

Otter Creek Watershed Insect Control District
Meeting of August 18, 2022
Approved Minutes

Members: Doug Perkins, Jeff Schumann, Jeff Whiting, Richard Russ, Steve Belcher, Brad Lawes, Brenda Fox-Howard, Paul Vaczy, Ben Lawton, Chad Beckwith (on Zoom).

Guests: Will Mathis (OCW), Bruce Baccei and Tom Hogan (both from Proctor), Wayne Rausenberger.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. The Chair noted a quorum, in which not all towns were fully represented.

In the Public Comment, Wayne Rausenberger put some questions and offered suggestions. His questions involved the State grant for larviciding, that were largely answered by information in the Chair's report (see below). He recalled past history, when the Lemonfair ICD had its own plane, and the larviciding materials were stored at the airport in Middlebury, and suggested physical separation of the two operations, larviciding and adulticiding. He also suggested a registry for special users that would charge a fee for spraying-on-request and also for setting up the no-spray markers; he noted that the District has spent \$6,000 putting up the no-spray posts.

The Minutes of the July 21 meeting were approved without changes.

The Treasurer's report had been sent out by email. These are the figures reported:

General Checking (5020)	65,298.87
Equipment Replacement & Capital Improvement (7510)	14,348.36
Legal Account (7660)	2,572.76
Debit Card (1303)	1,271.21
Total funds available	83,491.20
2021/2022 Grant Available Balance	6,396.45
Invoice 2021/5R	2,646.78
Invoice 2021/6	4,890.00
Invoice 2021/7	3,840.50
Invoice 2021/8	2,921.27
Invoice 2021/9	3,702.01
Invoice 2021/10	4,891.25
Total unpaid	22,891.81
Balance carried over to 2022/2023 Grant	16,495.36
Balance of 2022/2023 Grant	53,504.64

Doug Perkins noted that funds are running low and were briefly in the red until the Treasurer deposited two checks just received. He also noted that the Capital Improvement Fund is low,

especially as the District may need to replace a truck.
The Treasurer's Report was approved.

Chair's Report

The Chair reported on contacts with the Pittsford, Goshen, and Brandon Select Boards to fill vacancies; he noted that alternates are considered full participants save in the matter of voting (they vote only in the absence of a regular member), and that as the Board faces decisions in the matter of financing, greater representation is desirable: matters should be discussed by 15 town representatives rather than only 6.

On the Pesticide Permit, he noted that the State (having received the draft document in May) had just requested additional information on the maps. The Addison County Planning Commission has the skills to correct the map and has expressed willingness to help. The old permit remains in effect until a final determination.

In Montpelier, Cary Giguere, our long-time contact, has moved to another job. The Larviciding grant is caught in a backlog in the Business office (Federal and ARPA projects). Patti Casey has approved the invoices, and they will be paid. Excesses from the last grant will be paid from the new grant; the District will start with \$62,098 available. Changes to the law do not allow adulticiding expenses to be included in the 25% match, and so there will have to be changes in the accounting.

On the audit, the Chair is engaged with Telling and Hillman to settle details.

The Chair's report was approved.

Unfinished Business

Well/Waste-water at the Shed

There is no news, although Brandon has staked out the placement of future piping that may supply water to the Shed.

Art Doty Memorial

Richard Russ's motion for a brass plaque on wood, to be placed inside the Shed, was approved. Richard has been tasked with putting together the text, with the comments that Ben Lawton's text was good and that following the funeral of Art Doty much additional information had been offered.

Letter to the Secretary of Agriculture

The letter is a request to increase the funding for larviciding operations, and had been distributed by email before the meeting. Some editing corrections were offered and approved. The letter was approved. It will also be sent to a number of State and local officials.

New Business

LDFLA picnic on August 28

The question was put: should the OCW be present? Would it be worth the cost and time, given the extra efforts the employees are putting out? When consulted, Will Mathis opined that the District should save the money and spare the time of the employees. It was noted that Board members would be present at the event. A motion to pass on participation in the event passed.

The Apportionment Algorithm

Jeff Whiting explained the development of the algorithm, under the guidance of Brad Ramsey. The algorithm relied on several factors, using census data:

Number of households
mileage of roads, including private roads but excluding roads in the Green Mountain National Forest or in Town forests

The algorithm was revisited when Pittsford was preparing to join the District, and a number of questions arose. The algorithm only considered aduaticiding costs (the original purpose of the District). The acreage of wetlands was given a 0% weighting.

The Board voted to take no action at this time.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

The next regularly scheduled meeting should be on Sept. 15, at 7:00 pm, in the Brandon Senior Citizens Center at 1591 Forestdale Rd.

Respectfully submitted,

stephen belcher