

Budget Workshop Minutes

Florida Keys Mosquito Control District

Marathon Office
503 107th Street
Marathon, FL 33050

July 23rd, 2024 1:15 pm

The Board of Commissioners of the Florida Keys Mosquito Control District held a Budget Workshop on July 23, 2024, at the FKMCD Marathon Office.

Present Were: Phillip Goodman, Chairman; Bette Brown, Secretary/Treasurer; Jill Cranney, Commissioner; Brandon Pinder, Commissioner; Andrea Leal, Executive Director; Dirk Smits, Board Attorney. Dr. Stanley Zuba, Vice-Chair, was absent.

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

Invited Guests Present: None

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

Community Input: None

Chairman Goodman stated that this workshop has been called to discuss the Budget for the Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

Discussion: Bruce Holden, Director of Finance, presented the Board with a budget of approximately 9.87% over rollback and a maximum millage of .4344, which he feels can be attainable, and if we need to take it down, we can.

Mr. Holden then went into reviewing the detailed workplan budget; the green line items indicated a change since the last meeting. The second airplane sale dropped in price to \$390,000; this was due to reviewing other sales currently on the open market. They are also looking into selling the plane parts or the entire aircraft. Moving onto the expenditures, Mr. Holden explained that the items highlighted in blue were the new items that were presented last month. The Board approved adding the Education Coordinator position that Director Leal asked to be added to the district. Chairman Goodman expressed that he felt the Board was under the impression that as we changed the way that we operate, it would reduce the need for additional staff. Director Leal explained that we are doing a lot more with the same number of staff, including a large increase in larviciding. Our mission has changed over the last 10–15 years to focus on vector control due to Dengue outbreaks; however, we still must focus on nuisance mosquitoes. She plans to focus on this during the Strategic Plan Summit later this year. She feels this education coordinator position will make a big difference in educating the public.

The next line items that were new were service milestones, housing allowances, and entry-level salary adjustments. Chairman Goodman advised we will be having a salary review discussion during the Regular Board meeting today, and that will be decided next month after the review.

Chairman Goodman expressed that he is not ready to start a housing allowance right now and thinks it would be best to move that money into performance compensation, salary adjustment, or COLA, depending on what they feel is best. These will be addressed again at the August workshop. The life and health insurance will be finalized by next month once we get the numbers from Cigna. We have a bid opening on August 8th for the new CPA auditor, which will give us a better idea of the cost of line item 32 after that meeting is complete.

Director Leal is still doing research to see if it makes sense to have a lobbyist represent us fully in Tallahassee this year. She will have more information next month. The \$25,000 in the Strategic Planning line is to hold a summit in the next fiscal year, as we have not done one in 10 years. Mr. Holden will keep these items and the board meeting security in the budget. There was a slight increase in live streaming costs, per Mr. Holden. Chairman Goodman asked if we would be able to advertise live streaming in the future to reach a larger audience. We also had to increase the garbage budget due to additional pickups from increased garbage due to the packing from the WDG drums the product comes in. Chairman Goodman recommended that we talk to the contact suppliers about more responsible packaging and disposal to lessen the concern about garbage.

Mr. Holden advised that he put money in the budget for the 75th Anniversary open house that will take place in October. The reserve funds increased from \$2.2 million to \$3.4 million due to grant funds we received from the State of Florida for WDG chemicals and a new trailer. If all goes well, we are hoping to purchase the additional helicopter in 2026. Mr. Holden then reviewed the budgeted changes since the June workshop and the graph he handed out to the board showing the budget from previous years. The increase in the budget is mainly due to the increasing cost of chemicals and the reserves for the additional helicopter, which are all necessary costs. With this millage rate, property taxes would increase by around \$20.00 a year for each \$500,000 in home value.

Good of the Order: The next budget workshop will be held on August 20th.

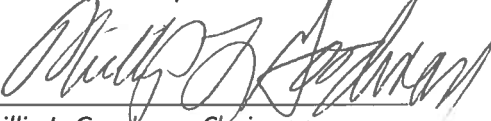
Adjourn: There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

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.