

# **RYE MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING**

Tuesday, September 20, 2022  
5:00 p.m. – Town Hall

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

*Also Present: Sarah MacGregor, Dragon Mosquito Control*

## **I. Call to Order**

Chair Sanborn called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

## **II. Approval of Minutes – 8/15/2022**

**Motion James Farrelly to approve the minutes of August 15, 2022 as presented. Seconded by Mark Troy. All in favor.**

## **III. New Business**

### **1. Dragon activity reports; trends; Rye schools tick and mosquito spray**

**Sarah MacGregor, Dragon Mosquito Control**, noted that the recent sprayings at the elementary school, junior high, Parsons Field, and the recreation area were completed on August 25<sup>th</sup> before the start of school. The recreation director has asked if the rec area can be sprayed again to help with soccer. Ms. MacGregor suggested timing the spraying with the tick spraying for the trail.

The Commission agreed.

Ms. MacGregor continued that the marshes are keeping Dragon busy. The BTI use is pretty right on and maybe a bit above average. She reported that there has been no disease activity in town. The City of Manchester has seen the most disease activity. During a drought when there is no water, catch basins will always have water. West Nile tends to thrive in catch basins and containers in people's yards. Manchester and Nashua have had West Nile reported in mosquitos. Hampstead and Atkinson have had Jamestown Canyon. There have been no human or animal cases reported to date. There have been West Nile human cases in Mass and Rhode Island, but none in N.H. The State will continue to test mosquitos until October 17<sup>th</sup>.

## **2. Greenhead trap boxes status/Placement & removal schedule**

Ms. MacGregor reported that the greenhead traps have been stored in the barn for the winter. Three of the traps have been retired. This leaves 196 traps for the start of next year.

Chair Sanborn commented that the Commission usually puts in the budget the cost to make 16 new traps. He recommends that they continue with adding 15 or 16 traps per year. He pointed out that the population of greenheads continues to grow despite having a couple of hundred traps.

Ms. MacGregor noted that the insect population goes up and down. This year, the greenhead population was down. Last year, there were a lot of complaints throughout many towns.

Commissioner Troy asked if it's better to have more traps regardless of the trends.

Ms. MacGregor replied that it gets to a point when a town has enough traps. She would say 250 traps is the maximum she would want to see a town have. She pointed out that Hampton has 250 traps. It's a big job to put that many traps out, bring them in and repair them. She also pointed out that Rye is storing their traps inside which helps to prolong the lifespan and build up inventory. The traps are starting to be very well received in Rye. At first, the residents did not want to see them; however, they welcome them now.

It was agreed that there would be no harm in building 16 more traps for next season. The plan is to stay close to 200 traps.

## **3. Dragon Monthly invoice submission**

The Commission reviewed Dragon Mosquito Control Invoice #31866:

- \$1,400 – Surveillance
- 1,600 – Monthly Larval Survey
- 8,000 – Larviciding
- 800 – Checking Mortality of Treatment
- 350 – Data Management
- 1,100 – Aug. 25<sup>th</sup> Spraying
- \$13,250 Total

**Motion by James Farrelly to approve the payment of Invoice #31866 from Dragon Mosquito Control in the amount of \$13,250. Seconded by Mark Troy. All in favor.**

## **4. 2023 Budget – Select Board November 3<sup>rd</sup>/Budget Committee November 16<sup>th</sup>**

Chair Sanborn asked Ms. MacGregor to submit an idea of increases they may be looking at for next year's budget for materials, labor, and freight, etc. The Commission will be presenting their budget to the Select Board and Budget Committee in November.

Ms. MacGregor spoke to the Commission about some of the increases she is seeing in costs; such as, increasing wages for staffing.

**5. Other administrative issues**

*None*

**IV. Old Business**

Commissioner Troy noted that he started the list update for next year for the sign locations.

**V. Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 p.m., Rye Town Hall**

**Adjournment**

**Motion by Mark Troy to adjourn at 5:25 p.m. Seconded by James Farrelly. All in favor.**

Respectfully Submitted  
Dyana F Ledger