

Regular Meeting Minutes

Florida Keys Mosquito Control District
Marathon Office
503 107th Street Marathon, FL 33050

July 21, 2026 1:15 pm

The Board of Commissioners of the Florida Keys Mosquito Control District held a Regular Meeting on July 21, 2026 at the FKMCD Marathon Office.

Present Were: Phillip Goodman, Chairman; Dr. Stanley Zuba, Vice-Chairman; Bette Brown, Secretary/Treasurer; Jill Cranney, Commissioner; Brandon Pinder, Commissioner; Andrea Leal, Executive Director; Scott Black, Board Attorney.

Employees Present Were: Lauren Bouchard, Director of Finance; Mikki Coss, Director of Operations; Robert Lee, Director of Aerial Operations; Chad Huff, Public Education & Information Officer; Abigail Smith, Education Coordinator; Jason Bynum, Field Inspector; Rochele Miller, Executive/HR Assistant; Tony Nunez, Chief Technology Officer.

Invited Guests Present: Honorable Scott P. Russell, CFA, RES, AAS, PPS, CCF, Monroe County Property Appraiser; and Denise O'Connell, Monroe County Property Appraiser Executive Assistant; Bill Shaw

Community Input: None.

Approval of Consent Agenda: *Chairman Goodman asked the Board if there were any corrections or additions to the consent agenda, having none, the consent agenda was approved.*

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Invited Speaker: Honorable Scott P. Russell, CFA, RES, AAS, PPS, CCF, Monroe County Property Appraiser

Chairman Goodman welcomed the Honorable Scott P. Russell, CFA, RES, AAS, PPS, CCF, the Monroe County Property Appraiser, and thanked him for attending. Mr. Russell introduced Denise O'Connell, his Deputy.

He gave a general overview of the process and possible impacts related to the upcoming ballot and taxable properties. After the Property Appraiser sets property values each year, the Mosquito Control District establishes its budget. Monroe County has about 90,000 parcels, with only 20% being homesteaded. If there are no changes, the total taxable value stands at \$52.33 billion. The mill levy is the formula that links these figures. If the Mosquito Control District keeps its budget flat, a smaller or shifting tax base causes the mill levy to adjust, placing a greater tax burden on non-homestead properties. If the taxable base declines, the rollback rate increases above the current millage. Adopting this higher rate does not mean a tax increase; it simply maintains the Mosquito Control District's revenue at the same level. The Property Appraiser does not set our levy. The projections shared, assuming no growth or market changes, could lead to about a \$500 million cut in Monroe County services. There was some discussion about Mosquito Control relying entirely on property taxes. The Board may need to consider raising the millage at some point, remembering that the mill levy applies to assessed values minus exemptions. The main effects would be felt immediately in 2027-2028.

Mr. Russell stated that his staff is always available to answer any questions. The Board thanked Mr. Russell for his presentation, and he expressed appreciation for the tour, noting he was impressed by the behind-the-scenes work.

Commissioner Goodman asked Director Leal to take advantage of this opportunity, to go ahead and present the Employee of the Quarter. She acknowledged Jason Bynum as Employee of the Quarter. He's an Inspector in the Upper Keys. Jason was nominated by his peers for coming in early and staying late to complete truck missions, covering for his supervisor and always going above and beyond.

As a courtesy to Mr. Cassidy and Mr. Shaw, Chairman Goodman asked for a recess to hold the Retiree Healthcare Meeting, and upon adjourning that, hold the Budget Workshop and then reconvene the Regular Meeting. *A motion was made by Commissioner Pinder, seconded by Commissioner Brown, and passed unanimously to approve this recess.*

The meeting recessed and reconvened.

Treasurer's Report: None

Attorney's Report: There was some discussion about the No Net Zero Annual Compliance, but nothing specific to report.

Director's Report: Executive Director, Andrea Leal began by reporting that the District continues to watch the travel-related cases of Chikungunya and Dengue. There is 1 human case of West Nile Virus in Alachua County but relatively quiet on the disease front. Operationally, Salt Marsh mosquito numbers were higher than the historical average throughout the Middle and Upper Keys in June, and lower than the historical average in the Lower Keys. *Aedes aegypti* numbers exceeded the action thresholds for adulticide in June but have come down.

One Hundred Thirty-Five (135) truck adulticide missions were conducted in June, which is higher than the historical average. We completed seventeen (17) aerial granular larvicide missions, forty-six (46) ground liquid larvicide missions and in Key West, we completed four (4) aerial liquid larvicide missions. Service requests (666) were like historical average for June.

Director Leal mentioned that Abby has been teaching children through different summer camps and library activities. Chad, along with a few inspectors, will represent the District at the Caribbean Street Fair happening this weekend. Additionally, the District will take part in National Night Out on August 4th at Founders Park. World Mosquito Day is in August.

Last week, we conducted an Educational Tour for community members. Today, the Property Appraisers Office visited, and next week, members of the Ocean Reef community plan to attend. These tours have been successful, and the staff is thinking about making them a regular event to keep educating the public.

We currently have one A&P Mechanic position available and one contractor still working with us. Interviews are planned with the goal of being fully staffed soon. Our Chief Pilot will be attending training in Dallas this week, and we expect to test our new helicopter in August, with a possible delivery in September.

Work groups for the Pesticide Use Limitation Area are currently active. The Ocean Reef Meeting to review operations was successful. We have submitted our Tentative Budget and Integrated Pesticide Management Plan to the Department of Agriculture. Staff members are interested in renovating the Key Largo Church Property to include two housing units; however, the property is zoned for Public Use. We will continue to

provide updates on the progress of this process and the possibility of changing the zoning once we receive feedback from the County. The rental emergency generator is connected and ready for hurricane season. The Fuel Farm Refurbishment is almost complete, awaiting final testing.

Items for Board Discussion:

11a.) Property Tax Reform Update: None.

Items for Board Review and Action:

12a.) Financial Reports: Lauren Bouchard, Director of Finance, presented the June financial reports. District Finances shows the 70/30 split and balances through July 16th. Cash Disbursements for June were also highlighted. With no further discussion, *A motion was made by Commissioner Brown, seconded by Commissioner Cranney, and passed unanimously* confirming the Board received the financial information from June of 2026 and the Board requests it be submitted for audit at the appropriate time.

12b.) Resolution 2026-16 Approving the Set Maximum Millage Rate: A RESOLUTION OF THE FLORIDA KEYS MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT OF MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA DETERMINING THE PROPOSED MAXIMUM MILLAGE RATE, THE CURRENT YEAR ROLLED-BACK RATE, AND SETTING THE DATES, TIMES AND PLACES FOR THE FIRST AND SECOND BUDGET PUBLIC HEARINGS AS REQUIRED BY LAW; DIRECTING FINANCE TO FILE SAID RESOLUTION WITH THE PROPERTY APPRAISER OF MONROE COUNTY PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF FLORIDA STATUTES AND THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *A motion was made by Commissioner Zuba, seconded by Commissioner Cranney, and passed unanimously to adopt Resolution 2026-16 as written.*

12c.) Resolution 2026-17 Approving the Award of RFP 2026-05 Emergency Generator: A RESOLUTION OF THE FLORIDA KEYS MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT OF MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE RECOMMENDATION AND AWARD OF RFP 2026-05 TO ISLAMORADA POWER, INC FOR AN EMERGENCY GENERATOR; PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO RFP 2026-05; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE *A motion was made by Commissioner Cranney, seconded by Commissioner Pinder, and passed unanimously to adopt Resolution 2026-17 as written. After a roll call vote, it was unanimously adopted.*

12d.) Resolution 2026-18 Tavernaero Airport Park Memorandum of Understanding: A RESOLUTION OF THE FLORIDA KEYS MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT APPROVING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH TAVERNAERO AIRPORT PARK, INC. SUBJECT TO LEGAL REVIEW; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Following discussion, *A motion was made by Commissioner Cranney, seconded by Commissioner Pinder, and passed unanimously to approve Resolution 2026-18 as written.*

Good of the Order:

- Chairman Goodman discussed the next meeting of the Board to be held on August 19, 2026, at 1:00 pm, followed by a Budget Workshop.

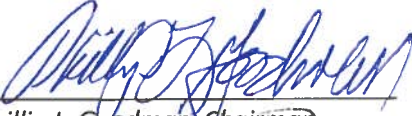
There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Andrea Leal
Executive Director

Board of Commissioners
Florida Keys Mosquito Control District



Phillip L. Goodman, Chairman



Bette Brown, Secretary-Treasurer

For additional information, please refer to www.keysmosquito.org.