

Lemon Fair Insect Control District
Tuesday, July 11, 2017
Bridport, VT

1. Call to order: 5:03

Present: David Dodge, Dinah Bain, Christine Chapline, Wendy Lynch, Chuck Burkins, Gary Rodes, Alissa Shethar, Craig Zondag, Melissa Lourie
Alissa asks to add a discussion about the hotline to the agenda.

2. Approve June minutes: The June minutes are approved.

3. Treasurer's report:

Cash forward: \$64,881.86

Cash received: \$10,000

Total Cash for month: \$74,882.15

Disbursements: \$40,320.16

Accounts payable: \$21,834.00

Accounts receivable: \$74,598.00

Net current assets: \$87,325.34

(Accounts payable and receivable were amended to reflect an item in the wrong category). The amended Treasurer's report is approved.

Dinah is concerned that \$70,000/year budgeted by the VAA for the LFICD is not enough going forward. Our labor charges for IPM work are using a large chunk of our grant money; the concern is that there is not going to be enough money left for the VAA to cover large treatments + IPM work. There needs to be a conversation with the VAA in the fall; potentially we need a grant for IPM separate from the treatment grant.

4. GIS update: The new Lenovo computer has been ordered for \$1578; it is optimized for visual images for ArcGIS applications.

The monitor is not yet ordered. We have received the ArcGIS software keys.

JB I needs to have the treatment map files in their hands at the beginning of the season so that we only have to give them the list of names of the areas to be treated when we call for a treatment.

5. Field Conditions:

There have been two floods since the last meeting that resulted in aerial treatments; the first was in late June and the second was on July 1.

The first treatment was 800+ acres in the Lemon Fair on June 25 and June 26; the VAA allowed 7 lbs/acre instead of 5 lbs/acre. JB I missed an area on Snake Mountain Rd that had pockets of high larval counts, so Craig and Meg treated that area by hand. Post treatment surveys—the counts were low; the treatment was successful. Mosquito complaints from residents are not coming from flood plain mosquitoes, but more likely from woodlands. Craig has visited several landowners with mosquito problems to identify local problems and solutions such as local ponds that

can be treated with Bti briquettes, etc. We will also set up light traps to identify adult species to determine mosquito sources.

On July 5, we piggybacked with the BLSG to treat 256 acres in the Cornwall Swamp. The BLSG used up all our old, expired larvicide (VectoBac and VectoLex) and cleaned out the storage trailer. New product has been delivered.

The BLSG used North Fork helicopter service from Long Island for the July 6 treatment. Craig is still waiting for the treatment maps from the BLSG.

Coordinating treatments with the BLSG is proving to be difficult because the Otter Creek (BLSG) and the Lemon Fair (LFICD) ecologies are different and the 2 districts are seeing hatches at different times. The area to coordinate with the BLSG for treatments will be in the Cornwall Swamp.

The techs are continuing the light trapping and ID of adult mosquitoes at specific sites and also at homes with complaint calls.

Craig has interviewed 2 people for part time tech positions. One has environmental experience; the other has no experience. Craig suggests that we hire at \$15/hour for no experience and at \$25/ hour for experienced techs.

6. Treatment intervals:

Dinah questioned whether we can immediately treat an expanding flood plain perimeter after aerial treatment or do we have to wait 7 to 14 days pursuant to the VectoBac label(VAA policy). Since this would be “new” acreage, we should be able to immediately treat but will confirm with the VAA. One concern is whether the expanded perimeter will generate sufficient acreage to aeriually treat. Of note, the recent flooding was so high that the entire flooded areas were not included in our treatment maps. Maps should be updated.

7. BLSG Update:

Ben Lawton (BLSG) is interested in merging the 2 insect control districts. We don't expect a firm proposal until after the current season, i.e. in the late fall. Any proposal would have to be approved by the towns. We would like the opportunity to use the BLSG' s ARGO and they have given us a proposal for the cost of using some of their equipment: \$45/hour for the Argo and \$135/hour for the applicator, \$50/hour for their ATV and \$45/ hour for their boat. There are areas along the Lemon Fair where Craig thinks the ARGO could be useful for treatment.

Dinah moved that we accept the BLSG' s price proposal in case Craig needs to use them; the motion passed unanimously.

8. VAA update: Tim Schmalz says that there is flexibility with the \$70,000 grant cap if there is a cost overrun. The VAA is interviewing for State Entomologist and for the vector control job.

9. Hotline

Alissa would like feedback from the board/techs on where the data is going in the LFICD website. Informal (not through the hotline) mosquito complaints should be reported to Alissa for recording.

Most of the calls have come from Cornwall; Weybridge has the hotline # on the town site, but it is not easy to find.

Open house scheduled for July 27; Craig will send to the Addison Independent and include the hotline info. Melissa will ask the Addy Indy about running an article.

10. New business: none

Adjourn: 6:50. Next **meeting:** Aug. 1, 2017, Cornwall Town Hall, 5:00