

LFICD Board
Tuesday, March 2, 2021
Zoom Virtual Meeting

Draft minutes

1. Call to order: 5:35

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

2. Approve February minutes:

The February minutes are approved.

3. Treasurer's report:

Cash forward: \$100,563.87

Cash received: \$0.14

Total cash for month: \$100,564.01

Total disbursements: \$3,420.26

Cash on hand: \$97,143.75

Accounts payable: \$0.00

Accounts receivable: \$2,667.74

Net current assets: \$99,811.49

The Treasurer's report is approved.

4. Field and Lab Report:

Craig has attended (by Zoom) the following conferences since January: Northeastern Mosquito Control Association, Clean Water Initiative: Storm Water Presentation, and the Mid-Atlantic American Mosquito Control Association. He will be attending the American Mosquito Control Association conference this week. He reports that a prominent theme is an emphasis on Integrated Pest Management and Integrated Mosquito Management and also that more mosquito control districts are adopting drone technology for larviciding and surveillance.

Craig reports that Bill Hegman (GIS professor at Middlebury College) is finalizing an ad for a spring/summer college student internship, to be advertised on the Handshake platform. The internship will be in conjunction with the LFICD, using LIDAR to analyze landscape gradients in the Lemon Fair flood plain that might be susceptible to sustained puddling and mosquito breeding. Middlebury College will pay the internship stipend. Gary suggests that we could also get help from the Middlebury College GIS group for putting our data in a map format, which would be useful internally.

Craig is also writing an ad for a summer LFICD field technician internship to be advertised on the Handshake platform.

Craig has contacted JBI and Northfork helicopter services for estimates for aerial treatments for the 2021 season. The estimates are similar and are about \$25,000 for a 1000-acre treatment.

5. Permit update:

The one-year Aerial Permit application and Requested Pesticides list have been revised for the 2021 season and David will submit the application to the VAA. Craig has contacted Northfork and JBI helicopter services to ask them to fill out the aerial provider portion of the permit application.

6. Drone update:

Recent mosquito conferences reveal that more districts are using drones for various tasks (including viewing larva below the water surface). This Thursday's AMCA meeting will have a number of talks on drone use.

Judd suggests that, given the number of new uses being employed by MCDs, we need to think about what we want to do with a drone and then research through the companies that sell them. The State has not been interested in employing drones in the past because the State did not have DOT regulations for using drones for aerial pesticide

applications. Starting points: work with the State to approve drone usage for aerial pesticide application, make a case for the use of a small drone for surveillance, make a case for the use of a drone with a smaller payload to treat smaller areas.

7. Insurance update:

David proposes switching our broker of record for our liability insurance with Hudson Insurance to Lou Castle (agent for Page and Campbell, who are local), assuming the price will stay the same.

8. Salisbury update:

There have been numerous letters-to-the-editor or Front Porch Forum prior to tonight's town meeting from Salisbury residents advocating against Salisbury continuing with the BLSG mosquito district, mostly due to adulticiding. David has informed the Salisbury Select Board chair, Paul Vaczy, that we cannot handle adding Salisbury to the LFICD if they choose to leave the BLSG.

9. New board member: Not discussed.

10. New business: Public Notices for larviciding should be done by mid-March; Alissa will publish a notice to both Cornwall and Weybridge and Bridport Front Porch Forums. Wendy will contact the Addison Independent, Star 92.9 and Catamount Radio (2 announcements each); for the weeks of March 22 and 29.

11. Adjourn: 6:26, Next meeting: April 6, 2021, 5:30 PM