



Plymouth County

MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT

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Stephen A. Gillett - Superintendent
Ross Rossetti - Asst. Superintendent/Pilot
Ellen Bidlack - Entomologist
Denise Deluca - Administrative Assistant

Commissioners:
Cathleen Drinan, Chairman
John Sharland, Vice Chairman/Secretary
Michael F. Valenti
John Kenney

COMMISSIONER'S MEETING MINUTES

On Wednesday, July 24, 2019, the Commissioners of the Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project held their monthly meeting at the Project's Headquarters in Plymouth at 9:30 am. Commissioners Drinan, Valenti and Sharland were present, along with Superintendent Stephen Gillett, Asst. Supt. Ross Rossetti, Entomologist Ellen Bidlack, Community Liaison Dan Daly and Administrative Assistant Denise Deluca. Commissioner Kenney was absent.

Chairman Drinan called the meeting to order at 9:47 am.

Public Comment/Input - None

Administrative Assistant Update

Denise reported that as of July 19, there have been 9,549 requests for spraying, averaging 235 per day. This is about 1500 fewer requests than at this time last year. She also noted that the confirming emails are a big hit with the spray requestors.

Project Administration

Expenses for the last period were reviewed, with no issues noted.

The minutes of the June 19, 2019 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Commissioner's Reports – Commissioner Drinan will prepare a list of questions that people can ask the private mosquito control companies.

Policy Review – a significant amount of time was spent reviewing draft updates of the Commissioner's By Laws and the Project's Policy, with several changes and additions made. A few sections need further research before updating, so these were tabled until the next meeting to allow staff to gather more information. These include wording on performance evaluations and on job requirements for Supt. and Asst. Supt. as to Pesticide Licenses (required) and CDL/Hydraulics licenses (preferred vs. required). Commissioners did agree to a proposed change in staff vacation policy during the season, making it less restrictive.

Meet the staff/staff update – None

The Dulong situation has resulted in some suggested wording changes to the web site about spraying. In particular, wording will be added to indicate that in most cases, the spraying is done from the street.

Steve reviewed the reply from Jessica Burgess about release of the Executive Session minutes that concerned the lump sum settlement agreement. Commissioner Sharland requested that a specific citation be provided as to which exception sub clause in the Public Records law applies to this situation. (From the Open Meeting Law Guide: Public bodies are not required to disclose the minutes, notes, or other materials used in an executive session if the disclosure of these records may defeat the lawful purposes of the executive session. Once disclosure would no longer defeat the purposes of the executive session, however, minutes and other records from that executive session must be disclosed unless they fall within an exemption to the Public Records Law, G.L. c. 4, § 7, cl. 26, or the attorney-client privilege applies.)

Staff investigated the large collection of tires at the vacant ex-Ford dealership/ex-school bus maintenance facility on Route 28 in West Bridgewater. Town Hall reports that the current owner wishes to keep them. Staff will check again in the fall.

Evaluation of repair or replace continues for the salt marsh machine.

A lease for the new hangar for our airplane never got signed. For now, the airplane will stay where it is while the situation is worked out amongst DCA/MM, the hangar owner and Supt. Gillett.

The security system for the building is now up and working and A1 building cleaning company is on board and doing a good job.

Several thank you notes were read, including one from the Carver DPW director for tire removal and from the public concerning professionalism of field techs.

Water Management – Larval checks for the period totaled 1,425 and basins treated season-to-date total is 38,107. Machine digging for the period of May 22 to date included 102 Indian Trail in Hanover, 20 Minuteman Road in Hingham, 26 Wilder Road in Kingston, 117 Taylor Street and 1204 Plymouth Street in Pembroke and 120 Drew Road in Plymouth, for a total of 1155 linear feet.

Entomologist Report:

Ellen reported that as of today, she has submitted 157 pools to the state, with no WNV or EEE isolates yet. She did note that there has been one WNV isolate in Boston and four EEE isolates in Bristol County as of today and that EEE isolates found in July is worrisome.

Several of our traps are running low on collection sizes compared to prior years. Not sure why.

Community Liaison Dan Daly Update

Dan continues to work with the school systems to update their Integrated Pest Management Plans to include DUEF for adult mosquito spraying. Many only list larvicides. He is finding many new school staff that ask, “who are you folks” re: The Project.

Dan expressed frustration with the Brockton schools as to how they request adulticide spraying. He has gone up one level to get the situation rectified.

Lakeville Senior Center tomorrow for a presentation.

Dan agreed to an interview in Abington with the new member of the Board of Health, to be broadcast on Abington's local TV cable channel. After the interview, he requested that he be allowed to review the interview before it is broadcast. He had some concerns.

Other Business/Comment – Commissioner Sharland asked if a change to meeting on either Tuesdays or Thursdays, starting in September and for the foreseeable future, would be agreeable to commissioners and staff. Child care issue. Everyone agreed to changing to Thursdays and keeping with a 9:30 am start time. Commissioner Sharland expressed his gratitude for making this change.

Date, Time and Location of Next Commission Meeting – Wednesday, August 28, 2019 at 9:30am at Plymouth Headquarters.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,


John Sharland, Vice Chair and Secretary.