

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE STATE RECLAMATION & MOSQUITO CONTROL

Plymouth County MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT

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

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

COMMISSIONER'S MEETING MINUTES

On Thursday, January 30, 2020 the Commissioners of the Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project held their monthly meeting at the Project's Headquarters in Plymouth at 8:30 am. Commissioners Drinan, Valenti, Kenney and Sharland were present, along with Assistant Superintendent/Pilot Ross Rossetti Bidlack, Community Liaison Dan Daly and Administrative Assistant Denise Deluca. Blake Dinius, Entomologist Educator and Tick Specialist at the Plymouth County Extension Service was present for the whole meeting.

Chairman Drinan called the meeting to order at 8:35 am.

Public Comment/Input - None

Administrative Assistant Update - None

Project Administration

The Monthly Expense Report was reviewed with no issues noted.

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

Commissioner's Report

The annual reorganization was run by Commissioner Sharland. Cathy Drinan was reelected Chair by a unanimous vote, and Commissioner Sharland was reelected Vice Chair and Secretary by a unanimous vote.

We began a review of the Project's Policy. Reaching page 8, we agreed to suspend the review until the next meeting so that Ross could give his report and then leave for a Superintendent's/Assistant Superintendent's meeting in Northborough.

Staff Attendance Update/Discussion - postponed until next meeting

Superintendent's Report/Monthly Review

In the superintendent's absence, Ross reported:

Steve, Ross and Ellen attended the quarterly SRB meeting. During that meeting, two candidates to fill our vacant commissioner seat were interviewed. Results will be announced at a later date.

Alicia Bouchard, Dept. of Agriculture, gave a review of the aerial adulticiding operations this past summer. She also reported that the "Wish Lists" provided by the Projects, most likely for now, will only generate money for additional larviciding.

Project staff is ramping up for larviciding, which will include use of methoprene granules for swamp areas where the trees have crypts.

The AgWagon (airplane) will be having it's annual service soon.

Plans are moving forward to use existing Project money to purchase a flatbed truck and A1 sprayer, a new pickup truck for a hydraulic sprayer.

The first batch of battery operated hand held field equipment has been deployed and is under evaluation. Results look promising to replace the two-cycle engine driven equipment.

The annual report to the state and all local town reports have been produced and submitted.

Full crew will be attending Dig Safe training of Feb. 11.

Water Management – Since the last meeting, 475 tires were collected, with 206 collected in January 2020. The 2019 total was 2763. Hand cleanings totaled 9725 ft. and machine digging was carried out in East Bridgewater at 1000 Washington St. and on Old Orchard St., Pembroke on Harvard St. and in Rochester at 145 Clapp Road.for a total of 705 feet.

Entomologist Report:

In Ellen's absence, Ross reported:

Updating procedures for pre and post dips after larvicide spraying.

Identifying areas to use methoprene granules for larviciding.

Repairing traps, many of which needed some re-soldering.

Community Liaison Dan Daly Update

Dan has updated the community contacts list and will email to us for review.

He will be hosting several town health agents at the Project on February 25.

Other Business/Comment

Blake Dinius introduced himself and said that because he gets questions about mosquitoes and he knows that we get questions about ticks, he wanted to sit in on one of our meetings and then discuss ways to work together. He announced that the Extension Service has received some funding for Training Events and it is his plan to provide an event in each town in the county. Focus of the training will be tick bite prevention and will discuss

using repellents on shoes, etc. We discussed the marketing strategy he intends to use to hopefully get good attendance.

He will also be providing a session for Health Professionals, including doctors, in June.

Date, Time and Location of Next Commission Meeting – Thursday, February 20, 2020 at 9:30am at Plymouth Headquarters.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:15 am.

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Respectfully submitted,

John Sharland, Vice Chair and Secretary.