August 22, 2022

The executive board of the Virginia Mosquito Control Association held a meeting on August 22, 2022 through GoToMeeting.

Those present were president Wes Robertson, president elect Betsy Hodson, vice president Carla Caulkins, secretary/treasurer Jay Kiser, local arrangements committee chair Charles Abadam, Lisa Wagenbrenner, and Jennifer Barritt.

The executive board meeting was called to order at 9:06am.

Carla Caulkins made a motion, seconded by Betsy Hodson, to approve the July 25, 2022 board meeting minutes as presented to the board by Jay Kiser. There was no discussion, all in favor and none opposed; motion carried.

Carla Caulkins made a motion, seconded by Betsy Hodson, to approve the August 22, 2022 financial report as presented to the board by Jay Kiser. There was no discussion, all in favor and none opposed; motion carried.

Since Lisa and Jennifer were attending the meeting to discuss VMCA’s continuing role in chicken purchasing, Wes decided to start the meeting with this topic. Because Jay wanted to have this discussion, Wes gave him the floor. Jay discussed that over the last several decades, VMCA has helped Virginia jurisdictions with the purchasing of specific items. In the 70’s and 80’s, VMCA had a committee to help with finding/determining pesticide prices because there was no official Virginia state purchasing list for them. Starting in the late 90’s or early 2000’s, VMCA became a middle man to help with the purchasing of chickens in the Hampton Roads area for arboviral surveillance. At the start, 5 jurisdictions or more were purchasing chickens. In 2022, Virginia Beach and Chesapeake are the only two cities that continue purchasing chickens. Because the logistics of multiple jurisdictions purchasing is not a factor anymore, Jay thinks that VMCA should step away from this process and let these two cities purchase their own equipment. Jay also stated, because VMCA is the middleman, it may be held liable if any issues arise and the chicken seller is not willing to cooperate. Both Lisa and Jennifer stated that having VMCA act as a middleman makes it easier on chicken seller, because there is only one MOA, and easier on the cities, because the process is already set up. Carla said that having VMCA stay involved might make it easier for another jurisdiction to start a chicken program in the future. Betsy says she sees both sides; on one hand there are only two cities involved and it should be possible for them to purchase their own chickens. On the other hand, VMCA should be doing more to help jurisdictions of the state. Wes thinks that maintaining a relationship like this with VA jurisdictions is a good thing. If VMCA gives them support, they will want to give us support. Betsy Hodson made a motion, seconded by Carla Caulkins, to continue the current relationship where VMCA helps VA jurisdictions purchase chickens by standing in as a go-between. During discussion, Jay said if this motion passes, the MOA language should indicate VMCA soley and not TRAST or VAST. There was no more discussion. Betsy and Carla were in favor, Jay opposed, motion carried.

Board member and committee reports

(Members and committees not mentioned had nothing to report)

Local arrangements committee chair Charles Abadam, feels it is important to have the contract with the 2023 conference hotel signed very soon. He told the hotel it would be done today after the board meeting. Even though it has not been done this way in the past, Jay feels it is important for the board to read over the contract and vote on it before it is officially signed. Charles and Wes agree, thinking this is a good way to get the board members more informed and involved. Jay Kiser made a motion, seconded by Betsy Hodson, to accept the latest updated contract (presented to the board by Charles Abadam), have it signed by Charles Abadam, and send the deposit over ASAP. There was no discussion, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Bylaws committee chair Jay Kiser, sent out the last reminders for updating the VMCA Book of Guidelines. The due date for updates is next week, September 1st. Once all the updates are received, Jay will add everything and send it to the board for a vote.

Information committee member Jay Kiser, said that the Fall Skeeter should be coming out in October or November. This means the Winter one will be either right before or after the 2023 conference. If anything important needs to go in this Skeeter, we should be getting it done soon.

Nominating committee, Jay rementioned the Fall Skeeter date of October. If the nominations for the VMCA board are desired to go in this issue, Tim may need a push and/or help from the board. Jay suggested that Wes talk with Tim to see where he is on nominations.

Education committee chair Katherine Reutt, asked if the board wanted the Hampton recert to happen in January 2023. Jay said that each year, there are about 20-30 people that come. Betsy said that York plans to send a group due to VDACS issues the last couple years. The board agreed and told Katherine that they would like to have the recert course take place. Jay suggested for Katherine to talk with Jennifer Barritt and Lisa Wagenbrenner to get details on what is needed for the course. Jay offered to give help if she needed it.

Old Business

* During the upcoming October board meeting, the board will be making the decision if the larval ID course will be taking place during the spring of 2023. Jay asked if there were any particular questions the board needed answering to make this decision go smoothly. Wes suggested, and Jay agreed to, emailing the board and asking if they have any questions.

New Business

* Because the full board is not present at this meeting, it is decided to table the following discussions until the September board meeting on Monday, 9/12/2022 at 9am:
  + Pricing for the 2023 conference (paperwork Jay emailed to the board)
  + Email to be sent to the supervisors of Virginia Jurisdictions asking for them to pledge to a minimum list of commitments to VMCA each year.
* The October board meeting is set for Monday, 10/8/2022 at 9am.

Betsy Hodson made a motion, seconded by Carla Caulkins, to adjourn the meeting at 9:47am, all in favor, none opposed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jay Kiser

Secretary/Treasurer VMCA