

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

January 18th, 2024

On Thursday, January 18th, 2024, the Commissioners of the Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project held their monthly meeting at the Project headquarters. In attendance were Commissioners Sharland, Motyka, and Fiore. Commissioner Reynolds attended via ZOOM. Employees present: Ross Rossetti, Superintendent/Pilot, Matt McPhee, Assistant Superintendent, Ellen Bidlack, Entomologist, Denise DeLuca, Administrative Assistant, and Erin Morrill; Community Liaison. The meeting was called to order by Chair Sharland at 9:35am.

Public Comment/Input: There was no public comment.

Commissioners Reorganization: Motions to re-elect John Sharland and Ann Motyka in the Chairman and Vice Chairman/Secretary positions, respectively, were made by Commissioner Fiore and seconded by Commissioner Reynolds. Both passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Vote to approve November, 2023 Minutes: The November 19th, 2023 minutes were approved by roll call vote by Commissioners Motyka, Reynolds, and Sharland. Commissioner Fiore abstained.

Administrative Assistant Expense Report: Denise noted that the Project had submitted monies to Capital Paper and Recycling, to dispose of the 1,024 tires collected from tire recycling events and requests from county residents. In addition, she noted an expense that was approved by the Commissioners that sent all but one of the Project's employees to the 3-day NMCA for the annual convention. It was held in Mystic, CT in early December. Denise and Community Liaison Morrill extended their appreciation for having the opportunity to attend.

Assistant Superintendent Report-Field work summary: Matt reported that there had been 1,097 tires collected from 11/16/23-1/18/24. The total for 2023 were 4,039 tires and since the program's inception in 2017, there have been 16,841 tires collected and properly disposed of. The crew recently completed removal of 2000 tires from a non-working farm in East Bridgewater. This project took place as time allowed over the past several months.

The crew hand cleaned 34,894 feet and ended the year cleaning a total of 96,929 feet. The Project will be working with the towns of Whitman and East Bridgewater for the potential removal of beaver dams located off Rt.18.

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Superintendent's Review of Project Operations since last meeting: Ross thanked the Commissioners for the opportunity to attend the 2 conferences in December. Ross reported that he looked into the current surplus helicopter inventory and noted that nothing that was available would be appropriate for Project use at this time. The State Reclamation Board(SRB) was planning to interview a candidate for the vacant Commissioner position at their next meeting. The date of the meeting has yet to be determined.

The electric vehicle chargers were installed in the vehicle bay on January 2nd. The Project is expected to be receiving the new EV by late February; early March. When it arrives, it will be ready for daily use of a variety of Project tasks.

The Project is looking to update and upgrade building security systems. Ross is looking into different quotes that meet the criteria. An Interdepartmental Service Agreement(ISA) between Plymouth and Bristol County Mosquito Control was recently signed giving PCMCP permission to use Bristol's excavator at cost through June.

The Project is planning to invite the county's 28 town Boards of Health for an informational and educational on-site meeting. The date is anticipated to be in mid-March.

Entomologist Report: Update on Mosquito Surveillance: Ellen's report consisted of results received from the Northeast Regional Center for Excellence in the Vector-Borne Disease, at Cornell University, regarding the Pesticide Resistance testing. The test exposes adult mosquitoes to a known quantity of pesticide and times how long it takes for the mosquitoes to die. The longer it takes for mortality to occur the more resistance to the pesticide is present in the population. Mosquitoes were tested from 5 locations throughout the district. All tested were either moderately or highly resistant to the pesticides tested. This includes mosquitoes from sites where no previous resistance had been detected. She noted that other samples submitted from around the state and country were consistent in these resistance results. This includes sites where mosquito districts do not adulticide. Ellen's recommendations are for the Project to increase larviciding especially with BTI as it has shown to be effective and no pesticide resistance has been detected for that product.

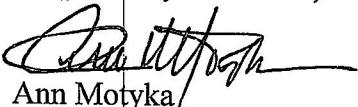
Community Liaison Report-Presentations Update-Upcoming Engagements: On December 23, Erin presented to both parents and children at the main branch of the Brockton Library. There was great interest in having Erin return for another presentation at another branch of the Library this spring. She will be attending a Health and Wellness Fair in Kingston on March 9th. She will also be attending another Health and Wellness Fair, sponsored by the Plymouth Family Network on April 27th.

Commissioner Comments, if any: Commissioner Sharland complimented Project staff and the Commissioners for their collaboration in helping make the meetings, as well as the entire Project, run smoothly and professionally.

Date, Time, Location of next Commission Meeting/Adjournment: Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 15th, 2024 at 9:30am. Meeting will be held at the Project headquarters, 272 South Meadow Road, Plymouth. A remote option will be available.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was accepted unanimously at 10:50am.

Respectively submitted,



Ann Motyka

Commissioner/Vice-Chairman/Secretary

Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project

# **PLYMOUTH COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT**

Documents that accompanied this agenda:

- \* Meeting Agenda
- \* November 19th 2023 Minutes
- \* Expense Report