

New Iberia, Louisiana 70560
Ph. (337) 365-4933 FAX (337) 364-8063
Email: ipmc@iberiagov.net Website: www.iberiagov.net

Herff MP. Jones
Executive Director

C. Renee Pellerin
Assistant Director

## MINUTES OF THE IBERIA PARISH MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING January 14, 2025 6:00 PM AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE LOCATED 611 OLD CENTRAL TAXIWAY, NEW IBERIA, LOUISIANA 70560

<u>Call to Order</u> – Chairman, Mr. Willie Polite, called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

**Roll Call** – The Chairman requested the roll be taken. The following were present: Mr. Willie Polite, Ms. Maggie Daniels, Dr. Christopher Dupuy, Mr. Jay Leger and Mr. John Simmons.

The following were absent: Ms. Latifah Gray and Dr. Timonthy Viator.

It was noted that a quorum was present. Others in attendance: Herff Jones, Executive Director and Ms. Adrienne Camacho, Administrative Secretary.

Persons to address the Board - None.

Public Comments - None.

<u>Approval of Minutes</u> – The Chairman called for a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Ms. Daniels motioned that the minutes be adopted and entered into the record. Dr. Dupuy second the motion. The motioned carried unanimously.

## **Director's Report**

**8D Summary** – Mr. Jones shared with the board surveillance data presented by our surveillance team over the past 5 years showing over 3.2 million mosquitoes collected. This would seem to non-mosquito specialists as alarming. Keep in mind that hurricanes, flooding rains, other tropical events and drought occurred during this period and each impacts overall mosquito populations differently. This is why mosquito surveillance is paramount to our program and leads all our control operations. Surveillance provides us with population densities, diversity, species behavior, location and most important the risk of mosquito disease transmission. Mr. Jones commended the work of our surveillance team, Biologist, Mosquito Specialist and Surveillance Technician who are responsible for gathering these data sets.

<u>Budget Report</u> — Mr. Jones stated that the 2025 appropriations budget was adopted as presented to the council with all votes in favor of the budget. Mr. Jones also stated that our hangar project to upgrade the lighting and install a stand-alone generator has been awarded to Southern Contract. The drone application platform and surveillance drone bid has been awarded to Leading Edge Target Specialty Products. The systems are being prepared to be ship and we will be notified when the equipment will be shipped to us. Mr. Jones did state that our aircraft pilots are licensed, with a simple addition to their current FAA certifications, to operate the drone and Mr. Jones will take the training as well.

Mr. Jones stated that there is nothing outstanding to report for the January 2025 budget report. The tax performed well for FY 2024, preparations, at the appropriate time, will be made for distribution of the revenue surplus. 2024 mosquito sales tax total proceeds did meet the adopted appropriations budget's total revenue and expenditures.

<u>LDH Report</u> – Mr. Jones stated that the virus activity in mosquitoes was lower then the previous two years. The total of human West Nile Virus cases was 42, 3 fatalities for 2024 and 19 veterinary horse cases of Eastern Equine Encephalitis reported across the state.

## Action Items for the Board's Consideration - None.

<u>Announcements</u> – Mr. Jones shared with the board members that in March 2025 he will start his term as President of the American Mosquito Control Association (AMCA).

## **IBERIA PARISH MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT BOC MONTHLY MEETING DATES**

January 14, 2025 July 8, 2025

February 11, 2025 August 12, 2025

March 11, 2025 September 9, 2025

April 8, 2025 October 14, 2025

May 13, 2025 November 18, 2025

June 10, 2025 December 9, 2025

<u>Adjourn</u> – The Chairman asked for a motion to adjourn: Mr. Leger motioned that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

Submitted by Herff MP. Jones Executive Director Iberia Parish Mosquito Abatement District