

# **RYE MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION**

**Tuesday, August 15, 2023**

**5:00 p.m.**

**Rye Town Hall**

**Commission Present: Chair Tim Sanborn, and James Farrelly**

**Others Present: Sarah MacGregor, Dragon Mosquito Control**

## **I. Call to Order**

Chair Sanborn called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.m.

## **II. Approve previous (July) meeting minutes**

*Tabled to next meeting*

## **III. New Business:**

### **1. Dragon update – Sarah MacGregor; Dragon field work**

**Sarah MacGregor, Dragon Mosquito Control**, noted that it's been a rough season because of all the rain. The crews have not been able to get off the saltmarshes and other work has been put off; such as, catch basin treatment. She also noted that Dragon has plans to spray the recreation area, Parsons Field, and the grounds of both schools prior to the start of the school year. She continued that New Castle had some positive mosquitos. She pointed out that the State doesn't like people to know exactly where the mosquitos are tracked because it gives people a false sense of security. If it's a mosquito submitted by Dragon, the State will give the tracking number so Dragon will know where it was trapped, the date, and species.

Chair Sanborn commented that the Mosquito Commission will want to know this information, even if it's not put out to the public. He further commented that the positive case of Jamestown Canyon Virus in New Castle was just within the mosquito. There were no human cases.

Ms. MacGregor confirmed. She pointed out that these are mosquitos that bite people, as there are mosquitos that prefer to bite birds, etc. She noted there were two different species of mosquitos reported to have Jamestown Canyon Virus; *Aedes vexans*, and *Culex salinarius*. These mosquitos were caught almost a month ago and any that weren't caught are dead now, as they only live two weeks. The report shows there have been no human or veterinary cases, just mosquitos. Also, there have been no cases of Triple E found. The testing will continue on mosquitos until October 15<sup>th</sup>.

## **2. Green head trap status**

Ms. MacGregor noted that Dragon will start to remove the traps from the marshes within the next couple of weeks, as the season is ending. The intent is to get the traps picked up by Labor Day.

## **3. Start of school spraying**

**Motion by Tim Sanborn to approve the start of school spraying at the schools and recreation area before schools start on August 29<sup>th</sup>. Seconded by James Farrelly. All in favor.**

## **4. Dragon invoice approval**

The Commission reviewed the submitted invoice from Dragon Mosquito Control in the amount of \$12,925.

**Motion by Tim Sanborn to approve payment to Dragon Mosquito Control, Invoice #32112, in the amount of \$12,925. Seconded by James Farrelly. All in favor.**

## **5. Complaint – 211 Central Road**

The supervisor from Dragon responded to a complaint from the resident living at 211 Central Road. The representative from Dragon visited the site and found a few puddles in the yard from fresh rain that would eventually absorb into the ground. No breeding sites were found on the property. The property owner talked about a drainage ditch that the Town dug decades ago that ran parallel to 211 Central. There has been a lot of water in the property owner's basement and there were two sump pumps; however, they weren't running at the time. The property owner is not interested in hiring a pest control company for her yard, as suggested. It's a very small yard with a lot of gardens. It was noted that there is an adjacent wetland that is not part of this property.

The Commission discussed the complaint form and other information that should be included on the form. Ms. MacGregor agreed to work on revising the form.

## **IV. Old Business:**

### **1. Resident Education – “Pest Unwanted” Posters**

Commissioner Farrelly noted that he and Commissioner Troy are still working on getting the posters out. Ms. MacGregor suggested giving Dragon the list of places where posters should be posted next season. They can do the work before the season starts before the busy time of year.

**2. Rye Civic League**

Commissioner Farrelly continues to send updates to Steven Borne for the Rye Civic League.

**3. Fall Newsletter**

Ms. MacGregor has a draft article for the Town Newsletter. The article is due by Monday, August 21<sup>st</sup>.

- **Next Meeting: September 19<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 p.m.**

**Adjournment**

**Motion by Tim Sanborn to adjourn at 5:35 p.m. Seconded by James Farrelly. All in favor.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dyana F. Ledger