



Unusually cold temperatures in the last month where temperatures were about 10-15°F colder than average temperature for this period of the year. Snowpacks in some areas are more than 100% of the annual average, meaning that we can expect a lot of water this spring. Does all this announce a bad mosquito season? It all depends on how much water we will receive in a short period of time (high temperatures, rain, and snowmelt) and how many acres will be flooded.

Below, please find a general report on our different departments/activities.

- **Administration:**

- **CCMCD future expansion / lease renewal**

- **County**

- No news from the Public Works regarding a new draft of a lease that will also include the addition of the old Mosquito District building.

- **Relationship to Clark County Public Health (CCPH)**

- Nothing to report.

- **Contracts with the County Treasurer**

- Nothing to report.

- **State Auditor Office**

- We already addressed some of the exit recommendations proposed by State Auditor Office.

- **Open Public Meeting compliance - executive sessions**

- We need to add specific details about our executive sessions. These include "the purpose for excluding the public, estimated times provided, and resumed at the pre-appointed time". We now have a sample script of an executive session from MRSC (Municipal Research and Services Center of Washington). We will use this example guide when having executive meeting to ensure compliance with OPMA.

- **EFT - changes to direct deposits information**

- We added a check box on the time sheet for employees who would like to change their bank account for direct deposit. As soon as the District Manager is aware of this situation, the change of the bank account is made on the ADP website with the employee being present as a witness during the change of the bank account. When both the District Manager and the employee agree on the change made, it is submitted to ADP. A follow up is made at the next pay period to ensure that the paycheck was deposited in the right account.

- **Credit cards - segregation of duties**

- We are ensuring that the procedure of the Purchasing Policy regarding credit cards is followed by our employees. Employees (cardholders) have responsibilities as described in the Purchasing Policy and they must use the credit card properly.
- Receipts of all purchases are submitted to TDJ CPA and they are also sharing information on purchases that are missing the right receipts or documents.
- Payroll – overtime and independent review
 - Employees have been briefed on the importance of managing their time to avoid overtime and make sure that any overtime is previously approved by the supervisor before working any extra hours.
 - We also explained how overtime is calculated based on the ADP work week (different than our work week) and ensure that overtime can be planned accordingly.
- **Budget 2022:**
 - Many big and expensive pieces of equipment such as the drone, the van and the foggers were purchased early in the season since they were all much needed to start the season. More money will be spent on the new van to upgrade it to our needs for drone treatments.
 - More than 80% of all the pesticides needed for this summer have already been purchased. If we need more pesticides than anticipated, depending on the season, we will purchase more. The Board already approved that some money from the Emergency fund can be used to purchase additional pesticide.
 - We are also on target for all the many ledgers we have in our budget. The only ledger that caught us a little bit by surprise was the expense for the 2022 contract with CCPH that was billed only at the end of December 2022. The contract amount (\$20K) is now showing in our 2023 budget causing this Indirect Costs ledger being “over” budget after only a few months.
- **Operations**
 - We were successful this spring in filling the new position of Vector Control Technician (9 months – 3 months). We are welcoming Ms. Abby Knott who will occupy this new position. Abby has a formation of wildlife biologist and has a lot of field experience. Abby will be assigned to field work and be involved in our research projects. Her first task will be to get her Pesticide License Certification to apply pesticides and next fall she will study to become a certified drone pilot to support Jesse and Madison in their work.
 - Many seasonal employees are returning this year which is a very good news. We still have to fill some positions to complete our crew for the summer. Although this year we were

able to post our positions on our new website, Indeed, LinkedIn and social media, it was still difficult to find the right people to fill our positions.

- The foggers purchased in January were calibrated and they are ready to operate when we will need them. We kept our old folders as a backup should we need them. We still need to purchase a small fogger that will be installed on the back of an Argo or an ATV.
- We already had a full day of training on how to properly operate the drone, draw polygons for our treatments, etc. from a technician from Frontier Precision. A technician from Valent BioSciences will also come in mid-May to help with calibrating the drone with different products.
- Jesse and I attended the American Mosquito Control Association meeting that was held in Reno, NV from February 27 to March 3. Many good sessions were presented on different topics (operations, adulticiding, larviciding, resistance, legislation, etc.). Also, always interesting to chat with companies presenting new products and proposing new alternatives (microfilariae worms and DNA-modified proteins added to yeast) that can be added to our toolbox. It is also a chance to create new contacts, learn about other districts' operations.
- We contacted the people at the Refuge (administrator and the technicians) last winter to discuss different options that can be done next summer (sampling, treatments) to avoid a situation like last summer. Only small progress has been made. They agreed to let us sample the Campbell Lake area that we suspected to be the problem in 2022 but we won't be allowed to treat this area. An additional trap was permitted to assess adults that will come out of this area. We also addressed the situation with the Stiegerwald Lake Refuge (Camas-Washougal areas) where no permit has ever been issued to the District. We did not get any formal commitment from them for this year. They will also reassess the purpose of the fall project (flooded areas for duck hunting) we had last year.
- Videos and powerpoint presentations for training purposes were presented to the new employees. Those additions were a good step in the right direction to improve our spring training.
- As a new project, we decided to collect soil samples to assess the presence of eggs already present in the ground in different areas of the County. Finding eggs and determining what species are present in those areas, a few months ahead of the beginning of the "real" season, could be very helpful. Papers have already been published on that approach but as you may think, it is like looking for a needle in a haystack. But guess what, we found the needle(s). Now we are at the steps of determining what species are present in those areas.
- Our Mosquito District was present at the Home & Garden Idea Fair on the weekend of April 29 & 30 and we also attended the Hello Spring event in Washougal on April 29th. Both events were a great success, and we had a chance to meet with many people and explain what we are doing.

- **Lab**

We attended two workshops to learn how to enter our lab data (mosquito species, numbers, tests for West Nile virus, etc.) in a system called VectorServ. The state version is the WaServ. Data for all the districts using that data base nation-wide can be seen (and used) by all the districts that can connect to the site.