

LFICD Board Meeting
July 2, 2024
Virtual Zoom meeting

Draft Minutes:

1. Call to order: 5:30

Present: Christine Chapline, Dinah Bain, Gary Rodes, Bob Cluss, Annie Murphy, Craig Zondag, David Zarowin

2. Approve June 4, 2024 minutes:

The June minutes are approved.

3. Treasurer's report:

Cash forward: \$98,516.53

Cash received: \$22,010.66

Total cash for month: \$120,527.19

Total Disbursements: \$16,509.46

Cash on hand: \$104,017.73

Total Accounts payable: \$1500.00

Total Accounts receivable: \$24,500.00

Net Current assets: \$127,017.73

The Treasurer's report is approved.

The new grant year starts in July. By the end of June, we had spent about \$15,500 more than can be reimbursed from the 2023/2024 VAAFM grant year.

4. Field coordinator's report:

Field Conditions:

June 3rd, some of the puddles and ditches are still holding water from the May 27th rain fall. On June 3rd intern, Ryan Potter, and I hand treated the "Sedge Pool" off of Lemon Fair Rd. with 45-day briquettes. What appeared to be third instar larvae were actually 4th instar and the majority of them pupated overnight. The treatment was not considered successful, however, the presence of briquettes already in place will help us gauge the next hatch of mosquitoes and the effectiveness of a prophylactic treatment.

Average rainfalls have yielded .1" to 1.1". Rain events overall have not created flooding. Puddles in the floodplain have hatched mosquitoes, but the puddles have been drying up before the mosquitoes could pupate and emerge as adults, therefore dying as larvae.

The CDC Light Traps have collected over 20,531 mosquitoes to date with 1,064 identified as *Aedes vexans* (the floodplain mosquito), which represents only 5% of the total. In contrast, 12,142 were identified as *Coquillettidia perturbans*, a.k.a. the "Cattail Mosquito", representing 60% of the species collected thus far among eight traps set up weekly. Interestingly, in 2018 this was the predominant mosquito species, and it was a drought year. I keep receiving reports from folks saying that the mosquitoes aren't so bad and they're actually able to get into their gardens this year. Regardless, continue to protect yourself especially at dusk.

CNY Drone Services LFICD has connected with this company as a potential service to apply larvicide. This is a big step toward Best Management Practices (BMP's) for this small district. Given the opportunity,

we'll be able to utilize CNY Drone Services to treat areas as small as 250 acres. This would enable us to stamp out hatches over smaller acreages and stay ahead of larger hatch scenarios. Currently CNY Drone Services is in the process of obtaining the required certificates and licenses to treat in Vermont.

LFICD Open House ~ Saturday, July 20: 10:AM-3:PM

Please join us this day at the lab and display area under the tent next to the Weybridge Congregational Church. Learn about our successes and challenges and what you can do to reduce mosquito activity on your property. The Vermont Agency of Agriculture Farms & Markets (VAA-FM) will have their newly acquired Tire Side Wall & Tread Cutter on display and demonstrated. The goal here is to reduce and eventually eliminate whole tires that hold water on farms and breed mosquitoes.

Addison County Fair and Field Days Once again, we are being invited to display at the Frances Monroe Home and Garden Center on August 7, 2024. Stop by and guess how many mosquitoes are in the large ATLAS canning jar. These are the mosquitoes we've trapped so far this year to date. We will have data and interactive exhibits. And once again offer suggestions on what you can do to reduce mosquitoes on your property without using chemicals.

NEVBD (Northeast Regional Center for Excellence in Vector-Borne Diseases) Pesticide Use & Resistance Monitoring in Northeastern United States We are in the process of collecting and rearing egg rafts to submit to the NEVBD at Cornell University. NEVBD has made a special request of our district in that they want us to send a representative number of mosquitoes to establish a laboratory breeding colony of Vermont mosquitoes. We are also required by the VAA-FM to submit samples for resistant testing.

5. Bridport Select Board Meeting:

Dinah and Bob attended the June meeting of the Bridport Select Board, which is making plans to hold a vote to determine if Bridport will leave the LFICD. The Select Board members gave Bob and Dinah time at their meeting and they updated the Select Board on the proposal by CNY Drone Service to treat the district using drones. The Select Board plans to put the decision of whether or not Bridport stays in the district up to the voters on election day in November, with an open informational meeting for residents to be held in October (date to be determined). Members of the Bridport Select Board noted that most residences in Bridport are situated away from floodplains, resulting in fewer residents being significantly impacted by floodplain mosquitoes compared to other towns in the district.

6. New Open Meeting Laws

The State has updated the Open Meeting Law. Meetings of public bodies now have to be recorded and access to the recording posted on-line.

We will be talking with all 3 towns about how to post the Board meetings, whether hybrid or in-person. Town Clerks around the State are still trying to figure out what the new rules mean and how to implement them.

7. Adjourn: 6:41 P.M.

Next meeting: August 6, 2024, 5:30 P.M., Virtual Zoom Meeting.