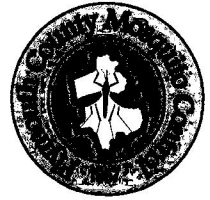




THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE STATE RECLAMATION & MOSQUITO CONTROL BOARD



Plymouth County MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT

272 SOUTH MEADOW RD. PLYMOUTH, MA 02360

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www.plymouthmosquito.org

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, December 19, 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, Kenney and Sharland were present, along with Superintendent Stephen Gillett, Entomologist Ellen Bidlack, Community Liaison Dan Daly and Administrative Assistant Denise Deluca.

Chairman Drinan called the meeting to order at 9:35 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 November 21, 2019 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Commissioner's Report

Some further minor edits were made to the Spray Route Statement for the web site.

Cathy reported that she had been contacted by a Cable Network News reporter about two weeks ago, concerning a piece they were preparing on the EEE situation from this past season. She referred the person to Catherine Brown at DPH. Dan Daly noted that he was also contacted and he referred the reporter to Steve. Both actions in accordance with our media contact policy.

Commissioner Sharland reviewed Senate Bill 497, which will set up a Special Commission to study, statewide, opportunities for improving pollinator health. Commissioner Sharland sees this as a possible opportunity to push for enhanced regulation of private mosquito control companies as regards their materials and methods of application. Dan Daly offered to call Senator Bruce Tarr's office to learn the status of Bill 497, i.e. has it been enacted and has the special commission been formed. Once that is established, further discussion at a future commissioner's meeting can be had to see if a lobbying effort should be undertaken.

Next, a discussion of recruiting new commissioners when a vacancy exists. Commissioner Valenti handed out all the information from when he was recruited. The initiative came from the Executive Director of the SRB to the Boards of Health and the Boards of Selectmen or City Councils in each town/city in the county. Commissioner Sharland noted the same. However, Juan Gutierrez has now told Steve that the Projects can do their own recruiting.

Superintendent's Report/Monthly Review

According to Juan Gutierrez, the "Wish List" for better funding for all the Projects is still on the table. Steve reported that he asked Juan if we spend \$65,000 for the needed new truck and sprayer, would that be reimbursed if the additional funding gets approved. Juan did not know but promised to find out. In the meantime, we need that new equipment and Steve is planning to order it next month for delivery in April 2020. No objection from the commissioners.

Meet the staff/staff update – None

Water Management – Since the last meeting, 316 tires were collected, with 2,494 collected year to date. Hand cleanings totaled 6,655 ft. and machine digging was carried out in Bridgewater on Flagg St. and in Halifax on Plymouth St. for a total of 390 feet.

Meet the Staff and Staff Update – nothing to report.

Entomologist Report:

Ellen attended the NMCA Annual Meeting, as did most of the staff for at least one day. Ellen provided a comprehensive report, showing slides on the large TV in our meeting room. Highlights:

- The Center for Disease Control has developed a network to enhance education around disease carrying vectors. Through Ellen, we are linked to Cornell University for this effort.
- The meeting included a pesticide resistance training session, which Ellen attended. She noted that the Project perhaps should start doing some of this testing, although it is a difficult regimen.
- Ellen and a co-author gave a paper on their research as regards a correlation between weather (rainfall amounts in a season) and EEE activity. The results showed that there is no clear 1:1 effect.
- A 1964 paper that showed out of the entire east coast area, only southeastern Massachusetts showed nearly a 1:1 effect of weather on EEE activity was reviewed and additional current research presented. For both the 1964 paper and Ellen's current research, rainfall amounts were taken from The Taunton Municipal Airport.
- So far, only weak correlations have been found amongst rainfall amounts, populations in traps and human cases of EEE seasonally. However, Ellen feels that a predictive model is getting close.

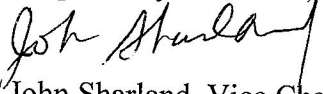
Community Liaison Dan Daly Update – nothing additional to report.

Other Business/Comment – After some discussion, Cathy requested that the other commissioners think about ways to get to know the staff (Meet the Staff and Staff Update line under Supt. Report above) for further discussion at our next meeting.

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

Meeting was adjourned at 11:20 am.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Sharland". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping horizontal line at the end.

John Sharland, Vice Chair and Secretary.