

RYE MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION

**Tuesday, June 20, 2017
5:00 p.m. – Rye Town Hall**

Members Present: Chairman Tom Aspinwall, Vice-Chair Timothy Sanborn and Denis Lipman

Others Present: Sarah MacGregor, Dragon Mosquito Control, Sally King, Conservation Commission Chair and Jill Hunter, Beekeeper and resident.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Aspinwall called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Approval of Minutes from May 16, 2017

- **Tabled to the July meeting.**

III. Old Business

1. Re-submission of April invoice/Motion for approval

Sarah MacGregor, Dragon Mosquito Control, resubmitted the April invoice with the addition of the town account numbers for each line item.

The commission reviewed the invoice.

Motion by Tim Sanborn to pay the April Invoice for Dragon Mosquito Control in the amount of \$8,000. Seconded by Denis Lipman. All in favor.

2. Other Old Business

- **None**

IV. New Business

1. Activity reports for month of May - Sarah MacGregor

Ms. MacGregor noted that they received approval from that State to start larviciding on April 12th.

Commissioner Lipman asked about the retention ponds at some of the new developments in town.

Ms. MacGregor explained that the data shows there was no activity so there was nothing that needed to be done yet. She continued that a retention pond will not start reading mosquitos until late in the summer. Last summer, when everything was dry except for retention ponds, that is when they found mosquitos. The mosquitos that are normally found at retention ponds are not a high human health threat.

There was discussion on organizing the data from the activity reports by sites, in order to correlate the effort on controlling the activity at each site.

Ms. MacGregor noted that the activity will always be heavy at the saltmarshes. She also noted that they will be starting to treat catch basins within the next couple of weeks because the marshes are going to be flooding again. It would be beneficial to find out what marsh is the biggest problem for the Town. She explained that where it was so wet in April and May it is hard to treat a saltmarsh when it is scattered breeding. The marshes are now drying up and they will then flood. There will be far more treatment being done on the marshes once they have dried up. This will happen more in July and August.

There was review of the complaint sheets that are used by Dragon Mosquito.

2. Submission of May Invoice/Motion for approval

The commission reviewed the invoice for May from Dragon Mosquito Control in the amount of \$12,350. The larvicide amount of the invoice is \$8,600, which is consistent for the full month.

Motion by Tim Sanborn to pay the May Invoice for Dragon Mosquito Control in the amount of \$12,350. Seconded by Denis Lipman. All in favor.

3. Resident complaint concerning high tick activity and roadside conditions that favor tick harborage. Not really in the domain of the RMCC but perhaps advice could be given on where to go for relief.

Chair Aspinwall noted that a resident, from Brackett Road, called in regards to the high tick population in her neighborhood this season. He stated that there is really not a big effort for tick control, unless it is done by the individual. He commented that he will be turning the letter over to the selectmen for the consideration of the roadside tick control.

Speaking to Ms. MacGregor, Vice-Chair Sanborn asked if there are other towns that budget for tick control.

Ms. MacGregor replied that town wide they do not. She noted that her company services 25 towns. Most towns will spray at the schools, playgrounds and parks. There have been some studies done to come up with a price tag for town wide tick control. The cost is approximately \$100,000. It is cost prohibitive. She continued that the study found that people managing their own vegetation and yards goes a long way in managing the tick population.

The commission will review the tick situation towards the end of the season and may come up with some recommendations for the selectmen.

4. Other New Business

Ms. MacGregor stated that she received a request from Recreation Director, Lee Arthur, for spraying at Parson's Field for the July 4th Celebration.

The commission agreed to the spraying.

Ms. MacGregor noted that the State will be receiving mosquitos for disease testing the first week in July.

Next Meeting Date:

- **July 18, 2017**

Adjournment

Motion by Tim Sanborn to adjourn at 6:00 p.m. Seconded by Denis Lipman. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted, Dyana F. Ledger