

**LFICD (virtual) Board meeting
May 5, 2020**

1. Call to order: 5:30

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

We need an Assistant Treasurer (Judd volunteers) and Vice Chair (Gary Rodes volunteers).

2. Approve April minutes: The April minutes are approved with Alissa's corrections on website costs.

3. Treasurer's report:

The invoice for the VAA covering Sept. 1, 2019 to March 25, 2020 is not completed yet; there is approximately \$21,000 to bill the VAA.

The towns have not been billed for their contributions.

Cash Forward: \$82,107.26

Cash Received: \$0.58

Total Cash for month: \$82,107.84

Total Disbursements: \$6,867.13

Cash on Hand: \$75,240.71

Accounts Payable: \$400.00

Accounts Receivable: \$21,242.75

Net current assets: \$96,083.46

4. Field Coordinator Report

Covid 19 related workspace adjustments: Desebrais Glass Service will make a plexiglass shield for approximately \$100; Craig will suspend it from the ceiling to separate the microscope stations. We have masks, gloves, safety glasses, hand sanitizer, disinfectant.

Restricted Landing Sites: We have received the "Certificate of Operation" and "Decision and Order" documents from the VT Transportation Board, so our landing sites are now operational.

Craig is writing an Instruction Manual for interns, which will be a valuable document of field protocols and operations. If an intern is interested in getting a Pesticide Applicators permit, Dominique Golliot (VAA) will accommodate them for testing. Craig has also created a folder of documents of protocols and contacts for reference in case Craig is not around and a board member needs it.

Field Conditions and Public outreach:

Craig has performed little larval surveillance due to the State's Stay at Home orders.

A swale on Snake Mountain Rd. on the LF River is a site that would be good to treat (soon) prophylactically with 45-day briquettes. It is 10-15 acres with an outsized impact on mosquito numbers. A light trap will also be set up there.

Craig has responded to 2 residents in Weybridge and one in Cornwall with mosquito issues on their properties.

Craig points out that a shift in our efforts to more public outreach could lead to less need for a large aerial treatment. Down the road, drone technology targeting hot spots may be more useful to us than a helicopter treatment of a large area.

Craig has been cleared to resume field work (given State Covid 19 restrictions), so we should be able to bill the VAA for his Integrated Pest Management (“IPM”) work from this point.

5. Consequences of uncertain funding from VAA for FY 2021 (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021): The Vermont Agency of Agriculture is unable to assure the LFICD of funding for FY 2021 due to the extremely negative impact of the coronavirus on VT’s finances. Budget negotiations are still proceeding in Montpelier. David hopes to hear from State Representative Peter Conlon with an update on VT’s budget discussions. Without the VAA’s \$70,000 we would have to consider various options, including limiting IPM to preserve our reserves in the event we need to treat aerially. One 1,000-acre treatment costs \$43,000 including replacing larvicide. Importantly, we still expect to receive \$18,000 from our three towns.

Dinah and David will update our 2020 budget to reflect the consequence of no VAA funding. The board agreed to meet again on May 12, 5:30 to discuss a contingency budget. Chris will send a Warning to the Town Clerks and Alissa will post the notice on our website.

6. Summer Interns:

We received 12 applications for the summer internship(s). Craig will begin interviews. Should we offer internships to help preserve our IPM program and plan to pay them out of our reserves and the \$18,000 from our three towns (if VAA funding is not renewed for FY2021)?

Hiring considerations: The USCIS I-9 US citizenship form needs to be filled out in lieu of an application to give us the pertinent employee information. We should speak to Middlebury College about what information we need from the interns. We need proof of car insurance for our insurance company; we need to check if interns will be covered under our liability insurance? Should we require that they have an up to date tetanus vaccination?

7. New business

Public Outreach: The complaint line is up and running. Alissa has a new poster advertising the complaint line; Alissa and Melissa will distribute the posters.

8. Next meeting: Special (electronic) meeting Tuesday, May 12, 5:30 to discuss the budget and the internships.

Next regular meeting: June 20, 2020, 5:30, electronic meeting.
Adjourn: 6:50

**LFICD Special (Virtual) Board Meeting
May 12, 2020**

Call to order: 5:35 Present: David Dodge, Christine Chapline, Dinah Bain, Melissa Lourie, Craig Zondag, Gary Rodes, Judd Markowski

David Dodge received an email from Patti Casey (VAA) today clarifying that as it stands now, the LFICD will be funded at the usual \$70,000 for FY starting July 1, 2020.

David wants to review our budget again; the State budget runs to June 30 and we still have money from FY 2020 to treat by helicopter if needed before then.

The board voted to hire 2 interns unless we find (after David runs the budget numbers) our carryover will be insufficient to start next spring.