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**TANGIPAHOA MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT #1  
MINUTES, REGULAR MEETING, SEPTEMBER 14, 2022**

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, of the Tangipahoa Mosquito Abatement District #1, was held on Wednesday, September 14, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. at the District office, 15483 Club Deluxe Road, Hammond, LA.

Debbie Edwards, Chairwoman, called the meeting to order.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Roll call was as follows:

Philip Bankston – present  
Charlie Ciolino – present  
Debbie Edwards – present  
James Harper - present

Erin Horzelski – absent  
Craig Inman - present  
Jimmy Wolfe - present

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

**Approval of August 3, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Bankston made a motion to accept the August 3rd meeting minutes. Mr. Harper seconded the motion. Motion passed – all yeas, no nays; Ms. Horzelski absent.

**Director's Report**

Mr. Walette provided his report.

Frank DiVittorio is now in attendance.

We have detected nearly double the West Nile Virus activity this year than in previous years. We have received reports of multiple human cases in Tangipahoa Parish. We have responded with multiple aerial applications, continued daily treatments and nightly spraying seven nights a week for several weeks.

An audit engagement letter has been signed for next year's audit with Laura Gray.

We are still waiting on reimbursement from FEMA/GOHSEP for aerial spraying conducted in the aftermath of Hurricane Ida.

Mr. Walette reviewed a proposal quote from Pistorius Associates Inc., for the hangar project.

Mr. Walette will obtain proposal quotes from a couple of other architects to present to the Board at our next meeting.

Leadership Tangipahoa will be visiting our office next week.

The AMCA Annual Meeting will be held February 27<sup>th</sup> – March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023.

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**Assistant Director's Report**

Ms. Colona provided her report.

Due to excessive rain, we have been experiencing a rise in mosquito populations, mainly floodwater species, which are more aggressive. We are still anticipating high population counts even though the weather has cooled slightly, which is typical for this time of year. Normally there is an increase in populations May through June and the end of September through mid-October. We have submitted over 1500 mosquito samples so far this year for testing. We have had 332 positive mosquito pool samples for WNV and 1 for EEE compared to 7 WNV positive mosquito pool samples and 2 EEE positive mosquito pool samples at this time last year.

**Approve Revised Pilot Pay Scale**

Mr. Walette reviewed our current pay scale for pilots along with the current pay scale from other mosquito abatement districts and presented a revised pay scale. Mr. Bankston made a motion to approve the revised pilot pay scale as presented. Mr. Ciolino seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows: Mr. Bankston – yea, Mr. Ciolino – yea, Ms. Edwards – yea, Mr. Harper – yea, Mr. Inman – yea, and Mr. Wolfe – yea; Ms. Horzelski absent. Motion passed.

**Review Financial Statement**

Mr. Walette reviewed the financial report through August 31, 2022.

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

**Approve Surplus Inventory**

Mr. Walette stated one item was not on the last list of inventories that were declared as surplus. Mr. Harper made a motion to declare that item presented as surplus. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows: Mr. Bankston – yea, Mr. Ciolino – yea, Ms. Edwards – yea, Mr. Harper – yea, Mr. Inman – yea, and Mr. Wolfe – yea; Ms. Horzelski absent. Motion passed.

**Authorize Director to Sell Surplus Inventory at Auction**

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

**Presentation and Discussion of 2023 Draft Budget**

Mr. Walette presented the draft budget for review and discussion. Commissioners will continue to review and contact Mr. Walette with any questions. At the November meeting, the proposed budget for 2023 will be presented for the Board's approval.

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**Approve Transfer Of Committed Reserves Into Current Year's Budget**

Currently the District's committed fund balance has \$500,000 committed to emergency reserves for mosquito control chemicals. Mr. Walette requested \$250,000 be transferred from the emergency reserves for mosquito control chemicals to the current 2022 budget for chemicals. Mr. Wolfe made a motion to approve the transfer as presented. Mr. Harper seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows: Mr. Bankston – yea, Mr. Ciolino – yea, Ms. Edwards – yea, Mr. Harper – yea, Mr. Inman – yea, and Mr. Wolfe – yea; Ms. Horzelski absent. Motion passed.

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

**ATTEST:**

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**Debbie Edwards, Chairwoman  
Tangipahoa Mosquito Abatement District #1**

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**Erin Horzelski, Secretary  
Tangipahoa Mosquito Abatement District #1**

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**Cheri Vining, Recording Secretary  
Tangipahoa Mosquito Abatement District #1**