

## **Cache Mosquito Abatement District Board of Trustees**

The Cache Mosquito Abatement District (CMAD) Board of Trustees met for a regular meeting on Thursday, May 22, 2008, in the Bear River Environmental Health Department conference room (85 E 1800 N, North Logan). Representatives from 9 municipalities were present:

Dave Wood, Amalga  
Ed Rigby, Wellsville  
Tom LaBau, Hyrum *arr. 7:18 pm*  
Elaine Nelson, North Logan  
Karen Blotter, Millville

Darwin Pitcher, Lewiston  
Scott Larsen, Nibley  
Dave Gatherum, Hyde Park  
Perry Spackman, Trenton

Excused: Jeff Ricks, unincorporated. Absent: Mike Carlson, Mendon;. Leslie Erickson, Richmond; Richard Rigby, Newton; Robert Mather, Smithfield; Deon Johnson, Providence; Boyd Pugmire, Clarkston; Nick Murphy, Cornish.

Also in attendance were Chris Nelson, BRHD; Brad Mitchell, Barton Boothe, Smithfield; Keith Thompson, Providence; Liz Draper, Millville; Barbara Milton, North Logan; Janetta Parker, Carl Miller, Hyde Park.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Perry Spackman at 7:00 pm. There being no quorum present, comments from the public were heard.

### **COMMENTS**

Barton Booth wanted to know how he could verify that his name is on the no spray list. He asked that the list of names and addresses be sent out to him so he could ensure his name and address were listed. Scott replied that there were confidentiality concerns that would be checked into before such a list would be distributed. Barton then asked that a map showing which houses were on the no spray list be distributed or posted on the website; again, Scott said there were privacy concerns that would have to be researched. Barton also said that one of his neighbors felt put on the defensive when she requested to not be fogged. The person she talked with (he was unclear as to whom that was) shared with her the true health risks and science research on malathion use instead of just registering her name and address.

Trustee Tom LaBau arrived at 7:18 pm, so a quorum of trustees was present. The meeting was declared open for business.

Keith Thompson said he'd called Chris to verify he was on the no spray list, and was promptly called back. He wanted to know if the CMAD is fogging only as necessary. Chris replied first to the request for mailing out lists and/or maps; it would not be feasible (and possibly illegal) to send these out to everyone. If you have to ask if you were fogged, then you didn't. On the fogging routes, not every street in a community is fogged; it depends on the adult mosquito population. The routes could possibly be published, but they are subject to change at a moment's

notice, especially if weather conditions move in suddenly. There is no way to get that posted quickly enough.

Keith asked what percentage of CMAD's effort was spent on larvaciding. Scott and Chris both stated that is the majority of the abatement efforts by CMAD. At least 8 hours a day, M-F, is spent on larvacide while at the most 4 hours a day, M-Th, is spent fogging. Both larvacide and fogging have increased since 2005 due to population growth and annexations into the District.

Carl Miller asked the board if anyone was an expert on the entomology of mosquitoes. He then quoted some ranges of figures for all species of mosquitoes, not necessarily those found in Cache Valley. His position is that the lifespan of an adult mosquito ranges from 4 to 9 days, therefore CMAD should be larvaciding more frequently. He also stated that fogging malathion where there is no water source is a waste of chemical since adults don't move more than a mile from where they hatch. Perry again reminded all present that comments were to be made, and debates would not be allowed.

A couple citizens wanted to know when the foggers are turned off as they approach a no spray zone. Malathion, at the doses and application rates we use, are ineffective on mosquitoes at 300 feet. Thus, that is the distance at which the fogger is shut off or idled.

Barbara felt that more education efforts are needed. When she walks around her neighborhood, she sees lots of standing water. She'd like to see CMAD do more active outreach. Darwin said that the District has provided educational material to all communities in the District, but that CMAD has no control over what is done with it at that point. She feels that the cities aren't doing anything to enforce removing standing water, but also isn't willing to help educate her neighbors.

Another citizen commented that fogging with malathion isn't effective and gave Boulder, CO, as an example. They also stated that the District was started because of WNV. Perry told them that it was started to control mosquitoes, regardless of disease presence. Janetta was glad to hear that CMAD emphasized larvaciding and wanted to know if we'd seen a decrease in adult mosquitoes as a result of that. CMAD doesn't have long enough history to know at this point.

Brad Mitchell said that he read in the August 2005 minutes that Randy Sessions (BEMAD) stated that after 45-50 years of fogging with malathion, he thought mosquitoes were developing resistance. His concern is that this will happen sooner in CMAD since fogging is done weekly. Both he and his wife say they are very sensitive to malathion and he related some of their health issues. He appreciates that CMAD stops fogging a block away from them. He'd still prefer to have no fogging done within a mile of his home and also asked that fogging routes and schedules be posted. Tom reminded all present that the schedule is posted on the BRHD website and will be up on CMAD's website as soon as the clerk returns from vacation (June 6). Any changes in general to the schedule will be posted weekly on Mondays.

## **MINUTES**

The minutes of the April 24, 2008, meeting were reviewed.

Elaine moved, and Ed seconded, that the minutes be approved. Motion passed unanimously with Tom and Scott abstaining.

### **WNV SURVIVORS**

The speakers for this meeting had a conflict and so were unable to attend; they will be rescheduled.

### **BRHD REPORT**

Larvacide efforts have been underway for a couple of weeks. There is only one new field person this year; he is being trained and shown where routes are. The foggers are calibrated; a nozzle had to be replaced on one. The sentinel chickens have been placed throughout the District; all are in the same general locations as last year. The mosquito traps will be set out next week. Dave G. asked if the tablets will be available for people to place in their standing water areas such as troughs. Chris said that due to liability concerns, the tablets will no longer be handed out to people. Instead, there are mosquito dunks available at local stores that people can buy on their own.

### **C-Y MAD MEETING REPORT**

Jeff and Perry never were able to meet with C-Y MAD. However, Jeff contacted Brad and was told that because C-Y MAD was awarded a UDAF grant this year, they weren't interested in pursuing a formal relationship with CMAD. Jeff asked him about the payment still owed; Brad said they wanted another invoice. Tom asked if anyone knew if they'd be larvaciding this year; no one knew.

### **PERSONNEL POLICY**

Ed asked what changes were made in the revised version; since Terrie hadn't provided a summary sheet and Scott wasn't sure, the board decided to table discussion and decision until next month.

Perry moved, and Ed seconded, that this business be tabled until the June meeting; motion passed unanimously/

### **LIABILITY LIMITS**

The suggestion to increase the liability limits from \$2 million to \$5 million is based on a review by the ULGT. Scott reviewed the summary sheet provided by Terrie with special attention on the caps in place already. The Board had originally chosen the second tier of liability primarily to cover incidents related to fogging. Elaine said there isn't really room in the budget this year to pay for the increased coverage. Ed asked if there were other options; when Scott said yes, Ed suggested the Board shop around next year for other sources. Tom said that even though we don't have extra funds in the general budget, the Board could transfer funds. Ed is reluctant to keep dipping into the contingency/capital improvements fund. As it is, the Board is covered with the \$2 million liability and will plan to look at options for next year.

Scott moved, and Elaine seconded, to keep the limit at \$2 million for this year. Dave W., Dave G., Darwin, Karen, Scott, Elaine, Perry, and Ed voted aye; Tom voted nay. Motion passed.

Ed asked if anyone was keeping a list of budget topics to remind the Board at budget time. Terrie will do this. Dave G. suggested keeping a list of discussion topics in general as well.

### **WNV TESTING**

Dave G. said that as an abatement district, our job is to control mosquitoes. He wondered if the surveillance, specifically the WNV testing of pools and chickens, was really worth the cost. WNV has been found throughout the District. He wondered about just treating each area as if it had identified reservoirs of WNV. It's really the health department that's most interested in identifying the presence of WNV. Tom said that surveillance in general is important not just for WNV. There is some benefit to knowing where the virus is. Scott wanted to know if Dave G. suggested doing away with all surveillance. Dave wanted to know what the actual cost of WNV testing is. The District is already doing larvaciding and fogging, and probably wouldn't do anything different with the testing as a guide. Scott asked if Dave proposed doing away with the traps. The traps do help identify what and how many mosquitoes are present in a specific area. Tom asked about the cost of keeping the chicken sentinel flocks; no one really knows. Scott suggested the District could just take random samples of the mosquito pools and chicken blood for WNV testing. Tom feels the traps are good for identifying the species of mosquito present and, while counting and speciation is very intensive, it's still good to have those numbers. Currently, only WNV testing on the wild birds has been dropped; the rest is free.

### **BILLS**

Only two bills this month: \$300.14 for wages and \$34.35 for T-Mobile. Elaine moved, and Tom seconded, that the bills be paid; motion passed unanimously.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Dave W. moved and Elaine seconded to adjourn the meeting; motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk Date