

Otter Creek Watershed Insect Control District
Board Meeting of August 13, 2025
Approved Minutes

Attendance

Board Members: Jeff Whiting, Robbie Devoid, Jeff Schumann, Wayne Rausenberger, Albert Wenta, Tom Hogan, Lynne Peck, Steve Belcher, Kerry White

Others: Adam Fasoli (LDFLA), John Capen (OCW)

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm, the Chair noting that there was a quorum and that all towns were represented.

Jeff Whiting added one item to the Agenda: a State meeting for applicators. The Agenda was approved.

There was no public comment.

The Minutes of the July 9 meeting were approved.

The District Status report was postponed, as Kerry White and John Capen were occupied with the mid-season inspection by the State (they came later).

Doug Perkins had sent out a Treasurer's Report on the bank balances, along with a table comparing budget and actual expenses. The Balances, as of Aug. 11, are as follows:

Operations Checking:	\$16,624.79
Audit & Legal:	\$ 8,414.26
Equipment & Capital Improvement:	\$20,013.83
Debit Card	\$ 253.26
Subtotal Cash On Hand:	\$45,306.14
Plus Grant Invoices Pending Receipt of Payment	
2025/16	\$ 186.70
2026/1	\$ 6,322.20
2026/2	\$ 7,378.43
Subtotal VAAFM	\$13,887.33
Plus Town Invoices Pending Payment in August	
Brandon	\$12,611.25
Pittsford	\$ 9,909.75
Total Funds Available	\$81,714.47

FY-26 Grant Balance: \$56,299.37

Wayne Rausenberger offered comments and questions. Many items were well over budget; he requested clarification on the finances of the truck purchases, and on the plans to sell the unneeded trucks. There was also a question about a payment from Brandon that had been returned by the Treasurer. The matter seems to have been resolved.

Permitting Committee

Jeff Whiting reported that the State is preparing the application form for the larviciding permit, but as this is the season for vector mosquitos, Patty Casey is busy sampling across the State. A Jamestown virus is a new addition to the possible infections.

Finance Committee

As the Treasurer is side-lined by health issues, there was little to report. Lynne Peck raised concerns about meeting the deadline in September for the presentation of a draft budget.

Audit Committee

Albert Wenta reminded the Board that we will need to find a new Treasurer at the November meeting. He also noted the need for written procedures on the financial control operations.

Public Relations

Steve Belcher reported no activity. There was a short discussion about the reports of disease carried by mosquitoes (this is the season for infections), but that topic remains the preserve of the State, through a collaboration of the VAAFM and the Health Department.

Ad Hoc Truck Sales Committee

Neither member of the committee was present to report. Jeff Schumann offered an update on the situation. The plan had been to place the trucks by the gorilla statue in Leicester for public examination, inviting bids. Then came the suggestion that trucks might be auctioned off at the annual LDFLA meeting, splitting the proceeds, but this was discarded when the LDFLA felt 3 trucks were too many.

It was noted that one truck was being used by an employee, who did not have a personal vehicle. Employees had made an offer to buy the trucks, but differing assessments of their value led to a refusal of their offer. Lynne Peck raised the question of liability and the extent of use; John Capen answered that the employee had a spotless record. A motion by Wayne Rausenberger to require the employee to return the truck failed on a 1-7 vote (the roll call record follows below the signature).

Returning to the previous plan, the trucks should be moved up for public view and bids.

District Status

Kerry White noted very few larvae, well under thresholds for treatment. Her team is now working on the resistance testing, with some snags.

The spray-records, delivered weekly to the State, have had problems. 11 out of 88 records have

failed to upload properly. No consistent pattern or cause has been identified. John Capen has prepared work-arounds: measurement of the product used after each run. The problem seems to be that the SIM cards in the flow-meter mechanism are not properly recording the data, while they are properly regulating the flows. When the District acquired the flow-meters, they did not also acquire the proprietary units from the manufacturer (\$5,000 per unit), but opted for an alternate system with laptops and software from Azelis, at a lesser cost. The State has been understanding of the technical problems. It was noted that the manufacturer, Pioneer, offers no manual, but instead a sequence of videos on You-Tube, and further that most of their customers are State agencies. The OCWICD is unusual in not being a State agency, but a District reporting to the State.

New Business

Blink Video Doorbell for the Shed

A motion by Robbie Devoid to approve the purchase of a such security equipment, to a limit of \$250, was approved by a vote of 5-4 (the roll call record follows below the signature).

Annual meeting for applicators

Jeff Whiting had noted the State announcement of an annual meeting, to be held in West Lebanon on Oct. 14.

The discussion dealt with costs, and whether employees would or would not be entitled to pay for attendance. Jeff Whiting noted that the credits offered could be acquired by participation in online training through the VAAFM website. Wayne Rausenberger's motion to limit reimbursement to the registration fee was withdrawn. Decision was deferred to the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen Belcher
Secretary

Motion to have Truck returned

		Yes	No	Abs.
Brandon	Wayne Rausenberger	x		
	Kerry White			x
	Olya Hopkins (alternate)			
Leicester	Doug Perkins			
	Lynne Peck		x	
	(alternate)			
Salisbury	Jeff Schumann		x	
	Robbie Devold		x	
	Jonathan Blake (alternate)			
Goshen	Jeff Whiting		x	
	Ben Lawton			
	Chad Beckwith (alternate)			
Pittsford	Steve Belcher		x	
	Will Mathis			
	Alicia Malay (alternate)			
Proctor	Bruce Baccei			
	Albert Wenta		x	
	Tom Hogan (alternate		x	

Motion to buy the Blink Doorbell security system

		Yes	No	Abs.
Brandon	Wayne Rausenberger		x	
	Kerry White		x	
	Olya Hopkins (alternate)			
Leicester	Doug Perkins			
	Lynne Peck	x		
	(alternate)			
Salisbury	Jeff Schumann	x		
	Robbie Devoid	x		
	Jonathan Blake (alternate)			
Goshen	Jeff Whiting	x		
	Ben Lawton			
	Chad Beckwith (alternate)			
Pittsford	Steve Belcher	x		
	Will Mathis			
	Alicia Malay (alternate)			
Proctor	Bruce Baccei			
	Albert Wenta		x	
	Tom Hogan (alternate		x	