

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 10, 2010. President Zimmer called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Trustee Nelson HowardPresent
Trustee Otto CesarioPresent
Trustee Carol BlusteinAbsent
Trustee John ZbeskoPresent
Trustee William Zimmer.....Present

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Superintendent Robert Berry
Attorney Norman Rosen
Office Manager Jennifer Zimmer

I. MINUTES

Minutes of the regular board meeting March 6, 2010, were approved with minor corrections. Motion made by Trustee Zimmer and seconded by Trustee Zbesko. All ayes.

II. REPORT FROM BOARD OFFICERS

1. President: None
2. Vice President:
3. Treasurer: Trustee Zbesko read financials as well as April bills and payrolls. Total receipts were \$620,585, total disbursements were \$69,866 and total reserves were \$2,098,097 (all amounts rounded to the nearest dollar). Motion to approve financials made by Trustee Zimmer and seconded by Trustee Howard. All ayes.
4. Secretary: None
5. Asst. Treasurer: Trustee Cesario reported he had learned that tax receipts are expected to be two to two-and-a-half months late this year. Trustee Zbesko commented that this underscores the importance of maintaining a surplus.

III. REPORT FROM LEGALCOUNSEL

None

IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Action Items -- None

Informational Items --

- The Lincolnwood bike path project that will eventually simplify the district's abatement work under the ComEd power lines will not begin until next year, not this year.
- The district's auditor wants to come to the district office with a report in June instead of May. Calculations of potential costs for unused sick days or medical insurance for employees leaving district employment still need to be made by an actuary. Next year, this will not be an issue because of the board's decision in March to officially codify the policy that employees leaving district employment will not receive such compensation.
- The district already has 19 summer employees committed to return this summer. Two are retirees who will begin work immediately. The district will begin setting out traps the w/o April 12. Five summer workers will start work April 19.
- The AMCA held their national conference last week in Lexington, KY. Superintendent Berry reported that Communications Director David Zazra was especially impressed with a session on an education "museum" set up in Lexington for kids that was very successful. Many youths attended all day. Last summer Mr. Zazra held a day camp in Winnetka that educated kids on how to guard against the dangers of West Nile Virus and other insect borne ailments. He plans to hold a camp again this summer.
- An AMCA presentation reported that pesticide resistance is becoming an issue. Some evidence is appearing that some breeds of mosquitoes are getting resistant to the most commonly used pesticides.
- The district will be part of a pilot program for a new lavacide, Natular, developed by Clark. It is an organic product. The district will be combining the project with the operation of the district's new GPS.
- The EPA, under court order, is developing a new position on pollutants and our waterways. A draft of the new law will be available in May followed by a 6 month period for comments. After that, it is expected that the district will need to get a permit each season for the use of adulticides and another for larvaciding. The district is already following all "best practices" as they now exist.

- Under the new regulations, the district's abatement activities will fall under the Clean Water Act. Fines are presently \$7000 per incident. Under the CWA, they will be \$37,500 per day. Presently citizens can't sue the district. Under the Clean Water Act the district can be sued. However, it is likely that the obligation would be passed on to the EPA.

Trustee Zimmer asked if the district will be able to get insurance coverage against such a liability. The board was told that insurance companies won't be able to offer such coverage until they see the law as it is finally written.

Superintendent Berry said that with several thousand labels involved in so many uses, creating the language of the new regulations will be difficult. An appellate court in Ohio has decided not to make any decision on an appeal concerning this issue until the proposed law is written. In the past, the EPA ruled that mosquito control does not fall under the Clean Water Act. The Supreme Court has refused to hear a case involving this controversy, perhaps hoping that other Appeals Courts will make the necessary judgments. Mr. Berry said that the May 1 draft of the regulations preceding the 6-month comments period will tell us more. Then, we will not have any more definitive information until December. He said that the state of Washington is preemptively moving ahead, posting signs referring to the CWA. Superintendent Berry said that a concern of our district and others is that public parks and golf courses will also be affected by the proposed regulations and may decide that to avoid liability they will let districts pick up the mosquito control responsibilities.

Superintendent Berry also reported that he received an email from an entomologist in California inquiring about a possible position with the district. The inquirer has a Masters Degree in entomology and a Ph.D. in public health. He was told that the district doesn't have a permanent position available but does hire consultants. Trustee Zimmer asked about "sharing" the entomologist with the Northwest District and the Des Plaines district. He was told that they already have their own entomologists. Mr. Berry said the California inquirer is interested in resettling in the Chicago area and that if we offer to pay him \$30 per hour as consultant, he might agree to filling that role part-time through the summer. The board agreed the idea should be pursued.

As a subject for future concern, Superintendent Berry said that when malaria became a problem in Chicago in the early 1900's, people were discovered to be the vector. Today there is the same concern with diseases like dengue fever and the many people from all parts of the world passing through or settling in Chicago. He said that there are now 12 different species of mosquitoes that have been identified in our area. Some may be actual or potential carriers of other diseases.

V. LAB REPORT

- The district will be setting out traps next week. Office Manager Zimmer said she is already getting calls about standing water, people wanting treatment as a preemptive action. Others are calling about midges, thinking that they are mosquitoes.

VI. OLD BUSINESS: None

VII. NEW BUSINESS: None

Trustees Zbesko moved to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

ATTESTED
President, William Zimmer

SUBMITTED
Secretary, Nelson Howard