

Regular Meeting Minutes

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

February 11, 2025 3:05 pm

The Board of Commissioners of the Florida Keys Mosquito Control District held a Regular Meeting on February 11, 2025 at the FKMCD Marathon Office.

Present Were: Phillip Goodman, Chairman; Dr. Stanley Zuba, Vice-Chair; Bette Brown, Secretary/Treasurer; Brandon Pinder, Commissioner; Jill Cranney, Commissioner; Andrea Leal, Executive Director; Hunter O'Connor, Board Attorney.

Employees Present Were: Mikki Coss, Director of Operations; Bruce Holden, Director of Finance; Michael Behrend, Director of Human Resources; Chad Huff, Public Education and Information Officer; Larry Hribar, Director of Research; Robert Lee, Director of Aerial Operations; Deanna Darias, Executive Assistant; Tony Nunez, Chief Technology Officer.

Invited Guests Present: Matthew DeGennaro, Florida International University.

Community Input: None.

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

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Invited Speaker: Matthew DeGennaro, Ph.D., Director, Biomolecular Sciences Institute; Associate Professor, Department of Biological Sciences; Investigator, Southeastern CDC CoE in Vector-Borne Diseases; Florida International University. Chairman Goodman introduced Dr. DeGennaro and advised that he took a tour of the Marathon facility prior to the meeting. Dr. DeGennaro then gave an in-depth presentation on *Aedes*-specific surveillance and control to increase our resilience to arboviruses. Together with the Puerto Rico Vector Control Unit (PRVCU), they carried out a 16-week field test in San Juan and Carolina to see if geosmin might take the role of hay in AGO Mosquito Traps as an attractant. He went over the trial's findings and mentioned that a study of this kind would be carried out in Miami-Dade County in 2025. They will collaborate with the Miami-Dade Mosquito Control. His presentation concluded with a discussion of population replacement using *Wolbachia* to decrease arbovirus transmission.

Treasurer's Report: None

Attorney's Report: None

Director's Report: Lee Alwood, the Lower Keys Field Inspector, was honored by Executive Director Andrea Leal for his five years of dedication to the District. After providing an update on operations and mosquito-borne illnesses in the state of Florida, Director Leal warned that occurrences of dengue linked to travel are still occurring in 2025. Nine truck adulticide operations were conducted because of the January heavy rainfall, which raised the historical average for salt marsh mosquito counts. *Aedes aegypti* numbers did not exceed our adulticide action thresholds in January however we still performed five ground liquid larvicide missions treating 400 acres. Director Leal said the tour of the Marathon facility, where Senator Ana Maria Rodriguez was given an overview of our operation on January 25th, was an excellent educational opportunity. We released our updated website on February 1st. If you have any questions or concerns

about it, please get in touch with Chad Huff. To boost the number of responses for our community survey, we conducted a direct mail campaign in Marathon. Recently, James Ozmar was promoted to the position of Director of Aircraft Maintenance. The board was then given the Ocean Reef Community Association's 2024 Special Recognition Award by Director Leal. The last airplane has been sold, and it brought \$517,000, which was much more than they had expected because of a bidding war. It will be relocated to a storage site as soon as the FAA paperwork is completed. Director Leal informed us that we will be conducting an ITN for our Fieldseeker software platform. Director Leal encouraged the board to attend the Strategic Planning session, which is scheduled for March 27 in Marathon. Director of Finance Bruce Holden provided an update on the FLClass account, which currently has a balance of \$18.2 million and earned \$68,000 in interest last month.

Items for Board Discussion:

- a.) DODD Short Courses:** Commissioner Brown summarized her visit to the Dodd Short Courses in Gainesville last month and the things she discovered about diseases spread by mosquitoes in the state of Florida. The Commissioner's Caucus was led by Chairman Goodman and covered a wide range of subjects, such as Robert's Rules of Order and the procedure by which we consider resolutions at each meeting. Our Director of Research, Dr. Larry Hribar also gave a great course on the history of mosquito control.

Items for Board Review and Action:

11a.) Financial Reports – Bruce Holden, Director of Finance, discussed the State and Local accounts and advised the expenditures look like they are double the average due to a \$650,000 payment for chemicals that will be reimbursed to us from the grant. January had three (3) payrolls and increased benefit cost, which was also reflected in this amount. It should even out over the next few months. *A motion was made by Commissioner Cranney, seconded by Commissioner Brown, and passed unanimously, confirming the Board received the financial information from January of 2025 and the Board requests it be submitted for audit at the appropriate time.*

11b.) Resolution 2025-02 RFP 2025-01 Main Rotor Blade Replacement for Bell 206L4 Helicopter: A RESOLUTION OF THE FLORIDA KEYS MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT, APPROVING THE RECOMMENDATION AND AWARD OF THE RFP 2025-01 EVALUATION COMMITTEE FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THE MAIN ROTOR BLADE FOR THE BELL 206L4 HELICOPTER; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *A motion was made by Commissioner Zuba, seconded by Commissioner Cranney, and passed unanimously to adopt Resolution 2025-02 as written. After a roll call vote, it was unanimously adopted.*

11c.) Resolution 2025-03 RFP 2025-02 Bell 206L4 Helicopter Turbine Section Overhaul: A RESOLUTION OF THE FLORIDA KEYS MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT, APPROVING THE RECOMMENDATION AND AWARD OF THE RFP 2025-02 EVALUATION COMMITTEE FOR THE TURBINE SECTION OVERHAUL FOR THE BELL 206L4 HELICOPTER; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *A motion was made by Commissioner Pinder, seconded by Commissioner Cranney, and passed unanimously to adopt Resolution 2025-03 as written. After a roll call vote, it was unanimously adopted.*

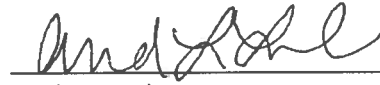
11d.) Resolution 2025-04 Amending the Uniform Policy in the Districts Personnel Manual: A RESOLUTION OF THE FLORIDA KEYS MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT, AMENDING THE UNIFORM POLICY IN THE DISTRICT'S PERSONNEL MANUAL; ADOPTING REVISIONS TO CERTAIN POLICIES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *A motion was made by Commissioner Cranney, seconded by Commissioner Zuba, and passed unanimously to adopt Resolution 2025-04 as written. After a roll call vote, it was unanimously adopted.*

Good of the Order:

- Commissioner Pinder asked to move the March 25th meeting to March 11th. *A motion was made by Commissioner Pinder, seconded by Commissioner Cranney, and passed unanimously to move the March meeting date to the 11th. After a roll call vote, it was unanimously adopted.*


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.