

MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

March 15, 2022 – 5:00 p.m. – Rye Town Hall

Commissioners Present: Chair Tim Sanborn, James Farrelly, and Mark Troy

Also Present: Sarah MacGregor from Dragon Mosquito Control

I. Call to Order

Chair Sanborn called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes from December 2022

No vote taken

III. New Business:

1. Review and discussion about the accepted bid from Dragon Re: process for signing state permit

Sarah MacGregor explained that the Department of Agriculture requires a hard copy of the permit application with original signatures, which is kept on file in Concord. She noted that five copies of the permit application are submitted. One has to be a hard copy and the other four copies are on a thumb drive for different agencies. She pointed out that there's no indication that they are going to change the requirement for the original signature.

Ms. MacGregor suggested that the permit application be submitted with the bid in the future. When the vendor is chosen by the Commission, the permit application can be signed at that time.

The Commission agreed this would work.

Ms. MacGregor noted that she has a few suggestions for the RFP. She pointed out there is no more reimbursement by the State for some of the work, as that fund has been done away with and there's no indication it will be reinstated. The reimbursements haven't been done for many years and this piece is still in the RFP.

2. Timeline for 2022 season's activities

Ms. MacGregor noted that public notices will go in the newspaper, on the Town's website and out to the schools. The notices will alert people that spraying is going to be starting and how they get on the "no spray" list, if they wish. Certified letters will be sent to all beekeepers to notify them of Dragon's activities. The notices and certified letters will go out the last week in

March. This should be done prior to notifying the State that Dragon is ready to start. The permit will have conditions that Dragon will have to show that they've achieved, such as, the public notices and starting the "no spray" registry. Once this information is submitted to the State, they will send an email confirming that the work can start. This is usually received by April 15th. Right now, it seems that larviciding may be able to begin April 11th for this year.

Ms. MacGregor noted that greenhead traps will be put out starting in June, before July 1st. The traps usually stay up until around Labor Day. She continued that the height of the larviciding work happens in July. If there are Fourth of July Festivities this year, Parsons Field will be sprayed. The State will start testing mosquitos July 1st. They hope to expand the testing for Jamestown Canyon Virus. She explained that last year was just a pilot program with a handful of towns being sampled. The virus cycles between the deer and mosquitos. A town with a big population of deer is likely to have it. It's definitely concentrated around the Concord area and Derry. She commented that there hasn't been a lot of surveillance in the State, but the hope is to expand. The only way this will be convenient is if they can test a mosquito for Triple E, West Nile and Jamestown all at the same time. Jamestown Virus seems to be a bigger problem in N.H. than other diseases and it's not going away.

She noted that the main product that Dragon uses is probably going to be the same price for this year. She is just worried about higher freight charges because of the price of fuel. She continued that catch basin monitoring begins in May. Dragon will start treating the catch basins once they show signs of larvae activity. Some years the treating has started in May and other years in July. This is largely a factor of how much rainfall is received that may flush the catch basins.

Ms. MacGregor agreed to give an update on the building and repairing of the greenhead traps. She welcomed feedback from the Commission in regards to Dragon's bid proposal and things that can be improved.

Chair Sanborn stated that it doesn't go without notice that Dragon's proposal is very professionally done in a nice booklet format. He pointed out that Dragon was a few thousand dollars higher than another bidder. However, the Commission weighs the value of the services being received versus just the pricing.

3. Commissioner terms expiring in 2022 (submission to select board prior to March 28 meeting)

Commissioner Farrelly stated that he and Commissioner Troy deliberated about Commissioner Sanborn's reappointment to the Mosquito Commission. He and Commissioner Troy feel Commissioner Sanborn is uniquely capable and dedicated. They very much appreciate what he brings to the Commission.

Motion by James Farrelly to recommend to the Select Board the reappointment of Tim Sanborn to the Mosquito Control Commission. Seconded by Mark Troy. All in favor.

Chair Sanborn will write a letter to the Select Board saying that the Commission has voted and he is interested in continuing to serve.

IV. Old Business

None

- **Next meeting to be held on Tuesday, April 19th at 5:00 p.m., Rye Town Hall**

Adjournment

Motion by James Farrelly to adjourn at 5:40 p.m. Seconded by Tim Sanborn. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dyana F. Ledger