

LFICD Board Meeting
April 5, 2022

Draft minutes:

1. Call to order: 5:36

Present: David Dodge, Christine Chapline, Judd Markowski, Dinah Bain, Craig Zondag, Alissa Shethar, Gary Rodes

2. Approve March 1 minutes:

The March 1 minutes are approved.

3. Treasurer's Report:

Cash forward: \$115,422.78

Cash received: \$0.15

Total cash for month: \$115,422.93

Total Disbursements: \$5,045.75

Accounts payable: \$4,500

Accounts receivable: \$0.00

Net current assets: \$105,877.18

4. Field Coordinator report:

Field conditions: the Lemon Fair floodplain water levels have been receding.

Bill Hegman (Middlebury College Geography Instructor) flew his drone over the frozen and flooded Lemon Fair River from rt. 125 to the mouth of the Lemon Fair at Otter Creek to document high water flood lines and anomalies in the flood plain specific to potential mosquito outbreaks and to provide a baseline for the Middlebury College/LFICD LIDAR mapping summer internship.

A meeting was held with members of the OCW (Otter Creek Watershed Insect Control District, formerly BLSG). It was attended by David Dodge and Craig Zondag (LFICD) and Doug Perkins, Will Mathis and Kerry White (OCW) for the purpose of sharing information on what works and doesn't work for mosquito abatement in both districts.

Applications are coming in for the summer Field Technician Internship. Craig will accept applications through April 29 for the internship that begins June 1.

Craig reports a snag with the plan to place Altosid briquettes in Lemon Fair scroll bars: the effect of methoprene on fish is addressed in the product Safety Data Sheet, Section 12, Ecological information; Craig wants to run the information by Clark Parmalee (VAAF, Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets) before purchasing the briquettes. An alternative would be bti dunks, but they only last 30 days, as opposed to 150 days for the Altosid briquettes.

Craig wants to start staking the Lemon Fair scroll bar areas next week in preparation for placing briquettes or dunks.

A motion was made to spend up to \$900 to purchase a backpack sprayer for larvicide application. The motion passed unanimously.

The LFICD will pursue a request for ARPA funds from each of the towns for the purpose of purchasing a surveillance drone. We need to put together a packet of information for the town Select Boards to ask for ARPA money for the purchase of a Mavic 2 or Mavic 3 drone.

5. VAA meeting:

A Pre-season meeting with the VAAFM was held on March 31 and was attended by Craig Zondag and David Dodge (LFICD) and Dave Huber, Clark Parmalee and Patti Casey (VAAFM). The use of Altosid briquettes in the Lemon Fair scroll bars was discussed. The cost for the briquettes would be \$13,500 for the season, to be reimbursed from LFICD's VAAFM grant funds.

Craig would like to purchase a backpack sprayer for larvicide application (\$700); the VAAFM agreed that this is a reasonable capital expenditure under the Grant Agreement, in which the VAAFM will reimburse 75%.

Craig discussed the LFICD desire for the State to consider the use of a payload drone for larvicide application.

A field visit will be set up for VAAFM personnel to visit the LFICD in April or May.

The idea of the VAAFM purchasing a tire slicer so that farms can eliminate mosquito breeding in tire piles was discussed and Patti plans to move ahead with presenting the idea to upper administration in the VAAFM.

6. Legislative letter:

The OCW had asked the LFICD to cosign a letter to ask the State legislators for more money for the mosquito districts. We have decided to table the idea of joining their letter or also sending a legislative letter.

7. Permit renewals:

Our 1-year and 5-year permits have been received.

The PGP-NOI permit is due July 13, 2022, according to Misha Cetner (Vermont Dept. of Environmental Conservation). However, the State is drafting a new PGP application form and our permit will stay in force until the new form is ready and we can re-apply.

8. Public Outreach:

The Notice of Intent to Spray has been sent to the radio stations and Front Porch Forum.

There is technical trouble with the LFICD website; Alissa has not been able to post the agenda, etc. Alissa has a service ticket open for the website.

Alissa will be making new posters for advertising the hotline phone number.

9. Board Member update: None

10. New Business: None

11. Next Meeting:

Zoom meeting May 3, 2022, 5:30 p.m.