

RYE MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION
Tuesday, September 19, 2023
5:00 p.m.
Rye Town Hall

Commission Present: Chair Tim Sanborn, and James Farrelly

Others Present: Sarah MacGregor, Dragon Mosquito Control

I. Call to Order

Chair Sanborn called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

II. Approve previous meeting minutes

Motion by Tim Sanborn to defer the approval of the August meeting minutes to the October meeting. Seconded James Farrelly. All in favor.

III. New Business:

1. Dragon Update – Sarah MacGregor; Dragon Field Work

Sarah MacGregor, Dragon Mosquito Control, commented that Dragon staff “scurried” to bring in the greenhead traps before Hurricane Lee. The staff had to put other tasks off to get it done, so as not to take any chances that the traps would be destroyed by the storm. The traps are now safely in storage in the Goss Barn. Six greenhead traps have retired and the season ends with two hundred four good traps.

Chair Sanborn explained to Commissioner Farrelly that the Commission has to approve the budget for Dragon to build more traps. Typically, the budget includes sixteen new traps every year.

Ms. MacGregor continued that it was a busy summer for Dragon because of the constant rain. Dragon is still trapping mosquitos; however, there are still no positive results. There hasn’t been a positive disease test result in the State since August 8th. The State stops testing around October 15th. She pointed out there is still a healthy mosquito population, which is unusual for September; however, it’s expected because it’s been such a rainy period.

Ms. MacGregor noted that the State wants towns to trap in June. This year only one trap was done because there was no warning that the State was going to test mosquitos in June for Jamestown Canyon Virus. The State plans to do this again next year. She pointed out this is the

time of year to plan, if the Commission wants a full month of trapping for all the sites. This should be considered for the 2024 budget.

Chair Sanborn agreed this should be added to the proposal for services for the 2024 budget.

Ms. MacGregor reported that all sites were successfully treated prior to the start of school. All the schools, Parsons Field and the rec area were treated on August 23rd as planned.

Dragon will be conducting tick spraying on town trails in October. A date for spraying will be scheduled based on the weather.

Motion by Tim Sanborn to approve the tick spraying for October. Seconded by James Farrelly. All in favor.

2. Emergency Spray Requests – Rye Schools/Recreation Area

It was noted that the recreation area was sprayed again on September 7th, after a call was received requesting a second spraying. The schools were not sprayed at that time, as there was no mention to Dragon about the school sites. There seemed to be some miscommunication between the parties involved. Chair Sanborn will follow up with the schools and the Recreation Department to be sure the proper procedure for additional spraying requests is being followed, as it should be directed to the Mosquito Control Commission first. The budget has to be taken into consideration when there are requests for additional spraying.

3. Dragon Invoice Approval

The Commission reviewed the invoice submitted by Dragon Mosquito Control for the month of August.

Motion by Tim Sanborn to approve payment to Dragon Mosquito Control, Invoice #32199, in the amount of \$13,825. Seconded by James Farrelly. All in favor.

4. Other Administrative Issues/New Business

- **2024 Budget Prep**

There was some discussion about items that should be added to the 2024 budget, as the town budgeting cycle is starting in October. Ms. MacGregor will send a memo to Chair Sanborn about some items that may need to be tweaked for the budget.

IV. Old Business - None

- **Next Meeting: October 17th, 5:00 p.m.**

Motion by Tim Sanborn to adjourn at 5:25 p.m. Seconded by James Farrelly. All in favor.