

Cache Mosquito Abatement District Board of Trustees

The Cache Mosquito Abatement District (CMAD) Board of Trustees met for a regular meeting on Thursday, August 12, 2010, at 7:00 pm in the Bear River Environmental Health Department conference room (85 E 1800 N, North Logan). Representatives from 13 municipalities:

Darwin Pitcher, Lewiston
Shane Lewis, Richmond
Dave Gatherum, Hyde Park
Scott Larsen, Nibley *arr 7:16*
Karen Blotter, Millville
Robert Mather, Smithfield
Elaine Nelson, North Logan

Richard Rigby, Newton
Tom LaBau, Hyrum
Kendon Godfrey, Clarkston
Dave Wood, Amalga
Deon Johnson, Providence
Ed Rigby, Wellsville

Excused: Jeff Ricks, unincorporated; Joe Hansen, Cornish; Perry Spackman, Trenton; Mike Carlson, Mendon.

Also in attendance was Chris Nelson, BRHD (Bear River Health Department); Jeff Watkins, Newton; LaMar Clements, Cache Junction; and Becky Matz, Petersboro.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by chairman Darwin Pitcher.

Tom moved, and Elaine seconded, to close the business meeting and go into the public hearing on the proposed certified tax rate; motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING

Jeff Watkins spoke about his concern for the discrepancy in tax figures and valuations. Richard said that the area hadn't been assessed recently, thus values went up markedly. Further discussion revealed that Jeff was concerned about the county taxes; he appreciates what the mosquito district does. Darwin stated the three reasons for proposing the increase: (1) switch from organophosphate (malathion) to a different pesticide (Kontrol); (2) cost of the abatement chemicals has risen between 2% and 56% just since 2007, the last time the tax rate was increased; and (3) the purchase of land and construction of a building.

LaMar is concerned that government programs just grow without a base in reality. He feels that the district is killing off microorganisms that other animals live on. If the District keeps expanding the program, we will end up with a sterile environment. Darwin stated that the District strictly follows what the label says, and Robert said the district does much more larvacide than fogging for adults. Darwin reminded LaMar that he can request no fogging be done at his place. Richard drew the analogy of organic vegetables costing more than ones produced using legal pesticides: even if the district switched to an organic pesticide, we'd still have to increase the tax rate.

Becky is new to the area and wanted to find out about the mosquito abatement program in general.

Robert moved, and Shane seconded, that the public hearing be closed at 7:30 pm. Motion passed unanimously. Robert left.

MINUTES

The minutes of the June 24, 2010 meeting were reviewed and discussed.

Tom moved, and Karen seconded, that the minutes be approved; motion passed unanimously with Scott, Ed, and Dave G. abstaining.

CALL LOG

Terrie reported on the calls received since June 24. Most calls are reporting lots of mosquitoes and requesting fogging. One caller was concerned that the fogger was driving too fast; another wanted to know what her son could do to fight mosquitoes while on his mission. The *Herald Journal* also interviewed Terrie on the proposed tax rate increase and a second interview on the mosquito season thus far.

RESOLUTION 2010-1

Resolution 2010-1 on increasing the certified tax rate to 0.000085 was presented. Tom moved, and Richard seconded, that the resolution be adopted. Scott said he'd like to see more organization and education put forth for future increases. Dave G. said that while the actual increase is minimal, the whole package of taxes is huge.

Motion passed unanimously.

BRHD REPORT

Chris distributed an article titled "A World Without Mosquitoes" from *Nature* (Vol 466, July 2010, pp. 432-434) in which the author says that eradicating mosquitoes would not have serious consequences for ecosystems. The abatement reports showed an increase in mosquito numbers, as expected. There haven't been any mosquito pools test positive for West Nile Virus. North Logan and Hyde Park were fogged July 4 and 24.

BRHD will discontinue all cell phone service, including that for the abatement/surveillance program, on September 1. Since the season will probably end within a few weeks of that, the district won't look into providing service for this year but will consider it when preparing the budget for next year.

Chris reported that chemical supplies are getting low. Abate will be gone in a couple of weeks; there are only 3-4 oil barrels left. Larvacide is being emphasized, so Chris would like to switch to a non-organophosphate there. *Bti* is an option but it has no residual and a less than satisfactory kill rate. Abate currently last about two weeks. There is enough larvacide chemical left to finish out the season.

NPDES PERMIT

Still no decision or even much direction on the permit status for Utah. Districts should know by December what the law—and fees—will be.

OTHER BUSINESS

The board decided to hold the summer social in conjunction with the September meeting and invite the seasonal workers as well as Eric (maintenance). Scott will reserve a park in Nibley.

The UMAA (Utah Mosquito Abatement Association) conference will be held Oct 3-5 in Salt Lake City. Tom encouraged the trustees to attend; the times he has gone have been beneficial and educational. Richard, Darwin, and Karen are interested in attending.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Terrie presented the second quarter financial report. Scott moved, and Shane seconded, that the report be accepted; motion passed unanimously.

BILLS

Elaine moved, and Karen seconded, that the following bills be paid; motion passed unanimously.

July	
Wages	\$ 202.50
Phone	35.02
CPA	1,000.00
Petty cash	83.81
Trustee comp/mileage	1,280.60
Officer per diem	110.00
August	
Wages	243.00
Tax ad	234.68
Phone	35.22

ADJOURNMENT

Richard moved, and Dave G. seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 pm.

Prepared by /s/ Terrie Wierenga

Date 9/4/2010

Accepted: 10/28/2010