



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
Ann Motyka

Ross Rossetti – Superintendent/Pilot
Ellen Bidlack – Entomologist
Matthew McPhee- General Foreman
Denise DeLuca – Administrative Assistant

COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

On Thursday, January 14, 2021 the Commissioners of the Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project held their monthly meeting remotely on Zoom. Commissioners Drinan, Sharland, Kenney, Valenti and Motyka were present, along with Superintendent/Pilot Ross Rossetti, Entomologist Ellen Bidlack and Administrative Assistant Denise DeLuca. Also attending for Public Comment/Input were Pine duBois, Jones River Watershed Association, State Representative Kathleen LaNatra (12th Plymouth) and Maria Syrniotis, from the staff of State Senator Moran’s office. (Plymouth and Barnstable Districts).

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

Public Comment/Input – Ms. duBois requested a 2-4 ounce sample of Duet adulticide from the Project’s stock, explaining that it would be analyzed for PFAS content at Alpha Analytical in Mansfield, MA.

Ross explained that just recently, MDAR announced that they will be testing Duet for presence of this material, along with Maverick and that for a variety of reasons, Ms. duBois’ request could not be entertained. Ross offered that Ms. duBois will be kept informed of the results of the testing of Duet and Mavrik.

Project Administration

The minutes of the Dec. 17, 2020 meeting were approved by unanimous roll call vote.

Administrative Assistant Update – Denise noted that there were no unusual expenses in the period and that the Project’s Annual Report had been issued, with each town/city in the county receiving a unique report. All towns/cities responded.

Commissioner’s Reports –

Stakeholders Email List – it was agreed that at a minimum, all Boards of Health would be on the list and that it would only include notification of our meeting dates. This will be done for a trial period of one year, with results reviewed at that time (Jan. 2022 meeting)

General Foreman’s Report/Water Management - In Matt’s absence, Ross reported that 129 tires were picked up during the period and that 7,210 ft. of hand cleaning/brushing was carried out, along with 275 ft. of machine digging on Gorwin Drive in Hanover and 1805 ft on Old Center St. in Middleboro.

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Superintendent's Report/Monthly Review

Ross displayed the framed original of the Performance Recognition Award Certificate issued to the Project for its work during the 2019 and 2020 EEE seasons. Signed by Governor Baker and Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito. Mike Valenti asked that a copy of this certificate be placed into each employee's personnel file. Ross agreed.

Ross also reported that he got a hand written note from MDAR Commissioner John LeBeaux, congratulating him on his promotion and thanking him and the staff for the work that they do.

The telematics have been installed in all the vehicles. They provide Ross and Matt with a lot of information that was not previously available.

The proposed FY22 budget was reviewed, with no questions from the commissioners. Ross noted that the Supplemental Budget amount will be \$50,000 vs. \$100,000 the past few years, but this should be adequate for pesticide purchases.

The new Community Liaison has been chosen from among 4 applicants interviewed. Ross introduced our own Cathy Drinan as his choice, and the commissioners approved. Cathy will be resigning as a commissioner in the next 30 days. This position remains part time at 20 hours per week and \$26.00 per hour compensation. Due to the unusual circumstances of a commissioner applying and being chosen, Ross noted that both he and Commission Vice Chair Sharland provided disclosures to the State Ethics Committee.

Entomologist Report –

Ellen reported that she had done an analysis, by hand, and mapped out, of the impact of No Spray (Exclusion) requests from the past season. Noting that the truck spray reach is 300 ft and that the techs have to notify within 500 ft., she found that the median number of houses affected by the No Spray was 10 within the 300 ft distance and 17 within the 500 ft notification distance, with the range being from no houses to 260 houses.

Ellen also reviewed the information she provided for the Annual Report.

Other Business/Comment

The board reorganized. Ann Motyka was elected Vice Chair and Secretary by unanimous roll call vote and John Sharland was elected Chair by unanimous roll call vote.

With Commissioner Drinan leaving the board, a discussion was held about recruiting a new 5th commissioner. First, it was learned that Tom Reynolds (second applicant last time) is no longer a resident of Plymouth County (this will be double checked) and secondly, we will undertake a recruiting effort by notification of the open seat to all the Boards of Health in the county. Cathy volunteered to draft a letter about this as soon as she is fully on board at Community Liaison.

Date, Time and Location of Next Commission Meeting – Thursday, February 18, 2021 at 9:30am, most likely by full remote on Zoom.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:20am.

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Respectfully submitted,

John Sharland, Vice Chair and Secretary.