
Meeting Minutes

December 2023 Monthly Meeting of the Fort Myers Beach Mosquito Control District

Call to order

A meeting of the Fort Myers Beach Mosquito Control District was held in the temporary office trailer at 300 Lazy Way, Fort Myers Beach, Florida on Tuesday December 12th, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 8:09am. Attendees included: Commissioner Joanne Semmer, Commissioner Steve Johnson, Director Michael Mills, and Tom Gressman. Also in attendance were Jim Murphy and Jeff Butzer.

Members not in attendance: Stephen Schonberg.

Approval of minutes

The November 2023 minutes were read by Commissioner Semmer. Commissioner Johnson proposed a number of corrections to the minutes. A motion to approve the minutes as amended was made by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Semmer. Approved 2-0. Mr Gressman will distribute copies of the amended November minutes as soon as possible.

Public Comment

Mr. Butzer was in attendance representing the Estero Bay Improvement Association (EBIA). They have questions and concerns as to how we plan to treat the 55 acre Bay Beach Commons area for mosquitoes going forward. The vast majority of the area will be allowed to revert to natural green space, which has the potential to support a thriving mosquito population.

Staff Reports

- Director Mills was unable to provide a current bank balance.
- Director Mills says we have not as yet received the \$52K disbursement from the taxing authorities.
- Commissioner Semmer wants to make acquiring a large mailbox a priority. Director Mills will take care of it.
- EBIA's issues need to be addressed. Their 1300+ units can be a very influential ally in our fight against absorption by LCMCD. Mr Gressman will write up a treatment plan and present it to Curt Harrell, the EBIA president.
- Director Mills will inquire about adjustments to fence bids.

Unfinished business

- Commissioner Semmer has recovered our property deed. She says we need to address potentially adjusting the deed.
- Commissioner Johnson addressed the need to develop a job description for the administrative assistant position, and he will investigate online hiring services.
- Commissioner Johnson stressed that we need to immediately formulate a merger strategy.
 - Do we hire a consultant for a feasibility study?
 - We need a portfolio for opposition of merger.
 - Commissioner Johnson and Commissioner Semmer will submit letters to the FMB Observer highlighting the fact that the proposed merger would dramatically increase property owners taxes paid for mosquito control while dramatically decreasing service for residents.
- The 11/7 audit deadline was not met.
- DACS reports for 2022 are still not submitted.

New business

- Motion by Commissioner Semmer 2nd by Commissioner Johnson to apply for a \$500 stipend to send Commissioner Johnson to Tallahassee Days. Approved 2-0.
- Motion by Commissioner Johnson 2nd by Commissioner Semmer to pay attorney bills. Approved 2-0.
- Stephan needs to do Quickbooks for the past 12 months.

Announcements

None

Adjournment

Motion made by Commissioner Semmer, Second by Commissioner Johnson. Approved 2-0.

December 12, 2023 at 10:10 am.

Secretary

Date of approval