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**TANGIPAHOA MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT #1
MINUTES, REGULAR MEETING, FEBRUARY 12, 2020**

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, of the Tangipahoa Mosquito Abatement District #1, was held on Wednesday, February 12, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. at the District Office, 15483 Club Deluxe Road, Hammond, LA.

Deek DeBlieux, Chairman, called the meeting to order.

Roll call was as follows:

Deek DeBlieux – present	Sunny Ryerson – absent
Debbie Edwards – absent	Bill Wheat - present
Cecilia Giannobile – present	Jimmy Wolfe – present
Ricky Mannino - absent	

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Wolfe made a motion to accept the December 11th meeting minutes. Mr. Wheat seconded the motion. Motion passed – all yeas, no nays; Ms. Edwards, Mr. Mannino and Ms. Ryerson absent.

Review Financial Report

Mr. Walette reviewed the financial report for year ending 2019 and for January 2020.

Mr. Wheat made a motion to accept the financial report into record. Ms. Giannobile seconded the motion. Motion passed – all yeas, no nays; Ms. Edwards, Mr. Mannino and Ms. Ryerson absent.

Director's Report – Mr. Walette provided his report.

The District shirts approved at the December meeting are in. These will be for employees and commissioners representing the District at public education days, meetings and District functions.

The District will be hosting the Hammond Chamber After Hours, Thursday, April 16th, 4:30 – 6:30 p.m.

The annual aircraft inspection is underway. Once complete, plans are to participate at the Hammond Air Show. We will have a booth with informational brochures on mosquito control and have the plane on display.

All arrangements have been made for travel to the AMCA in March.

A new inspector has been hired and started work this week.

The LMCA Spring Workshop is next Tuesday and Wednesday in Baton Rouge. Our two newest inspectors will be attending this training.

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A photographer with 5 Stones Media will be here next week to take photos for the new website. Full surveillance will begin next week. Night spraying will likely begin the following week.

This is a reassessment year. Dennis Walette, Colby Colona, and Cheri Vining will be attending millage workshops in order to obtain the current information and procedures for setting the District millage for 2020.

Debbie Edwards is now in attendance.

Mr. Walette provided the Board with an informational sheet for a new aircraft hangar for consideration in the 2021 budget. The Board requested additional information for the next meeting.

Assistant Director's Report – Ms. Colona provided her report.

She and Mr. Walette attended the Florida MCA Fly-In in Fort Myers, FL in January. Very educational, as always, with heavy emphasis this year on granular applications and drone applications.

All work on the generator is complete and it is up and running. Ms. Colona and Mr. Walette receive texts with data from the start up tests run once a week.

The lab is being restocked with field and testing supplies. Also, PR materials have been ordered for our school presentations and public education booths.

Ms. Colona is on the LMCA training manual committee which has been tasked with updating and revising the LMCA training manual. The committee is now finishing up the final edits to give the manual an overall updated look with color photos, practice questions for the 8A exam, and sections with more information about technology and advancements.

The District is now currently accepting applications for part time night sprayers.

Ms. Colona will be one of the presenters at the LMCA Spring Workshop giving the mosquito identification portion of the training.

School presentations are underway in Hammond and Ponchatoula. Midway Elementary has been completed. Hammond Westside, Natalbany Elementary, Holy Ghost and Tucker Elementary schools are currently on the calendar.

Ms. Colona will give a talk at the AMCA annual meeting in March.

We will have a booth at the Spring Garden Day at the LSU Research Station in Hammond, March 28th.

Approve Performance Evaluations – Mr. Walette stated that all employee evaluations had been completed.

Approve Employee Step Raises for 2020 – Mr. Walette stated all employees had received a satisfactory/good or better rating on their performance evaluations. He requested approval of the step raises for 2020 to be given to those employees who have not reached the max limit. Mr. Wolfe made a motion to approve the eligible employees step raises for 2020. Ms. Giannobile seconded the motion. Roll call vote as follows: Mr. DeBlieux – yea, Ms. Edwards – yea, Ms. Giannobile – yea, Mr. Wheat – yea, Mr. Wolfe – yea; Mr. Mannino and Ms. Ryerson absent. Motion passed.

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Required Training for Employees and Commissioners

- a. **Ethics -All full time District Employees have completed the training. Night sprayers and part time employees will complete before they start back to work. Commissioners will have completed by the end of February.**
- b. **Preventing Sexual Harassment – Employees training is scheduled for March 12th. Deadline for the commissioners is the end of March.**

Mr. Wheat made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Edwards seconded the motion. Motion passed – all yeas, no nays; Mr. Mannino and Ms. Ryerson absent.

ATTEST:

/s/Deek DeBlieux, Chairman

/s/Debbie Edwards, Secretary

/s/Cheri Vining, Recording Secretary

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