

RYE MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION

**Tuesday, August 17, 2021
5:00 p.m. – Rye Town Hall**

Commissioners Present: Chair Tim Sanborn and Mark Troy

Also Present: Sarah MacGregor from Dragon Mosquito Control and Selectman Tom King

I. Call to Order

Chair Sanborn called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

II. Approval of July 2021 Meeting Minutes *Tabled to next meeting*

III. Old Business

1. Rye Citizen Education – Poster Distribution

Sarah MacGregor confirmed that she has revised the information for ticks and Lyme disease. The PDF was sent out to the commission members.

Chair Sanborn will follow up with Janice Ireland (Selectmen's Secretary) to be sure it is posted on the Commission's page on the Town's website. He explained to Selectman King that the commission has made up some education posters for Rye Citizens to be posted in town. The idea is to help educate the Citizens of Rye about mosquitos and tick prevention. Ms. MacGregor has done a great job with helping the commission in this regard.

IV. New Business

1. Dragon Update – Sarah MacGregor; Dragon field work/Green head trap status

Ms. MacGregor reported that West Nile has been found in Salem, NH. Dragon has been larviciding non-stop because of the constant rain. When there is a bit of a break, they have been trying to jump on the freshwater but that has been challenging. She pointed out that the combination of heat and rain is perfect for mosquitos, so they are constantly larviciding to stay on top of it. She continued that Greenheads are about over. The traps had a good season and were very full. Those will be taken down soon. The marsh has flooded from the full moon again, so her staff will be back out on Thursday. The State will continue to test mosquitos into the middle of October. Specific species are sent to the State lab to be tested for West Nile and Triple E.

She also reported that someone in NH has died from the Jamestown Virus. The State cannot test for the virus with the same mosquitos that they test for West Nile and Triple E, so there has to be separate batches. Right now, it's a pilot program so there are very few towns that are participating. They are mostly looking at the towns that have had Jamestown cases and Rye has not had a human case. The hope is that the State will be expanding and, in the future, they can test for all the diseases without needing a separate batch of mosquitos just for Jamestown.

2. Dragon Invoice approval

The Commissioners reviewed the invoice submitted by Dragon Mosquito Control for the month of July. There were no issues or concerns, as the line items looked consistent with the budget monthly totals.

Motion by Tim Sanborn to approve Invoice #31363 from Dragon Mosquito Control in the amount of \$12,125. Seconded by Mark Troy. All in favor.

Ms. MacGregor noted that school is starting on August 31st. They always schedule a spray prior to the start of school, which should be done next week. She will follow up with Health Officer Gail Snow, so they can move forward. She also noted that spraying has been done at the recreation field.

3. Rye Citizens' Handbook

Referring to the Rye Citizens' Handbook, Chair Sanborn commented that he believes the Selectmen are trying to confirm that the overviews in the handbook are accurate.

Ms. MacGregor pointed out that it states a specific number of greenhead traps, which is outdated. Also, this number is in flux all the time. She suggested not having a specific number.

The Commissioners agreed. Chair Sanborn will make that change.

Commissioner Troy noted that his suggested changes were to point people to the website. The hope is that over time, they will start to use that as the outlet for information.

Ms. MacGregor commented that there are things on the website on the commission's page that are rather outdated now.

Chair Sanborn stated this is why he thought the update on Lyme Disease and tick prevention was good for starting to bring the page up to date.

Ms. MacGregor stated that she will look at the page and email further suggestions.

4. Communications with Rye Civic League

Chair Sanborn pointed out that this was discussed at the last meeting. Commissioner Farrelly was going to try to take this on. RCL publishes their newsletter the last weekend of the month. The intent is for the commission to get communications to them by the 20th of the month.

Commissioner Troy commented that they should try to get something to RCL later this week, so they don't miss a month.

Chair Sanborn agreed.

Ms. MacGregor suggested some topics to be included in RCL's Newsletter, as well at the Town's Fall Newsletter, which is also due on August 20th. She will email a draft for the Town's Newsletter to Chair Sanborn.

5. Meeting Schedule Changes

Chair Sanborn asked that requests for meeting schedule changes be made via email.

- **Next Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 21st, 5:00 p.m., Rye Town Hall**

Adjournment

Motion by Tim Sanborn to adjourn at 5:27 p.m. Seconded by Mark Troy. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dyana F. Ledger