

BLSG Board Meeting  
18 March 2021  
Draft Minutes

Board Members Present: Jeff Schumann, Mike Blaisdell, Paul Vaczy, Chad Beckwith, Doug Perkins, Wayne Rausenberger, Brad Lawes, Richard Russ, Jeff Whiting, Ben Lawton

BLSG Related: Will Mathis, Bruce Baccei, Thomas Hogan, Jay Michael

Public: Chris Fastie, Keith Whitcomb

Preliminaries:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. The meeting was conducted over Zoom, with some members in attendance at the BLSG office and Mike Blaisdell at the Stephen Douglas House in Brandon.

After introductions of the participants, Mike Blaisdell inquired about Covid-precautions in BLSG activities. No BLSG activities as yet require the crew.

There was no public comment.

The minutes of February 18<sup>th</sup>, with corrections proposed by Steve Belcher, were accepted as amended, on a motion by Mike Blaisdell seconded by Richard Russ.

State Business

Will Mathis and Patti Casey are working on the larviciding permit; the outstanding issue is communication with the air groups, but a resolution seems close.

Town Meetings

Pittsford, Brandon, Leicester, and Goshen reported no issues.

Salisbury reported that the town had voted not to fund the BLSG in the coming fiscal year. This action led to a discussion of consequences. Mosquito control activity in Salisbury is funded to June 30, 2021. Wayne Rausenberger raised a question about the clarity of the article voted by Salisbury; Paul Vaczy noted that there was no intention of joining the Lemon Fair ICD.

Wayne Rausenberger suggested that the Salisbury Select Board should send the BLSG a letter defining their expectations. Mike Blaisdell noted that residents should be informed of consequences. BLSG By-laws and related documents do not address this situation.

Brad Lawes noted that residents in Salisbury seem to believe that their vote terminates the connection, despite the ongoing BLSG engagement to June 30, and there have been no no-spray requests. After some discussion, Mike Blaisdell noted that Salisbury residents should fill out no-spray forms, and that this requirement should be publicized. The question of notification requirements (letter and map) arose, and whether continuing so-spray residents really did need to submit a map; Will Mathis noted that such residents had their information on file and only needed to push the 'print button' with their request.

The question of Salisbury's membership came up. Per the by-laws, services will be suspended as of July 1 (start of the new fiscal year); does this mean they lose membership?

A motion to postpone considering the question until the June meeting failed, on a tie vote. A second motion, to postpone considering the question until the May meeting, offered by Brad Lawes and seconded by Doug Perkins was approved.

## Treasurer's Report

Brad Lawes had sent, by email, a Treasurer's Report and current budget.

Funds on hand are:

General Checking	\$149,253.72
Equipment/Capital	\$ 18,128.93
Legal	\$ 10,000.00
Debit Card	\$ 324.61
Total Funds Available:	\$177,707.28

He acknowledged a donation of \$50 from Linda Berry of Brandon.

It was established that the Legal fund does not represent expenses, but the allocation of funds to an account for future legal expenses.

Mike Blaisdell raised the question of the tracking service for the trucks; it will not be activated until the trucks are in operation.

On a motion by Doug Perkins, seconded by Jeff Whiting, the Treasurer's Report was approved.

## Operations Report

The shop will be opening soon. Work on the building will start in a month or so, beginning with the insulation. Heat pumps are out. The report was approved.

PR (covered later in the meeting)

Jay Michaels noted that much of the work had been done. Mike Blaisdell thanked Brad and Will for their efforts.

## New Business

Mike Blaisdell then called for a special meeting on April 1 at 7:00 pm to discuss the position of District Coordinator; the meeting would be held preferably in person, but also accessible by Zoom.

He also suggested a name change for the BLSG, dropping the town names and substituting a general rubric. This would require a change to the By-Laws. This is an issue that had been raised before (after Pittsford joined), and had been put before Jim Foley. Given the potential legal costs, it was agreed that the BLSG should form a sub-committee to review the By-Laws, including a representative from each Town, before approaching legal counsel. Here follows Doug Perkins' motion, seconded by Mike Blaisdell and then approved:

That a temporary committee be formed for the purpose of proposing amendments to the BLSG By-Laws;

That the committee be composed of one BLSG Board of Trustees member or alternate member from Brandon, Leicester, Salisbury, Goshen, and Pittsford, to be selected by each Town's representatives to the BLSG;

That the Pittsford representative be the temporary committee Chair and call the first meeting, at which the committee will elect their own Chair; and

That the committee report their proposed By-Laws amendments at the BLSG regular meeting in April.

Mike Blaisdell also reported that with donations of lumber, he had been able to construct 8 bat-houses that would be distributed to residents of Pittsford who opted out of the spraying program.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

As noted, there will be a special meeting on April 1 at 7:00 pm. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the BLSG should be on April 15 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Stephen Belcher