

Cache Mosquito Abatement District Board of Trustees

The Cache Mosquito Abatement District (CMAD) Board of Trustees met for a regular meeting and potluck cookout on Thursday, August 27, 2009, in the Trenton town park (Trenton, UT). Representatives from 8 municipalities and the county unincorporated area were present:

Darwin Pitcher, Lewiston
Dave Wood, Amalga
Karen Blotter, Millville
Robert Mather, Smithfield
Perry Spackman, Trenton

Richard Rigby, Newton
Scott Larsen, Nibley
Jeff Ricks, unincorporated
Dave Gatherum, Hyde Park

Excused: Shane Lewis, Richmond; Elaine Nelson, North Logan; Tom LaBau, Hyrum; Mike Carlson, Mendon; and Ed Rigby, Wellsville. Absent: Deon Johnson, Providence; Boyd Pugmire, Clarkston; Nick Murphy, Cornish.

Also in attendance was Chris Nelson, BRHD (Bear River Health Department); Jim Blotter, Sarah Larsen, Connie Wood, Vicki Mather, Nancy Pitcher, Tina Gatherum, Sara Rigby, and Vicki Ricks.

The meeting was called to order by vice-chairman Darwin Pitcher at 7:15 pm.

MINUTES

The minutes of the July 30, 2009 meeting were reviewed. Scott clarified that written minutes are to be available within a reasonable time after a meeting, not necessarily within three business days.

Robert moved, and Scott seconded, that the minutes be approved; motion passed unanimously with Richard abstaining.

BRHD REPORT

Chris distributed a State of District report as well as the abatement report for the last month. Two of the larvaciders have gone back to school; the two remaining continue to provide services. Robert asked about mosquito numbers; Chris said that based on surveillance, the numbers are lower than last year. They've done more larvaciding this year and have nearly used up all the Bti, Abate and oil.

The District is five years old now and uses an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach utilizing education, surveillance, and personal protection. Currently, 14 traps are used to measure adult mosquito numbers; he'd like to have two more. They help target the approach to treatment. Using the RAMP to identify the presence of WNV gives an immediate turnaround. Based on the results, the incidence of WNV is not as prevalent this year.

Abatement efforts are primarily larvacide since that kills the most mosquitoes. The District uses ATVs (all-terrain vehicles) with spreaders and five-gallon tanks on back to larvacide. The racks on the ATVs have been customized for the weight spread and are more rugged. All larvaciders wear helmets, goggles, and gloves when riding the ATVs and providing treatment. The racks on the ATVs have kept a couple of them from tipping over. All foggers are now in pickup beds and ATVs are on the trailers. This makes it safer when loading and unloading the ATVs and is less wearing on the foggers because they aren't being bounced around so much.

Weather has impacted fogging efforts. It would be nice to have weather stations to correlate weather conditions with abatement activities. Having the weather data would allow correlation with drift from fogging, etc.

The pesticides used by the District are organophosphates (OP). Chris is concerned that by using OP for both larvacide and adulticide that mosquito resistance to abatement will develop sooner. He recommends the District switch to a different compound. Robert asked how often other districts switch pesticides; Chris replied generally every 5 to 10 years. If the District would switch, the trade-off might be a lower kill ratio due to the increased cost of the other pesticides.

Equipment in general is showing wear and tear, especially the ATVs. Foggers are also having breakdowns, but Chris anticipates by moving them to the pickup beds this will decrease. He strongly suggests the District adopt an equipment replacement schedule for not only vehicles but also foggers, spreaders, etc.

As for personnel, only one fogger came back; the others were new to the area. All four foggers have experience and know their areas, contributing to the success of the larvacide program. Terrie maintains the website and financial records as well as fields phone calls, tracks legislation, and acts as the public information officer. Eric (BRHD) is both mechanic and maintenance; he not only keeps the equipment running but also built the shed for storing the larvacide supplies. This has been very beneficial, and Chris would like to see a similar thing happen for the adulticide.

BRHD enjoys the relationship with CMAD, and there is an opportunity to work together by pooling resources. The Environmental Health Department will at some point be choosing a location and building to provide emissions testing; perhaps CMAD could be housed at the same facility.

Scott asked if a date had been set for stopping abatement this season. Chris said it all depends; in the past, services were usually suspended the second week in September. For now, there has been only one horse and no humans confirmed with WNV in Utah.

CONFERENCES

Tom still plans to attend the UMAA (Utah Mosquito Abatement Association) conference. The UASD (Utah Association of Special Districts) conference will be held November 5-6 in the Davis County Conference Center.

BILLS

Terrie presented the following bills. Robert moved, and Richard seconded, that the bills be paid; motion passed unanimously.

Wages	\$162.00
T-Mobile	34.87

ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting will be September 24.

Richard moved, and Robert seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted: Terrie L. Wierenga Approved: 10/22/09