

Regular Board Meeting Minutes - DRAFT FOR APPROVAL

Indian River Mosquito Control District
March 11, 2025 @ 9:00 AM

The Indian River Mosquito Control District Board of Commissioners held a regular meeting on March 11th, 2025, at the District Office.

Present: Matt Erpenbeck (Chair), Janice Broda (Vice-Chair), and Anna Kirkland (Secretary/Treasurer)

Visitors: Courtney Byrd, Daniel Anderson (Mauldin & Jenkins), Paul Amos (Rossway & Swan), and Terry McGinn

Staff: Sherry Burroughs (Executive Director), Michael Hart (Director of Operations), Claudia Alvarado (Director of Finance), Kyle Kosinski (Director of Science), Tamar Rivera (Human Resource Manager), Kevin Kinney (IT Manager), Johanna Avril (Community Relations Specialist), Daniel Long (Aerial Specialist), and Melanie Pacot-Stansberry (Payroll Specialist)

I. **Call to Order:** Commissioner Erpenbeck called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

II. **Pledge of Allegiance**

III. **Approval of the Agenda**

Commissioner Erpenbeck requested to change the Agenda to add discussion of the March 14th, 2025, Taxpayer Association Meeting under *New Business, Item D*.

Commissioner Erpenbeck made a motion to approve the amended agenda. The Board unanimously approved; motion passed.

IV. **Approval of Meeting Minutes – February 11th, 2025 (Attachment A)**

Commissioner Broda requested to amend the Meeting Minutes to include the full spelling of quinquesciatum.

Commissioner Broda made the motion to approve the amended February 11th, 2025, Regular Board Meeting Minutes. The Board unanimously approved; motion passed.

V. **Financial Report (Attachment B)**

Commissioner Broda made the motion to accept and file the financial report for the audit. The Board unanimously approved; motion passed.

VI. **Public Comment- None**

VII. **Old Business**

A. Employee Handbook Approval (Attachment C)

Staff met with Mr. Miklas and discussed his comments regarding the Employee Handbook. The document was revised and presented to the Board for final approval. Staff recommended approval of the document as presented.

Commissioner Kirkland requested the grievance process include a timeframe (5 business days) for HR to respond upon receiving notification of grievance. Commissioner Kirkland and Broda requested to receive redline and strikethrough drafts of future amended documents to be able to compare changes.

Commissioner Broda made the motion to approve the Employee Handbook as presented with the changes noted by Commissioner Kirkland and be posted on the website. The Board unanimously approved; motion passed.

VIII. New Business

A. Financial Audit FY 2023-2024 (Attachment D)

Daniel Anderson, Partner with Mauldin and Jenkins presented the FY 2023-2024 Financial Audit.

Commissioner Broda made the motion to accept the audit as presented. The Board unanimously approved; motion passed.

B. Aerial Larviciding Contract Renewal (Attachment E)

Staff presented the one-year renewal of the Aerial Larviciding Services contract with Summer Agro Services, LLC. The renewal option is effective May 1, 2025 through April 30, 2026 with aerial service rate per acre of \$13.65, a minimum of 250 acres, and a positioning fee of \$2,415.

Staff recommend approval of the one-year contract renewal.

Commissioner Kirkland made the motion to renew the Aerial Larviciding Services contract. The Board unanimously approved; motion passed.

C. Harbor Isle Access Easement Dedication (Attachment F)

Staff provided an overview of the easement concerns and actions that staff had taken to address such, as well as the importance of maintaining the District's access to Morgan's Impoundment. The developer provided an easement dedication on the plat and was seeking authorization and acceptance by the governing board. Staff also requested the developer provide a general easement that includes a legal description of the easement that can be recorded. Once received, staff will request a surveyor's opinion to ensure that all areas of concern are addressed and will present the final document to the Board for approval and acceptance of the general easement.

Staff recommended approval of Resolution No. 2025-002 to accept the easement dedication and authorize the Executive Director to cause such easement to be recorded in the Official Records of Indian River County, subject to confirmation by the District's Attorney as to the legal form and sufficiency of the Dedication and instrument of conveyance.

Attorney Paul Amos also addressed the Board regarding this matter and supported the acceptance of the easement dedication and request for general easement.

Commissioner Kirkland made the motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-002 and to accept the easement dedication and authorize the Executive Director to cause such easement to be recorded in the Official Records of Indian River County, subject to confirmation by the District's Attorney as to the legal form and sufficiency of the Dedication and instrument of conveyance. The Board unanimously approved; motion passed.

D. Taxpayer Association March 14th, 2025 Meeting Discussion

The District was invited to speak at the Taxpayer Association Meeting on Friday, March 14, 2025. Commissioners and Staff discussed speaker order, topics, and logistics. Suggestions were made by Staff and visitors as to the topics to include as part of each individuals' speech.

IX. Director's Report-

Sherry provided an update of the monthly District operations, disease surveillance, and project updates, summarized below.

• **Mosquito Populations:**

- Higher mosquito population counts were observed in February compared to the three-year average and higher than last month's average. This increase may be attributed to higher mean temperatures combined with moderate rainfall during the month.
- All sentinel and inland trap counts were higher than the three-year average, except for the Highlands site.
- Among coastal sites, Island Drive and Vero Shores recorded lower average counts compared to the three-year average, while the remaining coastal sites showed higher mosquito population counts. Cypress Bend recorded the highest average trap count. Additionally, Regency Park and Youth Ranch recorded average counts three and four times higher, respectively, than the three-year average.

• **Arbovirus Activity:**

District:

- No positive or presumptive positives
- Observed a lot of variability in parity level in both Lockwood and Graves during the month of February. Graves had parity levels ranging from 17 to 47% while Lockwood parity ranged from 17 to 43%.

Statewide:

- West Nile Virus – 1 horse and 14 chickens
- Eastern equine encephalitis – 1 horse, 1 chicken
- Dengue – 38 imported
- Mosquito borne advisory: 2 counties – Orange & Volusia
- Mosquito borne alert: 5 counties – Duval, Hillsborough, Manatee, Miami-Dade & Pasco

• **Research:**

- Insecticide Resistance testing of *Culex quinquefasciatus* has begun. Currently malathion and permethrin are being tested against different field populations using the CDC bottle bioassay. The intensity or level of resistance against these insecticides will be evaluated using topical assay.
- The attractive toxic sugar bait project with FMEL is ongoing. Currently, the impact of attractive toxic sugar bait on the survivability, fecundity, and fertility on both resistant and susceptible populations of *Aedes aegypti* is being investigated.

• **Operations:**

Coastal:

- Rainfall ranged from 4.5 to 7.5 inches; Max Tide: 26.5" on 2/27
- Landing Rates: maximum 5 per minute at Timinisky on 2/3
- 3 aerial missions totaling 3,153 acres on 2/27 & 2/28; 27% increase over five-year average of 2,317 acres; 72% increase over long term average of 898 acres

Inland:

- Rainfall ranged 1.2 to 4 inches
- Tires Collected: 11

- Adulthood Mission: 5 totaling 62.3 miles on 2/11; 36% below the five-year average of 84 & 29% below the long-term average of 80
- Service Requests: 14 requests: 0 emails, 7 websites, 7 phone. 11 were for spray requests and 3 being technician requests, which was equal to the five-year average. All were responded to within 24 hours.
- Treated 52.31 acres, most of which was this last week of the month.
- Fellsmere reported large numbers of taeniorhynchus and sollicitans. Service Request reports began on 2/6. After a thorough inspection of mosquito production areas just east of the Shrimp Farm, inspectors located large numbers of adult mosquitoes.
- Victor (ULV Specialist) calibrated spray trucks on 2/24 and trained team members.

Permanent Control:

- EAI completed the water quality testing event on 2/19.
- Brandon (Ecologist) attended the 2025 IRL Symposium on 2/20 & 2/21.
- Staff met with South Passage Association regarding the Moorings Impoundment.
- Brandon will be taking the lead at the IRLT Field Day held from 9am-3pm on 3/07.
- Prepping work for pump season.
- Impoundment hedging and grinding is finished.
- Utilized the excavator and cleaned out Culverts to easily close flap gates.
- Sandpoint pump was pulled and taken to MWI for repairs.

• **Community Relations:**

Educational Events (completed):

- February 1st H.A.L.O Spayghetti Event
- February 8th Family Fun Fest
- February 14th Coffee with the Mayor
- February 18th Garden Club Presentation
- February 21st School Visit
- February 25th South Passage Association Meeting

Upcoming Community Outreach/Educational Events:

- March 3rd Rockridge Community Presentation
- March 7th IRLT Field Day Event
- March 14th Coffee with the Mayor
- March 14th Taxpayers' Association Presentation
- March 15th Pelican Island Celebration Event
- March 21st Up Resource Fair
- March 29th Indian River Land Trust Walk at Lagoon Greenway

Projects:

- Working on establishing appointments with HOA's for presentations within the Inland communities or areas of the district that struggle with high mosquito populations.
- Finalizing plans for the Open House on April 26th. Special Event permit has been submitted. Additional permit for signage to be completed.
- Working on new design for FY 24-25 annual report.
- Social media content schedule in progress to align with communication plan goals.

- Continue to update website information and promote the emailing list that was created for the public
- Received approval from FAU for funding two internship positions: one in Science and one in Community Relations.

• **HR:**

- Conducted interviews for two Coastal Inspectors positions; Offers made and screenings underway.
- Interviews conducted for Maintenance Tech, but none were selected, so the position has been re-advertised.
- HR has updated the new hire orientation which includes a specific training checklist for each department to ensure new employees receive the required information within the specified time frame.
- Tamar attended the Treasure Coast HR Association monthly meeting on 2/20 and is planning to attend the March meeting.

• **Map Vision Reporting Update:**

- Daniel Long, Aerial Specialist, presented live MapVision reports that have been created for management reporting, such as trap counts, landing rate counts, rainfall and tide levels.

X. Commissioner's Comments-

Commissioner Broda – Requested an update on the Fellsmere Shrimp Farm, status of the drone purchase, inquired about inhouse testing, and requested copy of spreadsheet of historical data.

Commissioner Erpenbeck – None

Commissioner Kirkland – Requested to receive a copy of spreadsheet of historical data.

XI. Upcoming Meetings

- FMCA Tallahassee Days – March 17th- 18th
- FASD Legislative Forum – March 26th- 27th
- Anastasia MCD's Arbovirus Workshop – March 25th – 27th
- FMCA Fly- In – April 8th- 9th (Lee County MCD)
- Regular Board meeting – April 15th, 2025 @ 9:00 AM
- AMCA Washington Conference - May 12th – 14th
- *Regular Board meeting – May 20th, 2025 @ 9:00 AM

**Due to conflicting dates with AMCA Washington Conference, May 13th, 2025 Regular Board Meeting has been rescheduled to May 20, 2025. An ad will be placed in the newspaper to reflect the date change.*

XII. Adjournment

Commissioner Broda made the motion to adjourn. The Board unanimously approved; the meeting was adjourned at 10:11 AM.

Attest: _____ Attest: _____