

June 11, 2025



# NORTHWEST MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT

Keeping the community safe

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
(847) 537-2306 # 229  
June 11, 2025

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Northwest Mosquito Abatement District was held at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 11, 2025, at 1500 Hicks Rd, Suite 100, Rolling Meadows, IL 60008.

With a quorum present, Daniel R. Ansani, President, called the meeting to order.

Trustees present: Daniel R. Ansani, President; Dale Niewiardowski, Vice President / Secretary; Russell Nowak, Treasurer; Justin Harbison, Assistant Treasurer; Carol Johnson, Assistant Secretary

Trustee Absent: None

Also present: James Thennisch, Director; Carolyn Strahammer, Attorney; Patrick Irwin, Assistant Director; Ewa Migacz, Office Manager; Daniel L. Polfuss, President, W.B. Olson, Inc. and Nicole Cosso, Project Manager, W.B. Olson, Inc.

The minutes of the May 21, 2025, meeting were read. Trustee Russell Nowak made a motion to approve the minutes as read, and Trustee Carol Johnson seconded the motion.

The Secretary called the roll. All ayes were recorded, and the motion was declared carried.

The Treasurer's Report for May 2025 was presented, and all checks were approved for payment. Trustee Dale Niewiardowski made a motion to accept the report as read, and Trustee Russell Nowak seconded the motion.

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The Secretary called the roll. All ayes were recorded, and the motion was declared carried.

The bids for the Wheeling building project were opened at the W.B. Olson, Inc. location on May 20, 2025. Daniel L. Polfuss, President of W.B. Olson, Inc., presented the Contract Award Recommendation, including alternates and comments regarding any noncompliance issues. The Trustees discussed the project, the recommendations focusing on contractor contingencies and the Village of Wheeling's permit process. The attorney inquired about the provisions regarding material cost escalations.

Attorney Carolyn Strahammer informed the Trustees that one FOIA request had been submitted and was responded to in a timely manner.

Assistant Director Patrick Irwin presented the Entomology Report, which included the NWMAD Mosquito Report for Week 23 of 2025. The sprayers in the Bartlett and Elk Grove shops have been calibrated for the season, and the Wheeling trucks will be ready next week. The entomologist's abstract has been accepted for presentation at the Lyme Borreliosis and Other Tick-borne Diseases Conference in Chicago from September 7 to 10. The District observed a significant number of deer tick nymphs on the trails of the Forest Preserve District. In two weeks, Dr. Irwin will submit spring tick samples to the CDC for pathogen testing, and he plans to receive the results before the conference. District personnel continue to engage in public outreach events with the next one scheduled for Saturday, June 21, 2025, at the Prospect Heights Block Party in Lions Park.

Currently, nuisance mosquito activity is at normal levels. The populations of vector species associated with West Nile virus, specifically *Culex pipiens* and *Culex restuans*, are typical for this time of year. Mosquito pool testing has begun, and the entomology department tested 113 batches last week. So far, a total of 257 batches have been tested, with one positive result.

Director James Thennisch presented the Director's Report, which included staff updates, operational highlights, and developments regarding the Wheeling project.

Director Thennisch presented an updated total Wheeling project estimate, post-bid opening, at \$8,400,000.

The architect 845 Design Group and the District have finalized the application for building permits with the Village of Wheeling.

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Director Thennisch then presented the Financial Report. The second onsite audit by the ATA Group is scheduled for June 24, 2025. Lauterbach & Amen LLP completed the Actuarial Valuation which was submitted to auditors for review.

The Director reported that negotiations are pending with the Wintrust Group, with anticipated increased lending of \$6.5 million.

Director Thennisch also provided an update on the Wheeling Facility Improvement Project. He presented the Guaranteed Maximum Price received from the W.B. Olson Inc. in Amendment Two, totaling \$7,137,788. Trustees discussed the GMP provided.

An update on Field Operations was also provided. The Field Operations Department has reported that 35 seasonal workers have been hired. Additional interviews are scheduled, and applications continue to be accepted, with a total of 53 seasonal positions available. Crews have been working in the field on catch-basin treatments and training new hires. As of this date, 15,534 basins have been treated.

The Director presented the Dental and Vision insurance renewal proposal. Trustees discussed the renewal.

Trustee Russell Nowak made a motion to renew the Dental and Vision insurance with option 3, BCBS. Trustee Dale Niewiardowski seconded the motion.

The Secretary called the roll. All ayes were recorded, and the motion was declared carried.

Director Thennisch then presented the Internal Services Report.

An additional burglary alarm with heat detectors has been installed at the Wheeling storage location. The Cook County Forest Preserve has been working on weekends to remove invasive species (plants and trees) from the rear parking lot at the Bartlett location.

The next regular Board meeting was initially scheduled for July 16, 2025.

The Board discussed changing the previously adopted annual meeting schedule to move the July meeting from July 16 to July 23, 2025. Trustee Nowak made a motion to approve the change of the July meeting

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date to July 23, 2025. Trustee Niewiardowski seconded the motion.

The Secretary called the roll. All ayes were recorded, and the motion was declared carried.

At 7:00 p.m., Trustee Carol Johnson made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2). Trustee Justin Harbison seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

The Secretary called the roll. All ayes were recorded, and the motion was declared carried.

The Board reconvened the regular Board meeting at 7:41 p.m.

Trustee Russell Nowak made a motion to end the probation period for Olivia Niewiardowski and implement a pay increase adjustment. Trustee Justin Harbison seconded the motion.

The Secretary called the roll. All ayes were recorded. Trustee Niewiardowski abstained. The motion was declared carried.

Trustee Carol Johnson made a motion to approve W.B. Olson, Inc., Contract Award Recommendation, with bids totaling \$5,871,964, and authorized James Thennisch, Director, as signatory. Trustee Justin Harbison seconded the motion.

The Secretary called the roll, and all ayes had been cast for approval of the motion and thereby declared the motion carried

Trustee Dale Niewiardowski made a motion to approve W.B. Olson, Inc., Amendment Two to the contract, with a GMP of \$7,137,788 and a total Wheeling project cost of \$8,400,000. Trustee Russell Nowak seconded the motion.

The Secretary called the roll, and all ayes had been cast for approval of the motion, and thereby declared the motion carried.

Trustee Russell Nowak made a motion to join the North Shore Mosquito Abatement District and Des Plaines Valley Mosquito Abatement District to organize the Illinois Vector Abatement Network at a cost not to exceed \$7,500.00 pending final bylaws review, and Trustee Justin Harbison seconded the motion.

The Secretary called the roll. All ayes had been cast for approval of the motion and thereby declared the motion carried.

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There being no further business to come before the Board, Trustee Russell Nowak made a motion to adjourn, and Trustee Justin Harbison seconded the motion. The Secretary called the roll. All ayes had been cast for approval of the motion and thereby declared the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

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President

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Vice President /Secretary