

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, August 1, 2009, President Zimmer called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL

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

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Attorney Norman Rosen
Superintendent Robert Berry
Office Manager Jennifer Zimmer

I. MINUTES

Minutes of the regular board meeting July 11, 2009, were approved as written. Motion made to approve by Trustee Zbesko and seconded by Trustee Zimmer. All ayes.

II. REPORT FROM BOARD OFFICERS

1. President: None
2. Vice President: Trustee Blustein brought the board's attention to a "Skeeter Beater" flyer that was placed in her mailbox. It advertised a mosquito repellent for home use that contains no Deet. Superintendent Berry said these repellants are legal and contain lavender, citronella, etc. He will follow up to learn more about their efficacy.
3. Treasurer: Trustee Zbesko read the end-of-June financial summary as well as summaries of June bills and payroll. Total receipts were \$12,699; total disbursements were \$228,082 for a negative income for Jun of (\$215,383). Total assets as of June 30, 2009 were \$1,054,737 (all numbers rounded to nearest dollar). Motion to approve financials made by Trustee Zimmer and seconded by Trustee Howard. All ayes.

Trustee Zbesko asked why substantial funds remained in CDs when there was a deficit shown for the month. Superintendent Berry said that the CD funds were not withdrawn before the date of the monthly statement because specific funding requirements for increased adulticiding had not been determined at that time.

3. Secretary: None

III. REPORT FROM LEGALCOUNSEL

Attorney Rosen reminded the board that, last month, Superintendent Berry said he planned to participate in the Illinois Central Management Services program for the purchase of vehicles and other operational items. Attorney Rosen said this participation requires approval from the board. Board President Zimmer and Secretary Howard must sign a form for the district to join the program. The district will not be required to use the program for every future purchase but it may prove to be a valuable future purchasing option. The state's program will not necessarily buy locally. The state puts out the bids statewide so items could come from anywhere in the state.

(Although the board had not entered into the "old business" segment of the August meeting, mention of a new truck purchase during Attorney Rosen's report led to an immediate discussion and action concerning this agenda item.)

Attorney Rosen mentioned that he had recently learned of another purchasing cooperative being used by several northwest suburban municipalities. Trustee Zimmer said he knew of the organization and that it required membership to participate in its purchasing program. Trustee Blustein added that the organization requires dues. Superintendent Berry said he would investigate it further for possible future use.

Superintendent Berry said that if the truck model the district wants is purchased through Illinois' Central Management Services program, it would come from a Taylorville dealer and then be serviced locally here in the district. Ford is the only company that bid with the state and a Ford dealership is near the district's facilities. The dealership for GM trucks is no longer in this area. Mr. Berry showed the price list for a truck purchased through the state. In the past, a truck of the type required had a base price of about \$17,600, plus add-ons that would add a considerable amount above the base. The state program's pricing for a similar model starts at \$14,800, and with required add-ons has a total price of \$17,980, including a delivery cost from Taylorville of \$225. Picking up the truck personally and driving it back to the district would be much more costly in time and money.

Trustee Blustein moved that the NSMAD join the State of Illinois Joint Purchasing Program. Trustee Zimmer seconded. All ayes. Trustee Blustein moved that Superintendent Berry purchase a 2010 Ford 150 for a price of \$17,980 under the State of Illinois Joint Purchasing Program to replace truck #48, a 1986 Chevrolet 1/2 ton. Trustee Zimmer seconded. All ayes.

Attorney Rosen reported that a class action suit has been filed based on the law against unsolicited fax messages. The lawsuit's discovery procedures revealed that the NSMAD was a recipient of some of these unsolicited fax messages. If the district elects to participate in the suit, the district will get \$125. If the district opts out of the suit, it could choose to file its own lawsuit. Attorney Rosen recommended that the board authorize participation. Trustee Howard moved that the district participate in the class action suit. Trustee Blustein seconded. All ayes.

Trustee Blustein asked Attorney Rosen if district board members have insurance protection from lawsuits caused by "errors and omissions." The board was told that a policy is in place with \$1million in coverage per member.

IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Action Items: None

Information Items:

Superintendent Berry reported that the Illinois Department of Labor recently visited the district office to review time and payroll records of current and past employees. Mr. Berry asked them the reason for their visit. He was told that they had received a complaint from an individual about past overtime payments. They requested payroll records for the years 2006-2008. After reviewing the records, the Labor Department representative reported she was satisfied that there were no violations. She added that her report would include the statement that Office Manager Zimmer's records were "immaculate." A former employee had lodged the complaint, which proved to be groundless.

Superintendent Berry reported that this season's larvaciding program "went sterling." The season's second round of catch basin larvaciding is completed. Adult mosquito control spraying has been completed for the entire district. Summer interns will begin leaving the second week in August. A liability insurance review has begun in preparation for the November 1, 2009 renewal. The district's medical insurance representative expects to have renewal information for the September board meeting.

V. LAB REPORT

To date, 566 RAMP tests have been conducted. Five positive pools were reported in July with one each in Glenview, Niles, Winnetka, Evanston, and Morton Grove. A total of eight positive pools have been discovered to date (August 1, 2009). This total is lower than previous years. Superintendent Berry said totals usually peak around the second week in August. The lab in Champaign reported the virulence of the pool found in Winnetka was the highest among the eight pools. Mr. Berry attributed the lower level of WNV mosquitoes to heavier larvaciding from the start of the season, cooler, dry weather in recent months, and heavy rains that flushed larva out of catch basins. But, he warned

that the situation could change “in a heartbeat.” Trustee Zbesko asked about the district’s methods of surveillance. Superintendent Berry said crews are going back into “problem pockets” to hit them again and using a second type of larvacide that coats the water surface.

Trustee Zbesko asked the Superintendent about this season’s bird fatalities caused by WNV. Mr. Berry said that a total of six birds dead from WNV have been found this summer, a relatively low number compared to the worst WNV seasons. Trustee Zbesko asked about the level of mosquito complaint calls to the office. Office Manager Zimmer said the number of calls has dropped off.

Superintendent Berry showed the board maps and a “register” of activity for catch basin larvaciding across the district. He said computerized hand-held technology would make the mapping more efficient but it is presently quite costly. He expected that the price of hand-held equipment will be lower in the future.

VI. OLD BUSINESS:

Trustee Cesario reported that the tentative date for the district Holiday party at Via Veneto, December 11, had already been booked by another party but December 18 was available. The board agreed that Trustee Cesario should lock-in December 18 reservations for this year’s party.

VII. NEW BUSINESS: None

Trustee Zbesko motioned to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Zimmer seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 9:51 a.m.

ATTESTED
President, William Zimmer

SUBMITTED
Secretary, Nelson Howard