

LFICD Board Meeting
Tuesday, March 3, 2026
5:30 PM via Zoom

Draft Minutes:

1. Call to order: 5:35

Present: Dinah Bain, Bob Cluss, Christine Chapline, David Zarowin, Craig Zondag

2. Approve the February 3, 2026 draft minutes:

The February 3, 2026 minutes are approved.

3. Treasurer's report (January and February):

Cash forward: \$138,515.50

Cash received: \$1.41

Total cash for month: \$138,516.91

Total Disbursements: \$3,525.04

Cash on hand LFICD: \$134,991.87

Total Accounts payable: \$0.00

Total Accounts receivable: \$0.00

Net current cash, w/grant cash: \$134,991.87

Net Current assets w/o grant cash or CD: \$99,291.87

Net Current assets with grant cash and CD: \$171,871.62

Private Grant:

Initial: \$72,200.00

Added to checking account: \$36,200.00

Initial CD deposit: \$36,000.00

Spent: \$500.00

CD interest in 2025: \$683.21

Current Grant CD value: \$36,879.75

Current total value: \$72,579.75

4. Field coordinator report:

Internships: Middlebury College GIS-Lidar: 7 applications received with one qualified.

LFICD Field-tech: I have not successfully been able to get onto the HandShake platform to submit our internship offering for 2026. Bob Cluss has spoken with the Middlebury College intern coordinator and the summer intern notice should be posted today or tomorrow on the Middlebury College Handshake platform. The application deadline is April 17. The internship announcement needs to be posted at UVM via a UVM intern coordinator who can post it on our behalf. There is also a potential candidate for Craig to interview who had interned with the VAA last year and has sent a letter of interest.

Maintenance and getting ready for the new season:

The CO2 tanks were refilled at Heustis Farm Supply; a total of 4 CDFG 10 tanks and 1 CDFG 20 tanks were returned on Feb19, 2026.

I would like to purchase magnetic placards to identify our vehicles as “LFICD” and also placards Identifying “LFICD transporting larvicide”. The board agreed that placards for the vehicles are a good idea and inexpensive, so Craig is authorized to order them.

Cornwall Town Meeting: I attended Cornwall’s Town Meeting on Saturday morning, Feb. 28, 2026. They gave me an opportunity to speak at the end of the meeting. I had connected with the Cornwall Conservation Commission before the meeting. I addressed the townspeople, allowing them to place a face with the LFICD and noting the LFICD Annual Report on page 73 in the Town Meeting Annual Report. I also expressed the desire to visit private properties and assess mosquito breeding habitats. In conjunction with the Cornwall Conservation Commission, I would like to set up a time to provide a Power Point presentation to the town. The CCC meets on March 12 and I plan on being in attendance.

On February 6, 2026, Craig attended (via Teams) a meeting to coordinate field efforts with the NRCS (Natural Resources Conservation Service) to better manage mosquito breeding habitat. Jim Eikenberry represented the NRCS; Steve Dwinell and Patti Casey represented the VAA-FM (Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Farms and Markets).

Craig expressed the need to knock down the reed canary grass on NRCS property within the LFICD by controlled burn or mowing, but the problem is that the trees that the NRCS has planted in their effort to reclaim the habitat would get damaged. More communication will be scheduled between the mosquito districts, the VAA and the NRCS.

5. 5-year Permit:

Our 5-year pesticide application permit is not due until next year, but Patti Casey (VAA-FM) would appreciate having both mosquito districts on the same schedule and the OCW (Otter Creek Watershed Insect Control District) needs to submit their permit application this year.

Chris and Craig have filled out most of the permit application; Bob will review it and send it on to Patti.

With or without renewing the permit, landowners on potential drone landing sites still need to be identified and give us written permission to operate from their properties.

6. New Business

Bob received a message from Marty Haitz, the Emergency Management Coordinator in Addison. He wants to talk about Addison joining the LFICD. Bob will call him back and let him know that we don’t have the capacity to handle another town now, but we would like to know more about their concerns. Bob will advise the town of Addison to have a conversation with the State (Steve Dwinell at VAA-FM).

Bob has emailed a Vermont drone operator that does agricultural treatments and asked them to contact him, but they have not yet responded.

Bob spoke with Jeff Schumann (OCWICD) about the 5-year permit renewal and the OCW plans to produce a standardized permission form to be used by both the LFICD and the OCW to send to affected landowners.

7. Adjourn: 6:45

Next meeting: Tuesday, April 7, 2026, 5:30 PM via Zoom

To view the video of this meeting, use the following link:

https://middlebury.zoom.us/rec/share/NgUoUc-04GG_PniGYtHidSNy3FzcTePU0t-C6hoKBchyg_bf_7cjOpzehsRpjuO.Hd4lmwvJDXL1QLBt?startTime=1772577342000

Passcode: 0xB3!B@a