

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

**Public Conference 888-919-5324, No PIN is required**

*\* Note – These minutes are not transcribed verbatim \**

*Meeting has been recorded and the MP3 recording is on file in the MAD Office*

**April 13, 2023**

The joint meeting of the Barberton-Norton Mosquito Abatement District (MAD) was held on Thursday, April 13, 2023 at 131 Snyder Avenue, Barberton, Ohio and called to order at 6:18 PM by Steve Despot, President.

Those answering roll call: Steve Despot, Karen Miller, Matthew Swyrydenko. Also in attendance: Harry Ciccolini (BOA), Beth Lester (BOA), Brian Griffith / Fiscal Officer, Andy Dobben / Operations Manager, Jill Easterling / Administrative Assistant, Attorney Rebecca Sremack.

Absent: Bill Braman (BOD), Ted Collins (BOA), Shannon McNulty (DAC), Erika Bailey (DAC) and Joe Kernan (DAC)

Kimberly Trenary will be attending late.

Guest: Charlotte Whipkey

**MINUTES** –

Karen Miller made the motion and seconded by Steve Despot to approve the minutes of the 3-9-2023 regular meeting.

All in Favor:

Excused: Trenary

Absent: Braman

Motion carried

**COMMUNICATIONS** -

Steve Despot introduced our new board member – Matthew Swyrydenko. Matthew shared his personal / professional information with the MAD boards and Administrative staff. Matthew has lived in Norton the past 15 years, his company is located near Columbus and they help hospitals get Worker's Comp claims paid. He has three children ages 21, 18 and 15. Welcome Matthew!

**REPORTS** –

**A. President (Despot)** - Nothing to report

**B. Treasurer / Fiscal Officer (Griffith)** -

- Has paid for both trucks
- Remaining items on the agenda

**C. Operations Manager (Dobben)** –

- One truck is in / hopefully the 2<sup>nd</sup> truck will be in next week
- Traded one old truck in – only received \$4,000 (quote was for \$7,000)
- New Logo – Andy changed color on logo to red lettering / picture
- Will Order new stickers for truck
- Will order new sign for out front of building

Operations Manager continued:

- Will order new handouts
- Gary and Mark have started back
- John and Guy will start next week
- Placed ad in the Leader and Post for seasonal help. Also posted on one of the Facebook sites
- \$19,000 in products have been ordered – Adulticide and Larvicide
- Attended Clarke Workshop (Andy, Gary, Mark and Kim) – made recommendation that Kim get paid for her time

\*\* Steve recommended reimburse for her time. Questioned what the rate would be for reimbursing her for her time? Discussion held -

\*\* Atty. Sremack asked to table this item until she can review

\*\* Charlotte Whipkey asked to make a comment regarding upcoming pay raises for the BOD and BOA’s and now the compensation for Kim attending a workshop.

*Charlotte referred to the minutes of a MAD meeting held on 5-14-2015 where extensive study was conducted. Board of Ethics & Ethics Commission have issues with this (Charlotte provided handouts for us to review). You are public officials / employees by the people themselves and you cannot vote for giving raises to yourselves. Charlotte doesn’t want to see MAD mess up and proceed with giving raises now – they can only be done at the beginning of the term of the new board member. Board members are approved for \$100 a meeting and this should be considered a meeting that she attended.*

Recommendation was \$100 for the meeting / travel (IRS mileage). Travel was 31 miles with no out-of-pocket expenses or lunch expenses.

Steve recommends \$200

Karen stated that if they go by the suggestion of \$25.00 / hr and the meeting was 4 hrs = \$100

Brian recommended waiting until next meeting to see if legal before setting an amount. When you start paying public officials money outside of the approved \$100 per meeting – you want to make sure it is done the right way.

Atty. Sremack stated there would be value by adding this item to next months agenda

THIS DISCUSSION HAS BEEN TABLED UNTIL ATTY. SREMACK CAN REVIEW. It will be added to next meetings agenda.

- Steve asked what we are supposed to do with old logo handouts / stickers / pens – suggested phase out. Getty’s Images did not want any future distribution of items with the old logo.

**OLD BUSINESS-**

**Discussion of Regulation #2-2023 (Employee Status / Step Salary Field Workers for 2023)**

Brian explained the Years of Service Increase / Cost of Living Increase chart for returning field crew.

**Motion** made by Karen Miller and seconded by Steve Despot:

*“To approve the 3% Years of Service Increase / 5% Cost of Living Increase for the Field Workers. Effective date is March 1, 2023.*

Roll Call: Yeas: Despot, Miller, Swyrydenko, Trenary  
Nays: None

Absent: Braman  
Motion carried

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – Move to end of meeting.**

**NEW BUSINESS-**

**A. Approve March 2023 Detail Trial Balance.**

**Motion** made by Kimberly Trenary and seconded by Karen Miller:  
*"To approve March 2023 Detail Trial Balance."*

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

**B. Approve March 2023 Bank to Book Reconciliation.**

**Motion** made by Karen Miller and seconded by Kimberly Trenary:  
*"To approve March 2023 Bank to Book Reconciliation."*

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

**C. Compensation increase for Board of Directors and Appraisers**

Brian stated that board could make a motion to increase the compensation for the Appraisers because they don't have a vote and the board appoints them.

Board members had discussion on compensation and how long it has been since they had an increase.

**Motion** made by Karen Miller and seconded by Matthew Swrydenko:  
*"To approve the Board of Appraisers compensation increase to \$200.00 per meeting effective 4-13-2023."*

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

Kim Trenary questioned if this only for the Appraisers at this time because Atty. Sremack has to get back to the board regarding legalities. Atty. Sremack stated no - that on the board members the \$200.00 increase will be effective for the new board member being appointed in July and thereafter at each new term. The increase is not for current terms. That way no one is currently voting for their own raise. That is the current issue.

Steve Despot shared an email from Atty. Puglisi stating that if a board member makes \$1,000 a year on a mosquito board, they are required to file an Ethics report for said year. If we do increase to \$200 a meeting we will all be required to file an Ethics report.

**Motion** made by Karen Miller and seconded by Matthew Swrydenko:  
*"To approve the Board of Directors compensation increase to \$200.00 effective at the beginning of new term of each board seat."*

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

