July 25, 2022

The executive board of the Virginia Mosquito Control Association held a meeting on July 25, 2022 through GoToMeeting.

Those present were past president Tim DuBois, president Wes Robertson, president elect Betsy Hodson, vice president Carla Caulkins, first vice president Addie Weddle, secretary/treasurer Jay Kiser, and local arrangements committee chair Charles Abadam.

The executive board meeting was called to order at 9:05am.

Tim DuBois made a motion, seconded by Carla Caulkins, to approve the June 17, 2022 board meeting minutes and the June 27, 2022 email minutes as presented to the board by Jay Kiser. There was no discussion, all in favor and none opposed; motion carried.

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

Board member and committee reports

(Members and committees not mentioned had nothing to report)

Information committee: The Summer Skeeter is currently under review by the board, with a deadline of Wednesday July 27. Jay asked if it was okay that the date and location of the 2023 conference are being announced in the Skeeter. Wes said this should be fine since the board officially voted for it. Tim suggested not just announcing the date, but to make an article for it. He will write something up by lunch and send it to Karen. Tim asked if he could write an article about the Skeeter and put it into the MAMCA newsletter. The board had no objections.

Local arrangements committee chair Charles Abadam, received the contract from the hotel last week. He is currently going over it and communicating with the hotel staff. Through communications with the hotel, Charles was told that he needed to be the one to use the Hilton Honors Rewards instead of the VMCA secretary/treasurer. In addition the hotel will include one free room night for every 50 room nights bought under our block. This could be used for the president's room. In the contract, there is a $1,000 deposit due 30days after the contract is signed. The contract also says that 50% of the rooms and F&B costs will need to be paid for 30days before the conference. Jay said that he has seen similar statements in past contracts, but he has never paid anything other than the deposit before the conference is over. Jay asked Charles to talk with the hotel about stipulation. If 50% of the cost is due, will it be automatically charged or does Jay need to make a payment? Charles is not sure and will check.

2024 hotels: Charles said many of the same 2023 proposals will be the same or similar for 2024. All of them are charging for parking except for the Hilton. There are more hotels to talk with but VMCA may have to pay for parking in the future. A $3,000 cost is estimated for parking if VMCA pays for it.

Tech committee chair Charles Abadam, GoToMeeting has made some changes that he will need to look into. The updates that they have made may improve our experience during the conference. Jay mentioned, if we decide to upgrade to GoToMeeting Webinar, the board was notified the upgrade would take place in September. This was discussed in a past board meeting.

Bylaws committee chair Jay Kiser, is working on updating the book of protocols. The deadline for updates is in September. He will send out a reminder email soon. There are some key committees that he is waiting on, so he will reach out to them specifically. Wes asked, and Jay confirmed, if no update is received from someone, the current protocol will remain.

Education Committee: Wes said that Katherine Reutt has accepted the chair position. Jay asked if the board wants to have the Hampton recertification class in January. The decision is not needed immediately, but it is approaching. Some counties/cities rely on the class, but there are alternatives. VMCA makes a little money, but nothing big. Wes said he will bring it up to Katherine to see what their committee is thinking.

Historian committee chair Tim DuBois, the committee is doing well. They are working on a RE Dorer article for the Skeeter, but it is taking some time. Other articles and ideas are being worked on. Jay previously brought up the idea of a storage unit for VMCA stuff, including historian committee stuff. Jay said that the cost seemed pretty high, over $100 a month, so he scrapped the idea. Tim said this was not too bad. They can continue storing the items and may get a closet in the new Portsmouth building.

Nomination committee chair Tim DuBois, asked how many nominations he needed for the upcoming ballot. It was discussed that if Betsy leaves the board later in the year, then Carla will move up to the presidency for 2023. This will leave 3 board positions open. Jay suggested having 4 nominations for those 3 positions.

Photography committee: Wes asked Betsy if she could send him TJ’s contact information. Besty sent the info in the chat. Jay said that the committee took several photos at the adult ID course and put them in the Skeeter. Carla (committee member) said she will be at the Tour de Skeeter and can take photos.

Jay asked Wes if there was any update on the photo contest idea. VMCA still has money from Central Life Sciences earmarked for the contest. Over the next week or so, Wes said he will finish up his write up for the contest and email it to the photography committee. They can discuss what they would like to do.

Student competition committee chair Jay Kiser, registration for Tour de Skeeter (taking place on October 15, 2022) has been opened. An email went out to membership and an article went in the Summer Skeeter. So far, there have been 7 people registered and 2 sustaining member donations. The list of schools for Virginia’s neighboring states has been created for communication. The committee will start reaching out and advertising in late August. Wes asked if he could still be a judge this year, even if he is VMCA President. Jay said he saw no conflict there and the committee would love to have him continue as a judge.

Audit committee, Wes he will talk with Penny and add members to the committee.

Curations and preservation committee chair Jay Kiser, has five members on the committee. An article introducing the committee has been written for the Summer Skeeter. Jay said that the committee needs to discuss, but he thinks they will be focusing on adult collections for adult ID courses. Larval collections may not happen this season, but Parker Whitt has several specimens for the larval ID course. Jay will contact Parker and ask how many species he has.

Old Business

* VMCA continuing to purchase chickens: Jennifer Barritt will join in on the August or September board meeting.
* VMCA’s sustaining membership to AMCA was due on July 1, 2022. The sustaining membership renewal comes with a regular membership for the VMCA contact. Jay said that every year that contact is the VMCA secretary, but it doesn’t have to be. Tim DuBois made a motion, seconded by Betsy Hodson, to renew VMCA’s 2022 AMCA sustaining membership for $675. There was no discussion, all in favor and none opposed; motion carried.

New Business

* Setting the pricing for the 2023 VMCA conference: Jay suggested setting up the pricing soon so the conference can be advertised. Jay will create a document with some numbers from past years and predictions for 2023. Charles will create a document with the predicted costs of the 2023 conference. These two documents will be combined and emailed to the board before the August board meeting.
* Wes would like to reschedule the September 19 board meeting. The board decided to move both the August and September meetings to August 22 and September 12. Jay will contact Karen to change the dates on the website.

Jay Kiser made a motion, seconded by Tim DuBois, to adjourn the meeting at 10:08am, all in favor, none opposed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jay Kiser

Secretary/Treasurer VMCA