

LFICD Board Meeting  
May 3, 2022

**Draft minutes:**

**1. Call to order:**

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

**2. Approve April minutes:**

The April minutes are approved.

**3. Treasurer's Report:**

Cash forward: \$112,894.70

Cash received: \$0.14

Total cash for month: \$112,894.84

Total Disbursements: \$8,839.60

Cash on hand: \$104,055.24

Accounts payable: \$4,500

Accounts receivable: \$18,000.00

Net current assets: \$117,555.24

Bridport is on a new fiscal year schedule, with their fiscal year starting in July, so we will not get the Bridport contribution until July.

The Treasurer's report is approved.

**4. Field Coordinator report:**

The Lemon Fair River flooded its banks four times this month. The Cornwall Swamp remains high and has come close to flooding Swamp Rd. There has been little evidence of much or any larval activity in the lower valley. Some of this may be attributed to cold water temps and an abundance of waterfowl migrating through the area and some now nesting locally that feed on larvae and other aquatic invertebrates.

Access to mosquito breeding sites has become an issue, due to new property owners, posted properties, etc. Craig and Judd are identifying property owners and requesting written permission to survey and treat larvae respectively. Craig asked for help in obtaining the names of property owners so he can ask them to sign a permission form in order to access their land. Gary will talk to the planning commission to see if their maps are helpful in identifying property owners. In the meantime, we can use the Vermont Parcel Viewer:

<https://maps.vcgi.vermont.gov/ParcelViewer/>

The LFICD has purchased a Maruyama MD300 backpack sprayer for the distribution of *Bti* granules. The backpack sprayer will afford us to "stamp out" larger areas of larval activity that would otherwise be too difficult and impractical to treat by hand. Craig spent a day with Dragon Mosquito Control (<https://www.dragonmosquito.com/>), in Brentwood, NH on Monday, May 2 for a training and orientation to the use of the MD300. He reported that the training was very useful in learning about application and also in repair of equipment when needed. Presently

the sprayer is stored in the trailer as it cannot be at the church property because it has fuel in it. The board discussed other options of having a metal cabinet for storage or being stored at Judd's with his equipment.

**5. Board member field work compensation:**

Judd will be mowing paths and hauling larvicide, etc. with his tractor or truck. Compensation at \$50/hour with equipment at 20 hours or less. Judd would bill the LFICD from his business, Robowski LLC.

The board discussed the options for compensation and voted to:

-Compensate Robowski, LLC for the use of equipment for mowing and moving larvicide at \$50/hr.

- The board also voted to compensate Judd when he assists Craig with field work at \$25/hr. for up to twelve hours. If more time is needed the board will revisit the agreement.

**6. Intern program:**

**GIS-LiDar Mapping:** Candidate Yide Xu, Alex, from Middlebury College has accepted this unique internship opportunity and will serve primarily under the direction of Middlebury GIS Specialist/Teaching Fellow Bill Hegman. This internship will be considered Phase II of the continued detailed mapping and drainage patterns of the Lemon Fair River.

**Field Biology Technician:** We have received 18 applicants between Middlebury College and UVM. There are a number of strong candidates and Craig will be interviewing candidates Tuesday, May 3 through Tuesday, May 10. Proposed start date is June 1.

The board discussed the possibility of hiring two technicians. It was voted to hire two interns with salaries and other payroll costs not to exceed \$6500 per intern.

**7. Treatment scope (private property, tire bunkers, etc.):**

The question of the treatment scope for private property was discussed. It was noted that some community members ask if the LFICD can treat their property. Presently Craig advises property owners on how they can treat or make changes to their property that could cut down on mosquito breeding. Treatment by the LFICD is done only in "common areas" and the board clarified that point. It was also suggested that the board continue to clarify the role of the district and continue education of property owners.

**8. Public outreach:**

Our website hosting provider was sold to a larger company and our website migrated to new servers, which caused some issues. Alissa spent some time getting our SSL reintegrated into the site, as well as getting updates to publish correctly. Our old 3G service ended, so our hotline number was ported to an inexpensive 5g plan.

Alissa reported that there have not been any calls on the complaint line.

**9. New board member:** Wendy reported follow-up on a possible candidate for the board

**10. New business:**

The board voted to extend the Weybridge office lease for three years.

**11. Next meeting:** Zoom meeting, June 7, 2022, 5:30 p.m.