

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE
BARBERTON-NORTON MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT
JOINT BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S / APPRAISER'S AND
DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCIL**

*** Note – These minutes are not transcribed verbatim *
Meeting has been recorded and the MP3 recording is on file in the MAD Office**

May 12, 2022

The joint meeting of the Barberton-Norton Mosquito Abatement District (MAD) was held on Thursday, May 12, 2022 at 131 Snyder Avenue, Barberton, Ohio and called to order at 6:00 PM by Steve Despot, President.

Those answering roll call: Steve Despot, Denise Mullins, Karen Miller and Kimberly Trenary. Also in attendance: Harry Ciccolini (BOA), Dale Sungy (BOA), Ted Collins (BOA), Jill Easterling / Administrative Assistant, Andy Dobben, Operations Manager, Attorney Rebecca Sremack.
Excused: Brian Griffith, Treasurer/Fiscal Officer, Erika Bailey (DAC)
Absent: Shannon McNulty (DAC) and Joseph Kernan (DAC)
Guests: Andrew Mullins and Jonathan Fonte

MINUTES –

Karen Miller made the motion and seconded by Kimberly Trenary to approve the minutes as recorded of the 4-14-2022 regular meeting as recorded:

Roll Call:	Yeas: Despot, Miller, Trenary	Abstain: Mullins / Absent: Braman
	Nays: None	Motion carried

COMMUNICATIONS - Nothing at this time

Bill Braman arrived at meeting

REPORTS –

A. President (Despot) -

- Fiscal Officer is excused and any questions regarding the new Step pay scale can be addressed at the next meeting.

B. Treasurer / Fiscal Officer (Griffith) - Excused

C. Operations Manager (Dobben) -

- Brian Deenihan from Clarke Mosquito would like to come and speak to the Board for 10-15 minutes. Would like to attend our next meeting on 6/16. This date conflicts with several members – move meeting to June 30th.
- Full crew is back. Larviciding has begun. Spraying will begin in June
- Safety training for crew. Kim, Mark and Andy all have their Pest Operator License
- 3 types of traps: BG, Gravid and Light Trap. BG deals with Zika (State advised that we do not have to set these out this year)
- Bushes at the side of the building have been removed
- Disgruntled resident called today upset that we are not spraying yet. Resident seems to feel that we are running the program differently this year and Andy advised that we are not. Informed resident that we start Larviciding in May and begin spraying in June through September. Andy remained calm with resident and the resident ended up hanging up on him. Karen Miller asked if the resident was a

Barberton or Norton resident. Andy replied – Barberton.

Resident wanted the property treatment which is a one time thing for special events. Andy advised that we won't start that until at least the end of the month or the beginning of June. Resident seemed to feel differently and Andy listened. Resident informed him that he would be contacting the President of MAD.

Steve Despot said he would await the call. Andy advised the resident's name is Jonathan and that's all he knew and knows the address.

- Trucks / machines have been calibrated

Kimberly Trenary advised Andy that the resident he has been discussing is sitting right here. Andy acknowledged his presence. Kim said if Andy wanted to direct his questions to him – Andy stated he had no questions. Kim advised that the resident wanted to speak to the board and she advised what time our meeting was and where we were located.

Steve Despot advised the resident that he can address the board at the end of the meeting. Resident acknowledged.

OLD BUSINESS-

Steve Despot welcome Ted Collins our newest Board of Appraiser and introduced him to all in attendance.

Steve asked him to tell a little about himself: Ted still have his ^{appraiser} real estate license – currently does not use. Lives in Copley. Worked for the railroad 33 years and retired. Did appraisal work on the side. Is currently an usher for the ~~Indians~~ ^{Cleveland} Guardian. Married and has two kids – one in Washington D.C. and Colorado.

Steve welcomed Ted and looks forward to working with him.

Dale Sungy wanted to share that Harry, Steve and himself interviewed Ted and Dale has had several other conversations with Ted and feels he will be a good fit to the Board of Appraisers.

NEW BUSINESS-

A. Discussion of Step Pay Scale for Field Crew

Steve asked if there was any further discussion regarding the pay scale that Brian created? Karen Miller asked if we were going to incorporate for future cost of living increases. Steve said there are increases all the way to step 20. Steve advised that the step pay scale could possibly change with the economy – but this is what Brian put together for now. Several board members felt the starting step pay of \$14.00 was too low for a Field Technician. Steve asked if we should table the step pay scale until next month when it can be reviewed with Brian. After lengthy discussion – board wants to proceed with changing the scale. Changes were made to the step pay scale as follows:

Delete current step pay scale 1 through 3 for Lead Field Technician, Senior Field Technician and Field Technician.

Renumber step pay scale: - Step 4 becomes the new Step 1 and renumbered through Step 17 for all three positions retro active to April 1, 2022

Lead Field Technician (Gary Croft)	will start @ Step 6	\$22.84 / per hour
Senior Field Technician (Mark Stansky)	will start @ Step 4	\$19.13 / per hour
Field Technician (David Hartley)	will start @ Step 4	\$16.74 / per hour
Field Technician (Guy Phillips)	will start @ Step 3	\$16.25 / per hour
Field Technician (John Rose)	will start @ Step 2	\$15.77 / per hour
Field Technician (Robert Scaffidi)	will start @ Step 2	\$15.77 / per hour

Andy inquired if the field crew would be getting a bonus again this year – after discussion with board – they do not want the crew to rely on this every year. No bonus at this time.

B. Regulation #2-2022 – Employee Status and Step Salary for Field Workers

Motion by Bill Braman and seconded by Kimberly Trenary:

“To approve the Step Pay Scale with changes for the Field Workers effective April 1, 2022.”

Roll Call:	Yeas: Braman, Miller, Mullins, Trenary	Abstain: Despot
	Nays: None	Motion carried

C. Approve April 2022 Detailed Trial Balance.

Motion by Kimberly Trenary and seconded by Karen Miller:

“To approve April 2022 Detailed Trial Balance.”

Roll Call:	Yeas: Despot, Miller, Mullins, Trenary, Braman	
	Nays: None	Motion carried

D. Approve April 2022 Bank to Book Reconciliation.

Motion Karen Miller and seconded by Bill Braman:

“To approve April 2022 Bank to Book Reconciliation.”

Roll Call:	Yeas: Braman, Despot, Miller, Mullins, Trenary	
	Nays: None	Motion carried

Atty. Sremack asked the board to make a motion stating the effective date of the Step pay scale.

Addition:

B. Regulation #2-2022 – Employee Status and Step Salary for Field Workers

Motion by Bill Braman and seconded by Karen Miller:

“To approve the Step Pay Scale with changes for the Field Workers effective April 1, 2022.”

Roll Call:	Yeas: Braman, Miller, Mullins, Trenary	Abstain: Despot
	Nays: None	Motion carried

NEXT MEETING - * Next Regular board meeting set for Thursday, June 30, 2022 @ 6:00 pm.

COMMENTS-

BOA – Dale will contact Brian to get the information for the assessment and the 2023 Budget.

DAC – No one in attendance

BOD – Denise Mullins advised that she will be unavailable the month of June. Her term expires July 31st and she will *not* be renewing her position on the board.

Steve advised that would give us a month to advertise (Jill on vacation and will get with Shannon McNulty (DAC President) and get legal notice ad ready when she is back from vacation.)

LEGAL - Atty. Sremack advised that we need to get a new "Logo" - issues with current MAD logo. There was a letter sent back when Joseph Harrison was with the MAD and it was not addressed. The letter was from Getty Images and the issue is with the "mosquito" picture we used. Decision was made to continue using and eventually phase the picture out and it was not propagated as intended. With the upcoming purchase of the new trucks, she feels we should address this matter now. Atty. Sremack recommended the Board members look into a new graphic designer. The issue is just the "mosquito" used and not the entire design. Andy suggested using the logo from the mosquito crew's shirts.

Kimberly Trenary stated that when we were looking at designing the logo – Russ reached out to the senior art class of Barberton High School and had a contest for the best design and the prize was a \$250 gift certificate. Could we do something like that again? Board felt it was okay – but reach out to Barberton and Norton.

Andy got one of the mosquito crew's shirts to show the logo used. Kim will reach out to the schools to see if interested.

Dale suggested we will also have to get new letterhead and update our Web page.

Kimberly Trenary asked for an Executive Session at the end of the next meeting to discuss Personnel Matters.

Karen Miller thanked Denise Mullins for her service on the board.

Person wishing to address the Board:

Jonathan Fonte – 42 ½ 15th Street, NW, Barberton, OH 44203

Mr. Fonte advised that his issue is how Andy is running things. He met Kim through a Facebook group and found out she sat on the MAD board two years ago. There is a group on Facebook that feel they are not getting services when calling in to MAD. There are hundreds, may be thousands of residents who feel this way. His excuse two years ago when I spoke with him was that he hadn't received any of the messages and the years prior they were told they don't spray the yards, trucks only go down the street at night time. Kim made comments on the facebook page advising they do spray yards.

As of 2016, Mr. Fonte advised that where he currently lives on 15th Street it has been designated a "Flood District"

Mr. Fonte was sitting outside yesterday with his daughter in her wading pool and there were mosquitoes all over the place. His girlfriend is allergic to them and if she gets bit – swells up really bad. I called the MAD office yesterday and left a message. Andy got back with me today and we had a discussion and I got mad when he called me a liar. I did speak with Andy last March and asked if they could start spraying early. Andy advised him that his crew doesn't come back until May. He told me today that they don't come back until June. Yet today, what I just heard from his report – two of his crew came back this month (May). Last year what he said was legitimate and this year he lied. Too many discrepancies about crews starting dates. They came last year in May and sprayed his yard and the neighbors (vacant house) and also the property behind him (house was torn down in 2020) that had high weeds.

Every year the story changes with him and whoever else was answering the phone before him. Many of the residents that have called in have all been told that they do not spray yards. He could go back in Facebook and show the comments that are made regarding service.

Being in the flood district – mosquitoes start early because the ground has been so saturated. We need spraying before they start breeding and hatching. Concerned about his daughter getting sick with a disease or anyone in the neighborhood. Residents pay for this service through their taxes – expect the service they are paying for.

Finally got his yard sprayed the last two years. Can see on Andy's face that he's getting upset. Andy told him that the spray they put on the yard lasts three months. Mr. Fonte asked if they could come back again and he was advised they only do yard spray once. Mr. Fonte questioned if they only spray once, how will that help with all of the standing water for the rest of the summer into fall. Andy informed him today they do larviciding. Mr. Fonte didn't know what that was. Mr. Despot explained to Mr. Fonte that larviciding is pre-treating standing water before the larvae hatches. Mr. Fonte asked shouldn't that be done in March or April. Mr. Despot responded if they see standing water and also keep in mind a lot of this is weather dependent. Some years it could start earlier or could be later.

Mr. Fonte again remarked about the board going on the facebook group and see all of the comments about the issues with contacting MAD for service and not getting it! The people that are paying for this service would appreciate getting the service.

Mr. Sungy thanked Mr. Fonte that he appreciates him coming in and sharing his concerns and health issues. They would like the time to discuss the matter. Mr. Braman reiterated that MAD's policy it only does yard sprays once a year. Mr. Sungy expressed that if this is an area of high mosquito population – boar may need to take a look at the area. Mr. Fonte expressed that from the PPG ball fields up to 17th have been designated "Flood" areas.

Karen Miller asked Andy if there are light traps that we could set to collect mosquitoes. Andy replied there are traps on 15th, but not in his area. Karen stated maybe we should set traps to see what is collected. Andy will move one to his location or nearby. Andy explained to Mr. Fonte what the light traps do and how they collect the mosquitoes.

Karen Miller explained to Mr. Fonte – that the crew that came back in April – are there for maintenance purposes only and do not spray. Crew that starts in May handle the larviciding and June is when the full staff is in and the spraying begins. Andy explained that they treat all standing water.

Mr. Fonte also stated he contacted the Mayor regarding sink holes on their street – and the street crew just keeps putting asphalt in the holes. Mr. Fonte was asked to give Andy a list of where all of the sink holes are located.

Steve Despot thanked Mr. Fonte and advised he would get with him after the meeting.

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn made by Karen Miller and seconded by Denise Mullins, there being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:58.

All in favor

Secretary

Date approved:

6-30-2022

Motion carried

President

New e-mail address: mad@mosquitodistrict.com

Website: www.mosquitodistrict.com

** Minutes recorded by MP3