

**Lemon Fair Insect Control District
Bridport, VT
July 7, 2015**

Minutes

1. Call to order: 5:10

Present: David Dodge, Lew Castle, Chris Chapline, Alissa Shethar, Chuck Burkins, Dinah Bain, Craig Zondag, Judd Markowski,

2. Approve June minutes

The June minutes are approved.

3. Treasurer's Report

Cash Forward: \$45,491.77

Cash received: \$22,000.13

Total cash for month: \$67,491.90

Disbursements: \$6,391.43

Cash on hand: \$61,100.47

Accounts payable: \$4,400.00

Accounts receivable: \$200.00

Net current assets: \$56,900.47

A letter from the State with a request to pay sales tax on the sale of the plane was received. Since we didn't include sales tax in the contract for the plane sale, we will have to pay it if it is owed. Lew C. and David D. will call the State tax examiner and discuss whether or not we should be exempt from sales tax, given that we are a municipal agency and also that the plane is for agricultural purposes.

The Treasurer's report is approved.

4. Field update

Judd and Craig have set 8 light traps in different areas to capture and count adult mosquitoes. Light trap collections have resulted in counts from 38 to 3200 mosquitoes caught within a 12-13 hour period. However, the larval counts continued to be below threshold levels for treating. The whole Lemon Fair valley was surveyed during high flood. Pupae and adults were observed, but larva were found only in pockets and hatches had obviously been missed.

Craig made the point that surveying the puddles in the fields to find all the pockets of larva is impossible—some puddles have larva and adjacent puddles have none. Our proposed strategy should be a prophylactic approach. There will be a hatch with the first spring flooding conditions and at that time we should paint the valley with larvicide to be sure to hit the isolated hatches. With no treatment the hatches become layered and untreatable. The threshold needs to be lowered; other mosquito districts treat with 1-5 larva/dip. We need to convince the VAA that, considering the large number of adult mosquitoes in the traps, we need to lower the threshold to 1-5/dip during the spring to stop the cycle early.

Large numbers of pupae were found in a field of reed canary grass off of Snake Mountain Rd. Such fields would need VectoLex (or VectoBac on sand) applied to the column of water; VectoBac on corn would need to be applied at higher than 5 lbs/acre to penetrate the reed canary grass.

The complaint line is not operational yet, but all of us are hearing talk about the mosquito nuisance.

Collecting adults and identifying them will be a priority of the surveying team for the rest of the summer.

5. IPM implementation

We have a different pool of money for IPM implementation than for larva survey, so the field tech reported hours should be kept separate for each activity.

River gauges—not out yet; the river should be at a stage where they can be set this week.

Craig will get galvanized steel fence posts and paint them in 1 ft. increments; he will hammer them into the bank near bridges. We can also spray paint the abutment on the Rt. 74 bridge. River gauges at 4 locations- Rt. 74, Rt. 125, Prunier Rd. and Lemon Fair Rd. bridges.

Question for the VAA: Can we remove blockages (tree logs) on the Lemon Fair that are creating a logjam in Weybridge? The area will get to the point where it won't drain if the jam is not removed.

Rain gauges—each person with a rain gauge is to report (by email) for each 24-hour period of an event unless Craig asks differently.

6. Grant Agreement:

The grant extension is in place. Chris C. and David D. will work on the draft of the new Grant agreement.

7. Open meeting compliance:

David D. went to a presentation given by attorney Jim Carroll to the Cornwall Planning Commission about the VT Open Meeting Law and how to comply with it. Under the open meeting law, we cannot have a quorum in email discussions without warning them as a meeting. Therefore, between meetings board member work to be done will be done by one or two board members.

8. Public Outreach Program Update

A phone line is set up on a cell phone; incoming calls will be recorded and monitored by Alissa. A Survey monkey survey link has also been set up and Alissa has made a flyer to advertise the hotline/Survey Monkey link.

Alissa will forward the link to Cornwall (Sue Johnson) and flyer at the Town Halls and Post Office, David will ask to attach the flyer to the Cornwall Town Newsletter. Alissa will collate the calls and the Survey Monkey data. Alissa will try to link the responses to a map.

9. Adjourn 6:35 Next meeting Aug 4, 2015, 5:00 Cornwall Town Hall.