

Hampton Mosquito Control Commission

Meeting
October 25, 2011

Attendees: Ann Kaiser, Rich Reniere, Russ Bernstein, Mark Gearreald

Meeting called to order at 6:00pm

Ann called Mike Morrison of Swamp, Inc to the podium to talk about his proposal for 2012. He brought along his co-worker Kimberly Foss.

Mike explained that his company does a species-specific approach when larvaciding. They described a new cattail program and temperature-based targeting of catch-basins. They have a Kawasaki "Mule" that they use to larvacide the catch-basins that is licensed as a moped. They have done a lot of site-work in Keene to widen and deepen their catch-basins to help mitigate larvaciding. They also have an office trailer at the Portsmouth Public Works.

AK asked why their 2009 proposal for Hampton was a lot less than 2004's.

MM stated that

1. they now have a hydraulic sprayer using liquid larvacide.
2. adulticing was not included as much in the 2009 proposal
3. they are more focused on certain species –don't do all species.

RB asked about the nuisance species.

MM stated that they do treat for snow-melt mosquitoes.

AK stated that their last year's proposal was rejected due to the absence of references.

MM said that page must have been left out inadvertently.

AK asked why the Exeter town report showed two Mosquito Control expenditures.

MM explained that it saves Swamp, Inc money on insurance by separating the surveillance and source reduction from the pesticide application.

He said they control ticks with the same pesticide used for the mosquitos. They just extend the area to include surrounding vegetation.

RB asked about larvaciding by boat and MM explained that it is just to access the more remote areas.

MM and the board concluded and Mike and Kimberly left the room.

At 6:40, Sarah MacGregor of Dragon came forward.

AK remarked that Dragon's proposal was the same as last year's.

SM stated that they are trying to absorb the extra costs of gas and supplies. She said that the federal government now requires and NPDS permit.

RB asked if her people use liquid larvacide and she replied that they prefer the granular product because it is easier to see where it goes. But she said that they do use BVA Agnique for pupae and some larva.

AK asked about the truck speeds increasing and SM stated that her new variable deployment sprayers enable them to go up to 20mph.

SM said her people use a combination of walking, bikes and trucks to do all the catch-basins.

AK asked what constitutes 'permission' when notification of spraying is required. SM stated they will try to "be a good neighbor" and knock on the doors to get a verbal OK.

SM stated that the breakdown of the \$62K larvaciding cost is \$19K for materials and \$43K for labor.

SM concluded her meeting and left the room.

At 7:10, RR made a motion to hire Dragon for next year. RB seconded.

The board discussed the two proposals and concluded that adultciding is important and Swamp's proposal may not be enough.

AK noted that Swamp's process is dependent on timing. If the timing is wrong, the damage is done. She also stated that Dragon's larvaciding proposal includes dips, whereas Swamp's doesn't. Because Swamp (as MPM) historically used a lot less materials, the board felt that the job may not be done effectively.

AK also noted that the townspeople would want the best and that we should not take chances by going with Swamp.

The board voted unanimously to go with Dragon for next year.

We will be going before the BudCom tomorrow night to ask for \$103,000 in total: \$60K in operating budget and \$43K in a warrant article.

MG warned that he should review our wording in the warrant article because if the WA fails and the Op budget passes, "No means no" by RSA 32:10I(e). This may mean that the town could not do any mosquito mitigation.

MG said we could also add language to put the WA amount into future default budgets. We decided to wait for MG's responses before we finalize the WA.

Ann will go before the BOS on 10/31 to tell them of our decision to go with Dragon's proposal.

Minutes of 10/5 were unanimously accepted.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40.

Respectfully submitted by Russ Bernstein