

Lemon Fair Insect Control District
Tuesday, Nov 1, 2016
Bridport, VT

Minutes

1. Call to order: 5:10

Present: David Dodge, Lew Castle, Chris Chapline, Meg Madden, Dinah Bain, Gary Rodes, Craig Zondag

2. Approve October minutes:

The revised October minutes are approved.

3. Treasurer's report:

Cash forward: \$51,802.68

Cash received: \$9,193.32

Disbursements: \$5,441.74

Cash on hand: \$55,554.26

Accounts payable: \$2,250.00

Accounts receivable: \$0

Net current assets: \$53,304.26

The Treasurer's report is approved.

4. Weybridge and Cornwall board member update:

No responses to the ads in the Cornwall newsletter or Front Porch Forum. Several names were suggested; Craig or David will make calls.

5. Field Coordinator's report:

Patti Casey (VAA) came to the LFICD lab today to help with larval identification training. There are no guides for identifying mosquito larva species before the 4th instar, so whether or not to apply larvicide against instars 1-3 based on their species (to selectively treat only when there are aggressive species that prefer humans) is not possible at this time. If the VAA wants to use larval identification to indicate treatment, the treatment protocols will have to be loosened to treat 4th instar (which means up to 20 lbs product/acre). If the State doesn't want us to treat higher instars, there would be no point in identifying larva as an IPM chore.

6. Winter larval identification training:

The State would like the field techs to learn mosquito larval identification (see above). Dinah moved that before we get too involved, we ask the VAA how the LFICD and/or State will pay for the tech labor. The motion is approved. Tim Schmalz will be at our Dec. meeting and we will bring this issue up with him.

7. GIS Update

Gary Rodes has been researching GIS programs, and their application, so that we can better assess their usefulness to the District. One example is to explore mapping as a

tool for discovering potential mosquito habitats in the district. Gary met with Kevin Behm (from Addison Regional Planning Commission) to learn more about using GIS mapping and what resources are available to us.

The State primarily uses four mapping data file formats: Shapefiles (an ArcGIS format), Geodatabase, GeoJSON and Google Earth

Recommended software to manage the data include:

1. ArcGIS – however, the commercial license is very expensive (>\$1,500), but there is a personal license as well (\$100/yr/computer) which we may be able to use.
2. QGIS, which is free (open source).

Both programs have large learning curves.

We would like to use LIDAR data sets to increase the resolution of the topographical maps in our district. LIDAR point cloud data is used to generate contour and elevation models. GIS programs use those models, linked with databases, to create “live” maps. Queries can be made of those maps. The State already has processed the LIDAR data into contour and elevation models for the parts of Addison County in the Lemon Fair District.

Resources at our disposal include:

1. VCGI (Vermont Center for Geographic Information)
2. Addison County Regional Planning Commission (Kevin Behm).
3. Vermont Agency of Natural Resources created the Natural Resources Atlas. The Atlas is an online (albeit streamlined) GIS program with many pre-made maps and additional layers. Functionality includes the ability to upload datasets.
4. Fulcrum: a software app that allows field entry of data that can be integrated into your maps (\$18/month/account)
5. Alan Graham (VAA entomologist)

What would we do with the mapping? Will we want to generate our own maps? Craig has an idea of mosquito habitat areas where he is interested in investigating the topography, such as Bordeleau's property in Bridport, which has small depressions/pools and lots of mosquitoes—this could be used as a test site to incorporate larval dipping data and adult trapping data. If he can identify features that are mosquito breeding grounds in areas that he already monitors, he can look for similar features all over the district and then push for prophylactic treatment using the 45-day briquettes in these areas.

We need to find out if the resources (maps) we need already exist, or if we need to create our own maps, and think through how we can use the data. One of the potential benefits of mapping is to correlate where the adults are and where they potentially started as larva so that we can know where to monitor for larva and make the argument to treat these areas when larva are seen, instead of when larva counts get to the VAA treatment minimum.

8. 2017 budget presentation

At present, with reimbursements from the State and the towns, our budget is break even unless we have to treat < 700 acres and pay for some of the acreage ourselves. Lew made a motion to adopt the budget. The motion passed unanimously by the 5 board members present.

(See the attached budget)

David will send the adopted budget out to the 3 Select Boards. The budget is subject to change, depending on the VAA's decision on whether it wants to pay for larval identification training.

9. Meeting location for Dec. and 2017 Cornwall meetings will be at the Cornwall Firehouse until the Town Hall reopens.

10. Website update nothing new

11. New business:

The microscopes will need occasional servicing; the State uses Jason Plouffe, who came for a microscope issue yesterday.

12. Adjourn: 6:50

Next meeting: Dec. 6, 2016, Cornwall Fire Hall (rt. 30 and Sperry Rd.), 5:00.