

**Lemon Fair Insect Control District
Bridport, VT
Sept 1, 2015**

Minutes:

1. Call to order: 5:03

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

2. Approve August minutes:

The August minutes are approved.

3. Treasurer's report:

Cash Forward: \$57,405.25

Cash received: \$257.75

Total cash for month: \$57,663.00

Disbursements: \$7,906.70

Cash on hand: \$49,756.30

Accounts payable: \$0

Accounts receivable: \$12,430.76

Net current assets: \$62,187.06

David Dodge spoke to the State revenue department on the question of whether LFICD needs to pay sales tax on purchases. The answer (after sending the LFICD formation agreement documents) is that the LFICD does qualify as a government agency for sales tax purposes. We should not have to pay sales tax on the CO2 gas canisters or microscope purchase.

The Treasurer's report is approved.

Dinah asks that any Sept. payroll requests (hours and mileage) should be made before Sept 30 so that they can be paid during this quarter.

4. Field survey and IPM update:

Craig will continue adult trapping through Sept or until the gas canisters run out. This will help us to know which species are still around late in the season.

According to VAA adult trapping, 5 pools in Vergennes are now positive for WNV. Craig would like to know where in the LFICD the VAA is setting traps for WNV and EEE testing; we don't have that information.

Alan Graham (VAA) wants the LFICD adult trap data to be taken at the same spots through the season to monitor the mosquito population at a particular spot. The permanent traps (2 per town) will be placed in areas that have both mosquitoes and people. Based on this year's trap data, Craig will decide where to place next season's permanent traps. We will also have 2 extra traps to move around to areas that have mosquito complaints. We hope to correlate the adult mosquito population with larval data from nearby dipping sites and to use the data to convince the State that thresholds need to be lowered. When we start to see larva in early spring we need to treat to stay ahead of the hatches that then lead to successive hatches. For

instance, concentrated numbers of pupae were observed on a 4-acre parcel this year that led to a large number of trapped adult mosquitoes a few days later, but we missed the larval stage since it is not possible to monitor everywhere. In addition, the monitored areas were never at threshold levels.

Craig and Meg have spent August trapping, counting and identifying adult mosquitoes.

5. September dipping and adult trapping:

Trapping and dipping will continue as needed in September. Craig's 2015 contract ended at the end of August; Craig and Meg will be paid for IPM work by the hour. Trapping will continue through Sept. or until the CO2 is gone.

6. Lease lab space and purchase microscope:

Craig and Meg need a place to set up lab bench space and store specimens during the season. The Weybridge Congregational Church has a heated office that is detached from the church for lease @ \$200/month + utilities. The church is willing to rent the space month-to-month, Craig is thinking March to Oct. Craig would like to rent it Sept. and Oct of this year. The Board agreed that the space can be rented immediately for September and October.

A motion was made to authorize the purchase of a freezer for specimen storage as long as the freezer price is under \$250.

The motion was passed unanimously. Craig may spend up to \$250 for the purchase of a freezer if he cannot find a donated freezer.

Purchase of microscope:

Vermont Optechs (a microscope dealer in Charlotte) gave Craig a quotation for an Olympus stereomicroscope (lists for over \$2400) for \$1560. Craig would like a trinocular scope (which has a port to attach a camera) in order to aid in the identification and documentation of mosquitoes.

A motion was made to authorize up to \$2000 for a microscope as long as the State agrees to pay 75% (so that the net cost to the LFICD is no more than \$500). Craig should work with Tim Schmaltz on the technical side of choosing the scope to be purchased and also to ensure that the State will authorize the payment of 75% of the cost from our grant money.

The motion passed unanimously.

7. Vermont Agency of Agriculture update including 2016 Grant Agreement:

There has been nothing new regarding next year's grant agreement.

8. Public Outreach Program update including press protocol:

Alissa reposted the complaint line poster in the towns, but only 2 calls to the complaint line were received in August and there were no hits on the survey monkey website.

We need a protocol to respond to reporter's requests (one was received over the phone hotline). If requests from reporters are received, David Dodge will handle.

9. Tom Vanacore:

Tom Vanacore had requested to be placed on the agenda to address his questions about the LFICD legislative agenda, but he did not attend.

Next month's agenda needs to include a proposal for amending the LFICD formation agreement so that Weybridge can join the LFICD. The proposed amendment/s will need to be included in the Town Meeting agendas. Chris and Dinah will work on a proposal. We need to outline what needs to be changed in the agreement and then send our proposal to the Select Boards (Cornwall, Bridport and Weybridge) for their feedback before ultimately putting it on the town meeting agendas. Changes: add Weybridge to the agreement; keep the same number of board members from each town? At the same time, we need to propose an amendment to the agreement to change the scheduling of LFICD audits.

10. Adjourn: 7:40

Next meeting: October 6, 2015, Cornwall Town Hall 5:00