

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE STATE RECLAMATION & MOSQUITO CONTROL

Plymouth County MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT

COMMISSIONE

R'S MEETING MINUTES

On Thursday, March 26, 2020 the Commissioners of the Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project held their monthly meeting remotely at 9:30 am. Commissioners Drinan, Valenti, Kenney and Sharland were present, along with Assistant Superintendent/Pilot Ross Rossetti, Community Liaison Dan Daly and Administrative Assistant Denise Deluca. Entomologist Ellen Bidlack was in the field dipping for larvae and training the field techs on those procedures. Supt. Steve Gillett was absent.

Chairman Drinan called the meeting to order at 9:35 am.

Public Comment/Input - None

<u>Administrative Assistant Update</u> - There were no large one time expenses since the last meeting. Notices have been sent out to Middleboro concerning aerial spraying of larvicide tomorrow in the Rocky Gutter Wildlife Management Area and will go out to other towns as the spraying schedule develops.

Project Administration

The minutes of the February 20, 2020 meeting will be reviewed and approved at our next meeting.

Commissioner's Report

Ongoing review of Project Policy is suspended until our next face to face meeting.

Superintendent's Report/Monthly Review

In the superintendent's absence, Ross reported:

The A-1 sprayer arrived but it was damaged in shipment. A new one will be provided at no cost. The new trucks and sprayers have been ordered.

No news yet on a fifth commissioner – the posted meeting of the SRB for March 18th was canceled. It had this as an agenda item (Vote).

The AgWagon has had it's annual inspection/servicing and is ready to fly, starting tomorrow to Rocky Gutter, weather permitting.

Seasonal Jobs have been posted. One returning, so 3 will be hired.

Temporary Employee Work Arrangements – along with general and common sense social distancing, the following were noted:

- Project closed per state order on March 16th and 17th
- March 18th Essential employees/workee issued to the Project in light of the upcoming possible EEE threat
- Extra sanitizing of door handles, etc.
- Building is closed to the public
- The internal telephone intercom system is being used to communicate between offices
- Ross is frequently using conference calls with staff to keep everyone informed and to receive information back
- All employees computers have been set up for working from home if that becomes necessary
- April 6th is still (as of this morning) the date the state will re-evaluate the COVID-19 situation for workplaces
- Seasonals are scheduled to start on May 11. The interview process under current restrictions will need to be figured out

Water Management – Since the last meeting, 85 tires were collected, with 444 collected year to date. Hand cleanings totaled 13015 ft. and machine digging was carried out in Hanover at 106 Elm St. and at Cardinal Cushing, in West Bridgewater at C&C Reading Farm for a total of 875 feet.

Entomologist Report:

Along with developing locations to aerial spray larvicide and training the field techs, Ellen continues to prepare for the aerial deployment of methoprene granules over areas with crypts, etc. that are hard to penetrate with aqueous sprays.

Community Liaison Dan Daly Update

Dan reported that the group visit on February 25th went well and spawned more interest from some Boards of Health, etc., including a request for attendance at upcoming Selectmen's meeting in Middleboro. Date not yet established.

Dan will have his list of town/city contacts emailed out to each of the commissioners for review and any known updates.

Other Business/Comment

Commissioners discussed the Superintendent's absence at the last three meetings in a row. Cathy will contact HR.

Date, Time and Location of Next Commission Meeting – Thursday, April 23, 2020 at 9:30am at Plymouth Headquarters.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:15 am.

Respectfully submitted,

John Sharland, Vice Chair and Secretary.