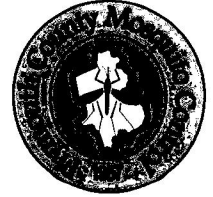




THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE STATE RECLAMATION & MOSQUITO CONTROL BOARD



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 Tuesday, October 22, 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.

Chairman Drinan called the meeting to order at 9:40 am.

Public Comment/Input - None

Administrative Assistant Update

Denise noted that her summer assistant, Alex, had left in September and that she will be missed next summer as she will be moving on to full time employment in her chosen field.

A change was suggested to the part of the web site that lists the streets that will be sprayed the next day. A better worded header was suggested that would describe that the yards of spray requestors would be sprayed on those streets and not the whole streets. Staff will draft the wording for review at the next Commissioner's meeting.

Project Administration

Expenses for the last three months were reviewed. Chairman Drinan requested that for future reports, the line item of Rent, Fuel and Utilities be separated out since Rent is not a variable but the other two are.

The minutes of the July 24, 2019 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Commissioner's Reports

Chairman Drinan requested that before a meeting is cancelled in the future, the chair be informed by either the Supt. or Asst. Supt. as to the reason for the proposed cancellation so that the chair can decide if the commissioners are in a position to meet in the absence of both the Supt. and Asst. Supt. This policy would apply to the situation in August. The cancellation in September was due to "no quorum." In this regard,

Commissioner Sharland requested that Juan Gutierrez be contacted once again to ask when our viable candidate will be interviewed. (Charles Farnham, East Bridgewater)

Next, a discussion was held concerning improved communications:

- Staff meetings are held the day after our meetings. It was requested that Ellen give the staff an update on her activities at these meetings so the rest of the staff knows what she is doing in that period.
- If only Denise and Ellen are going to be in the building, exterior doors are locked. This has been the policy right along.
- In cases where an email is sent out that requires a response (e.g. a meeting cancellation or date change proposal), if no response in a reasonable amount of time, Denise will follow up with a Text Message.

The "Meeting with the Governor" in Lakeville, during the height of the EEE situation, was reviewed. Cathy suggested that if such a meeting were to occur again, that the "two" attendees at the closed door meeting should have been the Supt. and the Entomologist. Steve related how the situation evolved in the short time before the announcement and request for attendance and that he had suggested himself and Ellen be the two.* The good news out of the closed door meeting was that the Lakeville area state representative pushed for larvicide treating of the Audubon properties. The governor heard that message. ** Cathy noted that she and Supt. Gillet received different messages from the Governor's office as to who should attend.* Cathy requested a better view of the budget. Steve pointed out that any large unique expenditures during the budget year are brought to our attention before spending takes place. As a result of this discussion, there will be a Budget Review item on our agenda on a quarterly basis.

At Commissioner Valenti's request, Steve reviewed how the response to EEE escalates between our projects and the state DPH, resulting in the decisions for widespread aerial spraying.

Superintendent's Report/Monthly Review

Evaluation of repair or replace continues for the salt marsh machine. We viewed some pictures of load spreading pads that are being considered to further reduce any impact to the marshes.

At the annual Field Day, a larvicide/barrier sprayer that gives a much better "depth" was demonstrated. Called the A-1 Super Duty, staff is considering a purchase. The sprayer would need to be mounted on a flat bed truck as opposed to a pickup truck. The sprayer cost is around \$15k and a flat bed truck (with stake body sides for use in the tire program) would be around \$35k. The commissioners agreed with the further consideration of these purchases.

Staff is looking into necessary steps/permits, etc. for beaver mitigation and showed some very revealing pictures of significant enlargement of mosquito breeding standing water areas resulting from beaver dams. The commissioners agreed with proceeding in this endeavor.

Water Management – Larval checks since our July meeting totaled 2,564 and 8,1671 for the season. Basins treated since July meeting totaled 15,557 and 53,248 for the season. Yard spray requests for the season totaled 17,830, up about 1,000 over last year. Requests for sprays on school properties totaled 60, with 10 or so being the norm in the recent past.

A total of 693 gallons of Duet adulticide was used for the season in truck sprayers, covering 78,663 acres.

Tires collected so far this fall stands at 314 with 1,927 collected year to date.
Hand cleanings of standing water areas since our last meeting totaled 8,055 feet.

Machine digging took place in eight towns since our last meeting, totaling 2410 feet.

Meet the Staff and Staff Update – nothing to report.

Entomologist Report:

Ellen gave a presentation that showed data and graph of all the numbers during the EEE increase period. Another graph showed the significant decreases in EEE isolates after the air sprays, as one would hope.

She also discussed her thoughts on why Plymouth County only had one of the 12 EEE cases.

Community Liaison Dan Daly Update

Dan was recently interviewed on both Whitman Cable TV Access and on WATD for the second time this season.

He also recently appeared on Kingston PAC TV with their Board of Health.

Dan will be the keynote speaker at an upcoming meeting of the Plymouth County Conservation District. He has been asked, among other things, to discuss the dragonfly issue as it relates to the use of BTi.

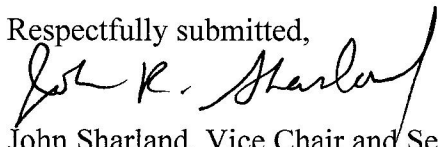
Dan accompanied two students from Plymouth South High School for their visit to our headquarters. He commended all the staff for their involvement with the students, and singled out Matt and Brian.

Other Business/Comment – None

Date, Time and Location of Next Commission Meeting – Thursday, November 21, 2019 at 9:30am at Plymouth Headquarters.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:55 am.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John R. Sharland". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

John Sharland, Vice Chair and Secretary.