

AGENDA 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, August 4, 2007. President Howard called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

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

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Superintendent Robert Berry  
Attorney Norman Rosen  
Office Manager Jennifer Zimmer

**I. MINUTES**

Minutes of the regular board meeting of July 2, 2007, were approved with minor corrections. Motion made by Trustee Zbesko and seconded by Trustee Howard. All ayes.

**II. REPORT FROM BOARD OFFICERS**

1. President: No report
2. Treasurer: Trustee Zbesko read financial as well as April bills and payrolls. Total receipts were \$17,118.13, total disbursements were \$140,727.95, and total assets were \$651,315.37. Motion to approve financials made by Trustee Howard and seconded by Trustee Blustein. All ayes.
3. Secretary: Trustee Blustein will not be present at the September meeting.

**III. REPORT FROM LEGALCOUNSEL: No report**

**IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

## **Media**

### Pioneer Press Article

There was an informative, favorable article in the Pioneer Press following the North Shore Senior Center Conference on West Nile Virus. For background information, Pioneer Press spoke with Dave Zazra, Communications Manager, and interviewed personnel from the Illinois Natural History Survey. Both the conference and article featured a West Nile Virus survivor. The survivor put a face on the disease. The Fox network filmed the whole conference to keep in its archives.

### Glenview Watch Article

Ms. Sandra Hausman, writer of The Glenview Watch, on on-line blog, contacted Superintendent Berry. She stated purpose in calling was to be placed on the no-spray list. During the conversation, she asked Superintendent Berry a series of questions about the chemicals involved in adulticiding. At no time did she identify herself as the writer of the Glenview Watch, or inquire if she could quote Superintendent Berry.

On July 23, 2007, an article “West Nile Back in Glenview,” appeared in the Glenview Watch. In the article, Ms. Hausman misquoted Superintendent Berry. Because he was misquoted, as well as the lack of honesty regarding the purpose of her call, he wrote a letter to Ms. Hausman.

Superintendent Berry stated it is common courtesy to state the purpose of a call and disclose the intent to publish comments. On August 1, 2007, Ms. Hausman wrote another article, “The Top Man at Mosquito Abatement Sends a Stinging Rebuke.” In her August 1, 2007, article against mosquito adulticiding, Ms. Hausman used a source from 1989 when there was no West Nile Virus in this country.

### Comcast Interview

David Zazra, Communications Manager, was invited to do an interview for Comcast.

### Parade Award

MSMAD took third place in Motor Vehicle Division at the Evanston parade. The district received an inscribed plaque.

**Action Items:** None

**Informational Items**

## Adulticiding

Adulticiding was conducted in Glenview on July 23, Skokie on July 24-25, Glencoe on August 1, and Winnetka on August 2, 2007. In Glencoe, there were positives in the trap and the count spiked from 140 to 540 with the advent of the hot weather. MSMAD went into the Perkins Woods area and distributed door hangers. Evanston's count numbers were also on the up tick last week. Because the numbers are up, as well as the infection rate, Evanston will be sprayed next week as well as the southern half of Skokie especially at Emily Oaks Nature Center.

Northbrook forest preserve cleaned the underbrush, so traps have been empty. NSMAD moved the traps to another location.

## Liability Insurance

The deadline for renewal of the liability insurance is November 1, 2007. An inventory update has been initiated for this purpose. Superintendent Berry informed the agent(s) he needs all quotes by October 1, 2007, so the board can act on the renewal at the October 6, 2007, board meeting. This is to ensure there is no lapse in coverage.

## Glencoe Public Safety Fair

On July 28, 2007, NSMAD participated in the Glencoe Public Safety Fair. At the booth, literature and leftover repellants (from the Senior Center Conference) were handed out. The event was an excellent vehicle to inform the public about prevention of West Nile Virus.

## **V. LAB REPORT**

There were 672 vectests performed and thirteen pools were positive. The Illinois Natural History Survey reports an additional 21 with RT-PCR testing. The 34 positive pools were in Evanston (2 traps), Glenview (5), Skokie (5), Wilmette (3), Glencoe (2), Niles (2), Lincolnwood (2), Northfield (3), and Winnetka (2).

Trap surveillance indicates trap numbers decreased in the first two weeks of July but rose during the week of July 30, 2007.

There were 186 positive pools the first week in August 2006 and 39 positive pools the first week in August 2007. Heat drives number of Culex mosquitoes. With the increase in numbers, combined with the dry weather, the catch basins are most likely the breeding site, especially in Skokie and Evanston.

One difficulty with West Nile prevention is hot, dry conditions drive down the number of nuisance mosquitoes. When these numbers go down, people are not as vigilant about protection, and human cases go up. Another factor in increased human cases may be doctors' greater awareness of the symptoms of the virus leading to more accurate diagnosis.

## **VI. OLD BUSINESS**

### Ecologist

The ecologist position remains open.

### Window Replacement

The windows are not yet completed. The black, upper windows arrived streaked. Superintendent Berry would not accept the streaked, upper windows, so they were reordered. However, there is a notable temperature improvement throughout the building, especially in the lab, and the air conditioning does not run as often. The company will provide waivers of lien upon completion of the project.

### Gas Pump

The new gas pump was installed. With the new pump, the district has an accurate measure of the amount of gas remaining in the 1000 gallon tank. This is advantageous because ordering in greater quality lowers the price. The last order of 700 gallons was at \$2.99 per gallon.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

### Future capital Improvements

There are future capital improvement needs. First, the outside doors will need to be addressed as they are sitting on new frames. They may need to be rehung and weather stripped. Second, the lock system is old and needs to be upgraded. Third, only two of the three, large garage doors have automatic openers. A third door opener will cost about \$1500.00. Superintendent Berry feels the opener is important because of the risk of injury opening a heavy garage door.

### Insecticide Use

Insecticide is over budget and will be in the next financial report. Using the 150-day pellets is more expensive but saves on labor and travel expenses.

### Summer Workers

Many of summer workers are leaving in the early weeks of August.

Trustees Zbesko motioned to adjourn the meeting and Trustee Blustein seconded. All ayes. The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

ATTESTED  
President, Nelson Howard

SUBMITTED  
Secretary, Carol Blustein