION OF THE FLORIDA KEYS MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT, APPROVING THE RECOMMENDATION AND AWARD OF THE RFP 2024-08 EVALUATION COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE OF H125 PILOT REFRESHER COURSE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. A motion was made by Commissioner Pinder, seconded by Commissioner Cranney, and passed unanimously to adopt Resolution 2024-30 as written. After a roll call vote, it was unanimously accepted.

10f.) Resolution 2024-31: RFP 2024-09 Lobbyist

A RESOLUTION OF THE FLORIDA KEYS MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT, APPROVING THE RECOMMENDATION AND AWARD OF THE RFP 2024-09 EVALUATION COMMITTEE FOR LOBBYING SERVICES; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. A motion was made by Chairman Goodman but did not receive a second. Resolution 2024-31 RFP 2024-09 Lobbyist has failed and will be brought back at another time.

10g.) Resolution 2024-32: Amending the Position and Pay Structure

A RESOLUTION OF THE FLORIDA KEYS MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT, AMENDING THE POSITION AND PAY STRUCTURE IN THE DISTRICT'S PERSONNEL MANUAL; ADOPTING REVISIONS TO CERTAIN POLICIES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. A motion was made by Commissioner Pinder, seconded by Commissioner Cranney, and passed unanimously to adopt Resolution 2024-32 as written. After a roll call vote, it was unanimously accepted.

Good of the Order:

Chairman Goodman talked about the upcoming Board meeting, which is scheduled for December 13th. It will include a regular meeting and a meeting of the audit committee followed by our annual holiday luncheon.

There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Andrea Leal
Executive Director

Board of Commissioners
Florida Keys Mosquito Control District



Phillip L. Goodman, Chairman



Bette Brown, Secretary-Treasurer

For additional information, please refer to www.keysmosquito.org.