

PROCEEDINGS FOR THE REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING  
NORTH SHORE MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

At the convened monthly meeting for the North Shore Mosquito Abatement District Board of Trustees held at the district office, 117 Northfield Road, Northfield, Illinois, Saturday, April 5, 2008. President Zimmer called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Trustee William Zimmer .....Present  
Trustee Carol Blustein.....Present  
Trustee Nelson Howard.....Present  
Trustee Otto Cesario.....Present  
Trustee John Zbesko.....Absent

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Superintendent Robert Berry  
Office Manager Jennifer Zimmer

**I. MINUTES**

Minutes of the regular board meeting March 8, 2008, were approved with minor corrections. Motion made by Trustee Blustein and seconded by Trustee Howard. All ayes.

**II. REPORT FROM BOARD OFFICERS**

1. President: Trustee Zimmer reminded board members to mail in their Cook County Statement of Economic Interests to the Cook County Clerk before the May 1, 2008, deadline date.
2. Vice President: No report
3. Assistant Treasurer: Trustee Cesario read financials as well as March bills and payrolls. Total receipts were \$440,988.70 total disbursements were \$63,993.08 and total assets were \$1,297,151.26. Motion to approve financials made by Trustee Zimmer and seconded by Trustee Blustein. All ayes.
4. Secretary: No report

**III. REPORT FROM LEGALCOUNSEL:** No report -- Mr. Rosen was absent.

#### **IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

##### **Action Items**

Superintendent Berry asked for authorization to advertise the sale of a surplus truck. It is a 1993 Chevrolet half-ton pickup. He said he will use Carmax listings as a price guideline. Trustee Blustein move to authorize the truck sale. President Zimmer seconded. All ayes.

##### **Informational Items**

NSMAD Accepted delivery of new GMC Canyon truck. The district also accepted delivery of a Clark Cougar mister with automatic controls. Superintendent Berry approved the substitution of a demonstration model (used only twice) from Clark that included a \$700.00 discount compared to a new machine's price.

Superintendent Berry reported that applications for new summer workers are being received. At present, there are 6 experienced workers returning and 6 new applicants. The plan is to have 18 summer workers on staff for mosquito season. Larviciding is scheduled to begin April 15. Because of the wet and snowy winter, Mr. Berry anticipates extra efforts will be needed in the district's Forest Preserves, requiring a team of four assigned to those areas all summer. Trustee Cesario remarked that the NWMAD has had success insuring that summer employees commit to a full summer season by offering a 25 cents per hour payment to employees who sign an agreement to stay until a specified "end date." The board agreed that this was an idea worth considering but no formal motion was made. Trustee Cesario also suggested that the long-standing \$10 per hour starting pay rate should be raised. Trustee Cesario made a motion that existing summer pay scale be increased by \$1.00. Trustee Blustein seconded the motion. Three ayes, President Zimmer abstained. All ayes. Motion carried.

Superintendent Berry reported that a GIS (Geographic Information System) person from the Glenview village government, who is also associated with not-for-profit consortium of suburban communities, wants to work with the NSMAD on a project to track and map mosquito activity in the area.

#### **V. LAB REPORT**

First samples of Culex Restuans mosquito larvae were collected March 19, 2008 in the Bunker Hill Woods Forest Preserve in Niles. The mosquito season has officially begun (the result of more hours of sunlight).

Trapping will begin before the end of April. Because some trap environments change each year due to events such as cleared brush. Lab Director Henry will be looking at new areas to relocate some of the traps.

NSMAD has still not received any applications or inquiries regarding the district's ecologist job opening.

David Zazra, Marlon Henry, and Amy Runde are investigating available GPS options for the district's trucks. Their findings will be reported at the next board meeting.

**VI. OLD BUSINESS:**

Trustee Blustein encouraged the Board to continue exploring a medical benefits plan for present and future NSMAD retirees that is both fiscally prudent and equitable. She suggested the board consider an incremental "retraction" over the next two or three years from the 100% medical premium benefits now being received by the two present NSMAD retirees. President Zimmer said that Morton Grove has pulled back its payment of retiree's medical premiums from 100% to 50%. Trustee Blustein said she believed that some government entities continue to pay 100%. The board will continue to gather information on this issue. President Zimmer suggested that if adjustments are made to the premium coverage of active employees, a scale of real dollar figures rather than a standard percentages of a premiums should be used to avoid undue hardship for employees with the lowest salaries. Trustee Cesario suggested the Board investigate what benefits are provided to Cook County government employees and use that as a guide. Trustee Cesario then suggested the board table further discussion until all board members are present. Trustee moved the subject be taken off the table, President Zimmer seconded, all ayes.

The subject of selecting the district's auditing firm, taken off the table at the March meeting in deference to President Zimmer's absence, was opened to further discussion. Trustee Blustein moved that the board accept the proposal from McClure Inserra & Co. (a one-year contract for \$6,500.00 plus any "unexpected expenses"). President Zimmer seconded the motion. All ayes.

Trustee Cesario reported that although it is still months away, the need to reserve the best site for the employee Christmas party shouldn't be delayed too long. He said that the restaurants he had contacted represented a range of fees and requests for guaranteed numbers. He asked the board for suggestions and will report more at the next meeting.

**VII. NEW BUSINESS: None**

Trustees Howard moved to adjourn the meeting and President Zimmer seconded. All ayes. The meeting was adjourned at 9:48 a.m.

ATTESTED  
President, William Zimmer

SUBMITTED  
Secretary, Nelson Howard