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**TANGIPAHOA MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT #1
MINUTES, REGULAR MEETING, MAY 10, 2023**

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, of the Tangipahoa Mosquito Abatement District #1, was held on Wednesday, May 10, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. at the District office, 15483 Club Deluxe Road, Hammond, LA.

Debbie Edwards, Chairman, called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll call was as follows:

Philip Bankston – absent

Erin Horzelski – absent

Charlie Ciolino – present

Craig Inman - present

Debbie Edwards – present

Jimmy Wolfe – absent

James Harper - present

Also Present: Douglas Curet, Dennis Walette, Colby Colona, and Cheri Vining.

Mr. Ciolino made a motion to accept the March 8th meeting minutes. Mr. Harper seconded the motion. Motion passed – all yeas, no nays; Mr. Bankston, Ms. Horzelski and Mr. Wolfe absent.

Review Financial Statement

Erin Horzelski is now in attendance.

Mr. Walette reviewed the financial report through April 2023.

Mr. Inman made a motion to accept the financial report into record. Ms. Horzelski seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows: Mr. Ciolino – yea, Ms. Edwards – yea, Mr. Harper – yea, Ms. Horzelski – yea, Mr. Inman – yea; Mr. Bankston and Mr. Wolfe absent. Motion passed.

Adopt Official Journal

Mr. Harper made a motion to accept the proposal from the Daily Star to serve as the district's official journal. Mr. Ciolino seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows: Mr. Ciolino – yea, Ms. Edwards – yea, Mr. Harper – yea, Ms. Horzelski – yea, Mr. Inman – yea; Mr. Bankston and Mr. Wolfe absent. Motion passed.

Adopt the Millage Rate for 2023

Ms. Vining read the Resolution aloud to set the millage for the 2023 tax year at 4.98 mills.

Ms. Horzelski made a motion to adopt the resolution as read and set the millage for the 2023 tax year at 4.98 mills. Mr. Inman seconded the motion.

Roll call vote as follows: Mr. Ciolino – yea, Ms. Edwards – yea, Mr. Harper – yea, Ms. Horzelski – yea, Mr. Inman – yea; Mr. Bankston and Mr. Wolfe absent. Motion passed.

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Approve and sign Louisiana Legislative Auditor's Compliance Questionnaire

Mr. Ciolino made a motion to approve the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's Compliance Questionnaire regarding the 2022 audit of the Tangipahoa Mosquito Abatement District. Mr. Harper seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows: Mr. Ciolino – yea, Ms. Edwards – yea, Mr. Harper – yea, Ms. Horzelski – yea, Mr. Inman – yea; Mr. Bankston and Mr. Wolfe absent. Motion passed.

Approve amended Personnel manual

Mr. Walette reviewed the proposed revisions of the TMAD Personnel manual. Ms. Horzelski made a motion to approve the amended Personnel manual as presented by Mr. Walette. Mr. Harper seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows: Mr. Ciolino – yea, Ms. Edwards – yea, Mr. Harper – yea, Ms. Horzelski – yea, Mr. Inman – yea; Mr. Bankston and Mr. Wolfe absent. Motion passed.

Approve amended Policies and Procedures manual

Mr. Walette reviewed the proposed revisions of the TMAD Policies and Procedures manual. Mr. Ciolino made a motion to approve the amended Policies and Procedures manual as presented by Mr. Walette. Mr. Inman seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows: Mr. Ciolino – yea, Ms. Edwards – yea, Mr. Harper – yea, Ms. Horzelski – yea, Mr. Inman – yea; Mr. Bankston and Mr. Wolfe absent. Motion passed.

Assistant Director's Report

Ms. Colona provided her report. There has been an increase in mosquito activity since March, which is typical this time of the year. The worst time of the year is typically spring/early summer. As of May 5th, there have been no positives for West Nile virus out of 545 tested mosquito pool samples at LSU and 33 mosquito pool samples tested in house at the District. Last year at this point there were 261 combined tests with no positives to date.

On March 16th, Ms. Colona did a presentation to the entire 3rd grade at Hammond Westside Montessori.

Ms. Colona gave a presentation on electrical safety at the District's quarterly safety meeting. A bottle bioassay was conducted on April 13th. All but one chemical is at greater than or equal to 98% average mortality.

At the end of March, Ms. Colona attended the Anastasia Mosquito Control Workshop in St. Augustine, Florida.

Employee, Alex Fortenberry, received his 8A certification, so now all full-time employees at the District are licensed.

Ms. Colona has been attending virtual training for a new arboviral reporting system.

Ms. Colona received acceptance to the Board-Certified Entomologist program through the Entomological Society of America and will be preparing for exams over the next few months. The District completed a Cage Test on May 9th on a new product, ReMoa Tri.

Upcoming events are: Continue spraying, setting traps, submitting samples, and conducting in house testing (LAMP).

National Mosquito Control Awareness week is June 18th – 24th.

Director's Report

Mr. Walette provided his report.

Plans for the District Hangar and bid packages are almost complete. We should be able to advertise for bids before the end of the month.

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Mr. Walette has been working to obtain our Certificate of Authorization from the FAA which is needed to operate UAVs in restricted airspace.

Mr. Walette will be attending the AMCA Washington Conference next week.

Approve travel request

Mr. Walette has been invited to attend and speak at the 8th International Forum for Surveillance and Control of Mosquitoes and Vector-borne Diseases. Ms. Horzelski made a motion to approve the travel request as presented by Mr. Walette. Mr. Ciolino seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows: Mr. Ciolino – yea, Ms. Edwards – yea, Mr. Harper – yea, Ms. Horzelski – yea, Mr. Inman – yea; Mr. Bankston and Mr. Wolfe absent. Motion passed.

Approve Surplus Inventory

Mr. Walette reviewed the list of inventories to declare as surplus.

Mr. Ciolino made a motion to declare the items presented as surplus. Ms. Horzelski seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows: Mr. Ciolino – yea, Ms. Edwards – yea, Mr. Harper – yea, Ms. Horzelski – yea, Mr. Inman – yea; Mr. Bankston and Mr. Wolfe absent. Motion passed.

Authorize Director to Sell Surplus Inventory at Auction

Mr. Harper made a motion to authorize the Director to sell the surplus inventory items at auction. Mr. Ciolino seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows: Mr. Ciolino – yea, Ms. Edwards – yea, Mr. Harper – yea, Ms. Horzelski – yea, Mr. Inman – yea; Mr. Bankston and Mr. Wolfe absent. Motion passed.

Ms. Horzelski made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Inman seconded the motion. Motion passed – all yeas, no nays; Mr. Bankston and Mr. Wolfe absent.

ATTEST:

/s/Debbie Edwards, Chairman

/s/Erin Horzelski, Secretary

/s/Cheri Vining, Recording Secretary

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