

## Regular Meeting Minutes

Indian River Mosquito Control District

January 10, 2022 @ 1:35 PM

The Indian River Mosquito Control District Board of Commissioners held a regular meeting on January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at the District Office.

**Present:** Janice Broda (Chair), Matt Erpenbeck (Vice-Chair) and Tom Lowther (Secretary/Treasurer)

**Staff:** Sherry Burroughs (Executive Director), Lisa Ridley (Finance Director), Johanna Avril (HR Generalist), Michael Hart (Larvicide Supervisor), Morel Jules (Larvicide Supervisor) and Melanie Pacot-Stansberry (Payroll Coordinator).

**Visitors:** Dave Fuss (IRLT), Judy Avril, Cherrief Jackson (Clarke) and Dr. Jon Shenker (via Zoom)

I. **Call to Order** – Chair Broda called the meeting to order at 1:38 PM.

II. **Pledge of Allegiance**

III. **Election of Officers**

Commissioner Lowther requested to serve as chair for his last year on the Board. The traditional rotation would be Commissioner Erpenbeck as Chair, Commissioner Lowther as Vice-Chair and Commissioner Broda as Secretary/Treasurer. Commissioner Lowther added that if the Board continued with the same rotation, the newly elected commissioner would be chair in their first meeting. After discussion, the Board agreed to continue with the rotation.

**Commissioner Lowther made the motion to elect Commissioner Erpenbeck as Chairman. The Board unanimously approved; motion passed.**

Commissioner Broda turned the meeting over to the new Chairman.

IV. **Consent Agenda** (*All items as Consent Agenda items are considered routine and non-controversial by the Board and will be approved in a single motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. Prior to this meeting, Board members have had the opportunity to review each of these items and may request that any item be moved to an Action Item for individual consideration.*)

A. Approval of Minutes (Attachment A)

B. Financial Report (Attachment B)

**Commissioner Broda made the motion to approve the meeting minutes. The Board unanimously approved; motion passed.**

**Commissioner Lowther made the motion to approve the financial report. The Board unanimously approved; motion passed.**

V. **Public Comment** – none

VI. **Old Business**

A. **Discussion of IRLT Impoundment Drawdowns**

1. **IRLT Presentation of Recent Fisheries Study**

Dave Fuss (Indian River Land Trust) introduced Dr. Jon Shenker, who provided a presentation of the results of the fisheries research that has been conducted with the District impoundments, including Water Tower (aka Bee Gum Point) and South Bills and South Knights. The focus of the study is to

*This is a Public Meeting. Should any interested party seek to appeal any decision made by the Board of Commissioners with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he will need a record of the proceedings and that, for such purpose he may need to ensure that a record of the proceedings is made which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Anyone who needs a special accommodation for this meeting may contact the Office Manager at 772-562-2393 at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.*

determine if providing short duration openings of the impoundments periodically throughout the summer would allow juvenile fish, specifically tarpon and snook, to leave the impoundment. He stated that the plan for this summer for Water Tower would be to conduct drawdown mid-June, mid-July and do an early opening in mid-September. For South Bills, the plan would be to conduct a single drawdown in mid-July and if all goes well, then perhaps perform a second one in mid-August, followed by early release in mid-September. Due to the lack of pumping of South Knights impoundment, it was agreed that the District would open the culverts early in mid-September. Dave Fuss indicated that IRLT's goal is to demonstrate that interim drawdowns improve the fisheries and if so, would like to see drawdown schedules expanded to other impoundments.

## **2. Discussion of 2022 Summer Drawdowns**

Staff prepared a cost estimate to conduct summer drawdowns at Water Tower and South Bills Impoundments. Last week staff met with Dave Fuss and Dr. Jon Shenker to review the cost estimate with IRLT and discuss the plans for this summer. Since the grant included two drawdowns at each of the three impoundments and it did not happen, Dave will be coordinating with the Indian River Lagoon Council to allow the grant money to be re-allocated for modifications specified by the District for this summer's drawdowns.

*Staff provided the following recommendations:*

- *recommending continuing with the plan of conducting two drawdowns at Water Tower*
- *selecting option #2 for South Bills (which involves renting a pump to repump the south cell)*
- *performing a single drawdown at South Bills to ensure the methodology is successful, then assessing whether a second drawdown could be accomplished.*
- *invoice IRLT for the aerial mission, the larvicide material, pump rental, fuel usage (consistent with past practice), but also include staff overtime required to pump impoundments back up.*

**Commissioner Broda made a motion to approve staff recommendations. The Board unanimously approved; motion passed.**

## **B. Chemical Bid Opening (Attachment D)**

At the December meeting staff opened the bid responses from Clarke, Adapco and Target Specialty Products. Staff analyzed the bid responses and provided the following recommendations.

*Staff recommended awarding larvicide products as follows:*

- *Clarke - Spinosad products*
- *Adapco – Vectobac GS & MetaLarv S-PT*
- *Target – Summit Bti & Duplex*
- *Clarke & Target – Altosid products (alternate purchases)*

*Staff recommended awarding adulticide products as follows:*

- *Sumethrin & Anvil - Clarke*
- *Permethrin & Deltamethrin - Target*

## **C. Grove Place Easement**

At the September meeting, the Board agreed to modifying the easement contingent upon a final site plan and easement document. Staff met on site with Bob McNelly to discuss the easement further to understand the location of the retaining wall. Staff submitted the draft deed of easement to LLW for review and Janice Rustin will be sending her review comments. Commissioner Erpenbeck recommended drafting an agreement and obtaining the final site plan.

**Action Item:** Staff to request the site plan and legal description and re-submit to the Board.

**D. COVID Pay Practice**

The Board voted at the September meeting to continue with previous federally mandated COVID pay policy (from 2020) until January 31<sup>st</sup> and the Board would revisit the issue at the January Board meeting.

*Due to the existence of the highly contagious omicron variant and updated guidelines from CDC, staff recommended offering up to 40 hours of time off for COVID to cover the quarantine period. This will expire on March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022.*

**Commissioner Lowther made the motion to approve staff recommendation. Commissioner Lowther and Erpenbeck approved, Commissioner Broda was opposed. Motion carried.**

**VII. New Business**

**A. Waterfowl Hunting at Hole-in-the-Wall Impoundment**

Staff has received phone calls inquiring if the District allows hunting of waterfowl on Hole-in-the-Wall. Past practice has been to allow hunting, while advising that employees would be out monitoring the property on a routine basis during the work week.

*Staff recommended continuing with past practice and is seeking Board's consent.*

**The Board agreed with staff's recommendation and no further action was necessary.**

**B. Employee Handbook/Personnel Policy Updates**

Johanna presented an overview of the policies that have been completed to date and outlined the plan for addressing the remainder of the handbook. She indicated that the safety handbook and the vehicle use policy would be combined with the personnel handbook and would follow the County's format of providing an electronic version to make access easier. Johanna is also working to update job descriptions, has performed audit of personnel files, is researching salaries and ensuring best practices are followed.

**VIII. Director's Report – Sherry provided the following report.**

**• Impoundments –**

- Completed installation of new culvert at Oyster Bar for the County.
- Submitted invoice to County for reimbursement (\$11,733.50)
- Submitted draft invoice (12/17) for Sand Pointe to Bill Kerr (\$164,825.56)
- Replaced cross culvert at Morgan's this past week, additional culvert to be replaced at Morgan's this week.
- Coordinating with vendors regarding repair and/or replacement of the Golf Course pump.

**• Arbovirus Surveillance**

- All sentinels have tested negative this past month, statewide still seeing transmission occurring with an increase in WNV and a decrease in EEE
- 1 human WNV cases in the state last month; 7 total year-to-date
- 11 travel related DEN cases, bringing total to 25 for the year
- Counties under mosquito-borne illness advisory: Bay, Columbia, Palm Beach and Walton
- Collier is under an alert (4 human cases: 7 positive mosquito pools)
- Majority sentinel trap sites decreased in population.

- Aspirator collections dropped along with a decrease in parity for Graves site (Insufficient numbers for parity determinations at Lockwood)
- **Mosquito Surveillance**
  - Of the 23 trap sites, most populations are low. Observed increases in total populations at Ryall, 65<sup>th</sup> St, Highlands, Antilles and Regency Park.
- **ULV**
  - 35 service requests received: 16 via email
  - Service requests above historical average of 26 for the month
  - 33 missions - 432 miles treated (compared to 440 from prior month and an historical average of 224)
  - Treated Zones 7, 10 (3x), 12 (2x), 13, 14, 16, 23, 24, 25, 46, 48, 49 (2x), 50, 51, 52 (2x), 53 (2x), 55, 63 (2x), 64 (2x), 65, 66, and 67.
- **Larvicide – Michael Hart provided the Larvicide Report.**
  - 609 acres were called in for aerial treatment
  - max tide 26 inches; max rainfall last week 1.5inches
  - Adult numbers were 5 to 10 per minute; mostly on the southern end, where areas were treated by backpack.
  - Staff repaired, updated and calibrated seven spray tanks and equipment on the ATVs and the Kubota.
  - Construction repairs being made to the foot bridges and trimming of the inspection routes.
- **Outreach & Education**
  - Dec 9<sup>th</sup> – Jules, Johanna and Shawna taught mosquito biology to 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders and mosquito borne diseases to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. Staff been asked to provide a site visit for the advanced students in the spring.
  - February – ELC Book Club
  - March – Lagoon Fest
- **Special Projects/Capital Equipment Purchases:**
  - Website - training is being held in the next couple of weeks and then should receive notification of go-live date once training is complete.
  - Map Vision Database - surveillance and larvicide using daily, still working on minor adjustments; still have an installment payment
  - Map Vision ULV Application – sent two pumps to Carlos to update and are having technical issues with another pump
  - Generator – within permit phase of project, anticipate receiving generator in March
  - Fencing & Security Project – within permit phase of project, working on quotes for concrete island
  - ATVs – still anticipate receiving 3 ATVs in February (that were ordered in August)
  - Bush hog mower – still anticipating receiving in February as well
  - Microscope – ordered and received new microscope for lab
  - ULV Truck replacement – working on getting specifications for state contract

Sherry inquired if the salary adjustment that was approved at the last meeting was to be retroactive to October 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Commissioner Lowther made the motion to retro the director's salary adjustment to October 1<sup>st</sup>. The Board unanimously approved; motion carried.**

IX. **Commissioner's Comments** – none.

X. **Upcoming Meetings and Events**

- FMCA Aerial Fly-In – January 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022
- FMCA Tallahassee Days – January 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022
- FASD Legislative Forum – January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022
- FMCA Dodd Short Courses – January 31<sup>st</sup> – February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022
- Board Meeting – February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022
- AMCA Annual Meeting - February 28<sup>th</sup> – March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022
- Board Meeting – March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022

XI. **Adjournment**

Commissioner Broda made the motion to adjourn. The Board unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 PM.

Attest:   


