

Cache Mosquito Abatement District Board of Trustees

The Cache Mosquito Abatement District (CMAD) Board of Trustees met for a regular meeting on Thursday, June 26, 2008, in the Bear River Environmental Health Department conference room (85 E 1800 N, North Logan). Representatives from 10 municipalities were present:

Dave Wood, Amalga

Ed Rigby, Wellsville

Tom LaBau, Hyrum

Elaine Nelson, North Logan

Karen Blotter, Millville

Darwin Pitcher, Lewiston

Robert Mather, Smithfield

Mike Carlson, Mendon

Leslie Erickson, Richmond

Richard Rigby, Newton

Excused: Jeff Ricks, unincorporated; Perry Spackman, Trenton; Scott Larsen, Nibley; Deon Johnson, Providence. Absent: Boyd Pugmire, Clarkston; Nick Murphy, Cornish; Dave Gatherum, Hyde Park.

Also in attendance: Lance Harrison, Preston; Chris Nelson, BRHD.

Vice-chairman Darwin Pitcher called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

MINUTES

The minutes of the May 22, 2008 meeting were reviewed.

Tom moved, and Dave W. seconded, that the minutes be approved. Motion passed unanimously with Mike and Robert abstaining.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Terrie passed supportive comments and appreciation from citizens in four communities.

WNV SURVIVOR Scott Larsen, Nibley

Lance Harrison shared his experience of contracting WNV and the extended recovery period.

This first part is transcribed from his talk:

“About a year ago I went...we always hit the 4th of July in Richfield, so played down there and came back up, then went to Preston and did the 24th stuff up there. The fireworks up there; it was rainy then so they cancelled Saturday night and did it Monday. I don’t ever remember getting a mosquito bite, to my recollection, but I remember seeing a lot of mosquitoes on the 24th at the fireworks.

“And August 1st at work, and I just couldn’t make it, I was so tired, and at first I thought I had the flu, and then went back in again to the doctor and thought I had mono. And the third time, I kept losing weight. Probably went down 40 pounds all together; I’ve now gained the

40 back plus 20 more. At first I thought people would be saying 'Man, I want this diet' and I'm sitting there in pain thinking 'No, you don't.'

The ironic thing is that around the house, when I mow my lawn, I pull my rain gutter...green doohickies off and shake them out; this is pre-West Nile. I was very conscious of that. The night of the fireworks, we had the kids sprayed, I was sprayed. We put the blanket on the ground and sat watching the kids run around in their shorts. And I sent one of the kids back to the car and said, 'Go get some mosquito spray because they're thick tonight.' And they ran to the car and came back. And they're all fine. I put a blanket on top of me, and my wife thinks I trapped a little critter inside with me.

The third time I went to the doctor, he had said the second time that if it wasn't mono it was probably something weird like West Nile. His daughter had had the mild symptom of it previously, so he was somewhat familiar....and then when I was in the hospital the next time, I was there for 10 days, so similar to most patients....ended up after they did the spinal tap, it was encephalitis so had the brain swelling going and the [symptoms most people have are on the CDC site, the nausea, vomiting, pain;] I had a handful of them. I remember the pain in the arms and legs; it felt like a rodent just chewing away. And the doctor said it's going to affect you just like MS and polio. And I remember I came home from the hospital, I saw a kid who'd had it, and you pay more attention to that when something like that hits you....I'd been looking for someone to connect to, to see if I'd ever get over it...it was surreal, it was like I'm in the room but I'm not there. It felt like I was just floating for months after [the hospital stay]."

He was extremely weak for three months and lost all stamina. When he finally got enough strength back to walk across the street, his wife had to bring a chair over for him to sit in before he could cross back. He still has neurological problems—coordination, memory, language. Eye/limb coordination had to be relearned.

He appreciates the work of the District and doesn't want kids to go through this. While he was in the hospital, he was in somewhat of a coma, spending 23 hours a day sleeping. He lost all desire for eating; his taste sensations changed drastically.

He has received calls from all over the country from other victims who saw his name in the newspaper interview he gave. It's difficult to find a website or blog for WNV victims. Everyone wants to know about the recovery progress. At one year post-infection, 60% of people still have symptoms. His response to people who don't want any fogging done is that WNV is not a good alternative. You feel physically aged, and things just don't work right. When he was awake, he was in intense pain. Previously, he was against immunizations, preferring to take the chance you wouldn't get the disease. Now, if there was a vaccine against WNV, he'd have his kids take it. Anything to prevent someone else from getting this disease. He then thanked the District for the work they're doing to combat mosquitoes and WNV.

BRHD REPORT

Chris reported on some maintenance issues. One of the ATVs has been in the shop for a week; it's leaking oil. Richard's fogger keeps breaking belts; they're working with the manufacturer to

figure out why. Eric, BRHD maintenance guy, has done a good job of keeping things running. The USDA Bee Lab and Forest Genetics called with locations of their hives; Chris already had most of them marked.

Mosquito numbers are going up, mainly in Benson. No positive pools yet in Cache County. Human cases are still light in Utah. Chris passed out a summary of larvacide and adulticide hours and chemicals used thus far this season. The workers don't put larvacide in the water unless they find larva present. One area near Amalga always has larva; same for dairy ponds. Ditches are the challenge because of the run-off from irrigated fields.

Mike asked about the procedure for requesting fogging before special events in cities or elsewhere. Basically, call Chris with the request. Chris plans to change Lewiston fog nights to Monday and Wednesday. Mike asked if there was a common pattern used by the foggers when they run their routes; Richard said that each one has their own pattern depending on the community, etc.

PERSONNEL POLICY REVISION

The updated, extensively revised personnel policy was reviewed. It was much condensed from the original 31-page document.

Tom moved, and Richard seconded, to approve the updated, revised personnel policy. Motion passed unanimously.

OTHER DISCUSSION

Chris said he'd like to see CMAD adopt a policy on how to deal with requests for no spraying. Essentially, two people in Smithfield have stopped fogging for the entire city east of 400 W. A policy would clarify how to handle future issues when one or two don't want fogging but others do.

CLERK'S REPORT

The UDAF grant request was awarded in full. Clark Burgess, UDAF, has requested a meeting with CMAD trustees to discuss some things; he and Gary Hatch, Davis MAD, would attend. Several dates were given; Terrie will talk with Perry then arrange a meeting for either the 7th or the 21st.

Terrie distributed the financial report, showing the receipts and expenses to date.

BILLS

Three bills were presented. Richard moved, Tom seconded, to pay the bills; motion passed unanimously.

Wages	\$ 175.00
Phone	34.35
ULGT liability ins.	3,405.81

