LFICD Board Meeting
Tuesday, November 3, 2026
5:30 PM via Zoom and Bridport Town Hall

**Draft Minutes:**
**1. Call to order: 5:30**
Present: Dinah Bain, Bob Cluss, Annie Murphy, Craig Zondag, David Zarowin, Michael Linderman

**2. Approve the October 6, 2026 draft minutes**:
The October 6, 2026 minutes are approved.

**3. Treasurer's report:**
Cash forward: $94,693.64
Cash received: $0.68
Total cash for month: $94,694.32
Total Disbursements: $13,092.10
Total Accounts payable: $2,000.00
Total Accounts receivable: $0.00
Net cash, w/grant cash not in CDs (cash on hand): $79,602.22
Net current assets with grant cash and CDs: $152,695.66

**Private Grant:**
Initial: $72,200.00
Spent: $500.00

Deposited in NBM CD #1: $36,000.00
CD #1 final interest: $1,557.78
NBM CD #1 value (final): $37,557.78
NBMCD#2 initial value: $37,557.78
Interest: $246.77
NBM CD #2 current value: $37,804.55

Vermont Federal Credit Union CD (deposited August 2026): $35,000
Interest to date: $288.89
VFCU CD current value: $35,288.89

Grant current value: $73,788.44

Dinah has arranged for 3 years of financial reviews. The cost will be $2,000 for the 2024 annual financial review (done this year); the review for 2025 and 2026 together (in January 2027) will be $4500.

**4. Field Coordinator Report: Craig Zondag**

**October 1, 2026 Pest Management Professionals Meeting in West Lebanon, NH:** The sessions covered Mosquito & Tick Site Evaluations, Species of Significance, and best practices, Equipment use and care. Patti Casey (VAA-F&M) highlighted "Mosquitoes of Concern" in Vermont. Once again, the VAA-F&M focuses on key vectors for viral analysis. *Culex pipiens/restuans* (WNV), *Culiseta melanura* (WNV, EEE), *Ochlerotatus trivittatus* (WNV), *Anopheles punctipennis* (JCV). All of these species tested positive for their respective disease, with the exception that *Culiseta melanura* did not prove positive for EEE in any of the samples collected. Ten of the 14 Counties had pools that had mosquitoes that tested positive for WNV. Sixteen of the 21 positive pools were from *Culex pipiens/restuans.* This basically concludes the VAA-F&M surveillance season for mosquitoes.

While talking with Patti at this meeting I requested an end of year review in person with her, Eliza Doncaster and the OCW sometime later in November and before the NMCA Annual Meeting in December. The meeting date has not been scheduled yet.

Patti also reported on tick surveillance in the State. Though overall numbers for mosquitoes were down this season, ticks were up.

**LFICD 2026 Light Trap Season Update:** In wrapping up the numbers, 39,245 mosquitoes were trapped. Comparative analysis of data between years is still being conducted. My plan is to have a comprehensive/comparative 4-year analysis to bring to our collaborative meeting with the VAA-F&M in November.

**Addison County Regional Planning Commission; Road Commissioners Meeting:** Earlier in the month I had stopped by the ACRPC to share an observation and general concern for the general public. Numerous road projects are and have been taking place this year. A new culvert ditch was dug in front of Agway this summer. After the first rainfall when the ditch had been completed, I noticed it wasn't draining completely. Just as I had hypothesized, algae and mosquito larvae became present in short order. Upon hearing this, Mike Winslow invited me to speak to the Road Commissioners on October 22, 2026. I brought this concern to the road commissioners as an unintentional act of creating mosquito habitat as a potential threat to the general public in places of business and residences, the ultimate threat being mosquitoes known for carrying viruses that favor these habitats. As we continue to document the growing presence of *Aedes albopictus* in the State in the last several years, I believe we should not turn a blind eye to doing all we can to not create habitat for this mosquito and other vector born species of mosquitoes. My approach was to raise awareness to the risks of their work and if there could be any proactive actions taken before the State mandates "7-B Pesticide Certifications" for actually treating these areas for mosquitoes, by Road Commissions. In the past, they have evidently had "Vermont Herbicide Certifications" for treating vegetation along guardrails. It should be noted, that the State has consolidated Road Commission Districts and let go of staff. In other words, they're already strapped. Just the same, I just wanted to be a "good neighbor" and offer this information as an FYI as we look to the future… or down the road.

**Mosquito Ranger:** https://mosquitoranger.com/burlington-vt Anne brought this to my attention this month. I went to their website and didn't learn much, particularly about what they use for abatement and what they do for surveillance. I reached out to Steve Dwinell, Director, Division of Plant Industry / VAA-F&M. This was his response: "Mosquito Ranger is a service offered by Naturalawn of America, a licensed company in Vermont. My understanding is that they apply 25(b) products (pesticides exempt from Federal registration, but registered in Vermont. I have

not heard of any complaints regarding their services. If you are aware of any, we can conduct an investigation."
**NMCA Announcement:** The Annual NMCA Meeting has been scheduled for December 6 through December 9, 2026 in Mystic, CT. I have made my hotel registration and NMCA Annual Meeting registration and have registered for the meeting.
**Middlebury College GIS/Lidar mapping Internship:** On Oct. 29, I was scheduled to meet with Charlie Bettigole (Mapping Instructor) to go over the mapping season and evaluate the internship… Unfortunately, he was out, ill, and unable to meet. The meeting will be rescheduled.

The Rinnai propane heater in the lab was inspected and repaired; the billing will go to the church. Should LFICD pay the whole bill or share the cost with the church?
Motion: If the bill is under $500, we will pay the whole bill, if over $500, we should propose to share the cost with the church.

Craig looked into the cost for getting a 6-month account with Handshake for advertising for next year's interns and it is expected to be free. Craig would also like to open the internship to graduating high school seniors.

**5. 2027 LFICD Budget review:**
Changes from the draft budget: Dinah updated the 2024-2026 Review of Accounts expenses to $2,000 for year 2024; $4500 for years 2025/2026
A motion was made to approve the 2027 budget. The motion passed unanimously. The 2027 budget is approved.

**6. New Business:**
The TextNow account for our hotline phone number hasn't been working and Bob has not been able to get info from them. Do we need TextNow, or can mosquito complaints go to the lab phone or email? The decision was made to not renew TextNow. Michael will update our webpage to have hotline complaints go to the lab phone voicemail or to email.

**Adjourn: 6:08**
Next meeting: Tuesday, December 1, 2026, 5:30 PM via Zoom

To view the video of this meeting, use the following link:
https://middlebury.zoom.us/rec/share/2dMptDKqJ526THrbwS82N4QrxiMyLQmfiBAQo_XblJyCBWpS0tvgxx2TYcQduU1W.iWXNzbJf0qVvfIhO?from=hub

Passcode: +trr9^0=