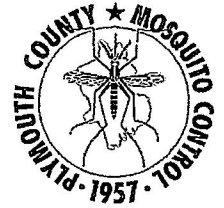




THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
THE STATE RECLAMATION & MOSQUITO CONTROL BOARD



## PLYMOUTH COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT

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**Commissioners:**

John Sharland, Chairman

Ann Motyka, Vice Chairman/Secretary

Thomas Reynolds

Elaine Fiore

Ross Rossetti – Superintendent/Pilot

Matthew McPhee - Asst. Superintendent

Ellen Bidlack – Entomologist

Denise DeLuca – Administrative Assistant

### COMMISSIONER'S MEETING MINUTES

September 21st, 2023

On Thursday, September 21st, 2023, the Commissioners of the Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project held their monthly meeting at the Project headquarters. In attendance were Commissioners Sharland, Motyka, Reynolds, and Fiore. Employees present: Ross Rossetti, Superintendent/Pilot, Matt McPhee, Assistant Superintendent, Denise DeLuca Administrative Assistant, and Erin Morrill; Community Liaison. The meeting was called to order by Chair Sharland at 9:34am.

Public Comment/Input: There was no public comment.

Comments From the Chair: Commissioner Sharland asked Ross if there had been any update on the candidate who had potential interest in the fifth commissioner position. In order to increase the pool of candidates, Commissioners Reynolds and Fiore will get information out to the town's DPW and health agencies.

Vote to approve August 17, 2023 Minutes: The August 17, 2023 minutes were unanimously approved by roll call vote by Commissioners Motyka, Fiore and Sharland. Commissioner Reynolds abstained.

Administrative Assistant Expense Report: Denise reported that there were no significant changes in the month's expense report.

Assistant Superintendent Report-Field work summary: Matt noted that with additional hiring, the Project is fully staffed. He presented the Activity Summary from August 17th to September 20th. Larvicide site visits the past month totaled 1,336 for a yearly total of 7,126. Total acres treated were 1,504. Residents called in 74 water check requests during this time period. The basin crew treated 4,595 catch basins and finished the season with 48,597 total. The Project averaged 180 calls per day. In terms of adulticiding, the spray crew treated a total of 62,931 acres while applying 579 gallons of product. Two brands were used for adulticide this season. There were 216 gallons of DUET and 362 gallons of Zenivex E4 RTU applied. Water management work was completed in the towns of Abington, Bridgewater, Duxbury, Halifax, and Middleboro.

Superintendent's Review of Project Operations since last meeting: Ross reported that the Project stopped taking calls for spray requests on September 1st and the crew increased their larviciding due to significant and consistent rainfall.

# PLYMOUTH COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT

Ross noted that the Project will be requesting a 2% increase for the FY25 budget. On September 20th, the crew attended the New England Public Works Expo in Marlborough. All employees took a class named “Stop the Bleed” that emphasized chainsaw safety. The State Reclamation Board met on September 18th. The board reviewed the ‘EV First’ policy. They also updated the Jamestown Canyon Testing agreement. Their next meeting will be held in November. On November 11th, Veteran’s Day, a tire recycling event will be held in Plymouth at the DPW department in Camelot Park. This event is held in collaboration with South Shore Recycling.

The Northeast Mosquito Control Association (NMCA) will be holding a Field Day at the Project on Thursday, October 12th from 9am-1:00pm.

Ross discussed the Project employees vacation time policy. He explained that the Project policy is different from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Red Book policy. Discussions took place to amend the Project’s policies. A motion to adopt the Red Book regarding employees with less than 9.5 years of service, retroactive from March; 2023 was made by Commissioner Fiore and seconded by Commissioner Reynolds. Additionally, a motion to adopt bi-weekly pay accrual was made by Commissioner Fiore and seconded by Commissioner Reynolds. Lastly, a motion to revert back to a 15 year vacation policy and to allow Ross to approach the 3 affected employees regarding this policy change and report back with feedback was made by Commissioner Fiore and seconded by Commissioner Reynolds. All three passed unanimously by roll call vote. The Project vacation policy will be as follows:

<u>Length of Creditable Service</u>	<u>Accumulated Credit Annually</u>
Less than 9.5 years	15 days
9.5 years but less than 15 years	20 days
After 15 years	25 days

Entomologist Report: Update on Mosquito Surveillance: (In Ellen’s absence, Ross presented her report). Plymouth County reported that 33 pools had tested positive for West Nile Virus in the following towns; Abington, Whitman, Brockton, Kingston, Halifax, and Hingham. 15 towns in the county were considered at “moderate risk”; most recently Carver. Due to precipitation, Ellen trapped an average of 76 mosquitos in the gravid traps, significantly up from the normal average of 8 trapped at this time in past years. Ross discussed the need for 1 to 2 additional seasonal employees to focus solely on larviciding; including one that would work exclusively with Ellen to assist her in seasonal trapping efforts.

Community Liaison Report-Presentations Update-Upcoming Engagements: On August 17th, Erin visited Camp Norse in Kingston, meeting with 35 youngsters. The staff would like Erin to return next season for another presentation. She attended the Marshfield Fair on August 22nd. She was met by enthusiastic crowds who inquired about adulticiding, water checks, and tire recycling. On August 23rd, she presented at the Rochester COA. They have requested her to return again next season. She also presented at the Rochester Public library on September 13th. Erin is beginning to contact and get current information to update county towns’ Integrated Pest Management(IPM) plans.

Commissioner Comments, if any: There were no other comments.

Date, Time, Location of next Commission Meeting/Adjournment: Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 19th, 2023 at 9:30am. Meeting will be scheduled at the Project headquarters, 272 South Meadow Road, Plymouth. It will also have a ZOOM option. Motion to adjourn the meeting was accepted unanimously at 10:49am.

# PLYMOUTH COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT

Respectively submitted,



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

Documents that accompanied this agenda:

- \* Meeting Agenda
- \* August 17, 2023 Minutes
- \* Expense Report
- \* Service Requests from Week Ending September 20th, 2023
- \* NMCA Field Day registration form