

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE STATE RECLAMATION & MOSQUITO CONTROL BOARD



PLYMOUTH COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT

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Commissioners:

John Sharland, Chairman
Ann Motyka, Vice Chairman/Secretary
Michael F. Valenti
John Kenney
Thomas Reynolds

Ross Rossetti – Superintendent/Pilot
Matthew McPhee – Asst. Superintendent
Ellen Bidlack – Entomologist
Denise DeLuca – Administrative Assistant
Cathleen Drinan – Community Liaison

COMMISSIONER'S MEETING MINUTES OCTOBER 28, 2021

On Thursday, October 28, 2021, the Commissioners of the Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project held their monthly meeting in person at the Project building. Present were Commissioners Sharland, Motyka, and Valenti. Also present; Ross Rossetti, Superintendent/Pilot, Matt McPhee, Assistant Superintendent, Entomologist Ellen Bidlack, and Administrative Assistant Denise DeLuca. While Community Liaison Cathy Drinan attended via Zoom.

Commissioners present were Sharland, Valenti, and Motyka. Absent were Commissioners Kenney and Reynolds. With a quorum being present, the meeting was called to order by Chair Sharland at 9:37am.

Public Comment/Input- Present and listening in via Zoom was Alex Giannantonio, the new SRB Operations Coordinator.

Vote to approve September, 2021 Minutes- The minutes were unanimously approved as written.

Administrative Assistant Update- Denise presented the most up-to-date expense report. Denise played a recording of a phone message from a Hanson resident complimenting new Project field tech Chris Hoppie for his professionalism and overall job performance. Chris's performance was also noted by a Beech Street resident in Bridgewater.

Commissioner's Report- Commissioner Sharland noted that collected tires were being offered on a Bridgewater website. He will be contacting the website, via Facebook to offer them an opportunity to donate the tires to the Project for proper disposal.

Assistant Superintendent Report- Matt explained that there are regulations regarding tire collection within Priority Habitat designated by Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program. The Project will need to coordinate with Natural Heritage before tires are removed in these situations. The crew collected 117 tires up to this point. Hand cleaning and brushing totals were 18,645 feet. The machine digging crew worked on sites in Bridgewater, East Bridgewater, Kingston, and Wareham, completing a total of 510 feet.

Superintendent's Report/Monthly Review- Ross commented on General Foreman Russ Mazzilli's job performance. In addition to meeting with the crew on a daily basis to discuss their daily schedules, the communication, performance, and teamwork were duly noted. Ross met with the Kingston Conservation Commission and the Department of Ecological Restoration regarding the town of Kingston being interested in

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the purchase of abandoned cranberry bogs, with the intent to restore and preserve them. The Project will be using a water management tool named "Field Seeker" that permanently adds records when being used. Ross noted that a BOH meeting in Bridgewater discussed Bill 926 and was looking for support of this bill. It further states that all pesticides sprayed at and around schools must fall under a specific category, 25B.

Further discussions took place on the numbers and frequency of drug testing. The Commissions felt that 2 employees at a time would be randomly selected two times per year, unless an employee is in an accident while on Project time. Ross has been in contact with BID Plymouth for the specifics. A motion to move along this discussion to include monies needed as a line item in the budget was accepted unanimously.

Vaccine update: There are currently 2 employees waiting on exemptions. There was no further information on booster shots. All other employees, including the Commissioners, are in full compliance.

Ross has requested permission to travel to Savannah Georgia to attend the National Agricultural Aviation Association convention from December 6-10, 2021. All other employees will be attending the NMCA convention via Zoom.

Entomologist Report- Ellen reported that all trapping was completed for the season. This year, there were no human cases or mosquitoes found carrying the EEEV in the state. Ellen continued her pesticide resistance work done in collaboration with the Center for Excellence at Cornell. Ellen presented a graph with the results of the effects of the 2 chemicals used on mosquito mortality. Ellen will complete an inventory of her traps so that the ones that need to be repaired or replaced can be noted for next season.

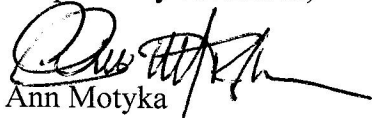
Community Liaison Report- Cathy continues to look for groups to visit but has found it difficult although Pembroke is looking for in-person presentations in their town. Cathy was also waiting to hear if articles that had been submitted to the "Northeaster" newsletter would be published soon. Ross will double-check.

Other Business/Comment- Ross further explained the status of the Task Force report and how the information would be presented. The Task Force sub-committees continue to meet every week. The Superintendent of the Bristol County Mosquito Control Project, keeping the Task Force aware of the chemicals the projects use and the regulations they are expected to follow, was complimented by Ross on her representation on behalf of the Projects.

Date, Time, Location of next Commission Meeting- Thursday, November 18, at 9:30am. Meeting will be held at the Project headquarters, 272 South Meadow Road, Plymouth. It will also have a ZOOM option.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:50am

Respectively submitted,



Ann Motyka
Commissioner/Vice-Chairman/Secretary
Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project