



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
Michael F. Valenti
Thomas Reynolds

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

COMMISSIONER’S MEETING MINUTES October 20, 2022

On Thursday, October 20, 2022, the Commissioners of the Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project held their monthly meeting at the Project building. In attendance were Commissioners Sharland, Motyka, Valenti, and Reynolds. Employees present: Ross Rossetti Superintendent/Pilot, Matt McPhee Assistant Superintendent, Denise DeLuca Administrative Assistant, and Erin Morrill Community Liaison.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Sharland at 9:32am.

Public Comment/Input: There was no public comment.

Comments from the Chair: Commissioner Sharland brought up the cyber security information and whether there had been any action taken by the state after requesting staff and commissioner’s emails. Ross reported that there had been no action yet taken.

Vote to approve July 21, 2022 Minutes: A motion to approve the September 15, 2022 minutes were approved unanimously by roll call vote.

Administrative Assistant Expense Report: Denise noted that the Nikon microscope, purchased by the Project, should be arriving soon.

Assistant Superintendent’s Report-Field Work Summary: Matt thanked the Commissioners for their attendance of the NMCA Field Day, held at the Project, on October 13th. The tire collection program started back up with 16 tires being collected. The 5-month saltmarsh work process, from application to implementation, was approved by the Department of Environmental Protection. For the month, the crew completed 13, 403 feet of brushing and hand cleaning in their districts.

Upland work done by machine to increase drainage was completed on Curve Street in Bridgewater. There were a total of 425 linear feet dug.

Superintendent’s Review of Project Operations: Ross reported that the aerial spraying that was scheduled for the last week of September did not occur due to the lack of water to treat. Ross read a letter from a Carver resident, complimenting the Project on their efforts and the results of an upland job done by General Foreman Mazzilli and his crew.

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Ae. albopictus larvae were trapped in ovicup and gravid traps at the DPW in Mattapoisett. This species had previously been detected in the summer of 2016. The Project will coordinate with their DPW to advise and locate potential breeding sites nearby their buildings and adjacent areas.

Vehicle Right Sizing Initiative Update: The Office of Vehicle Management sent 2 electric vehicles to Field Day, hosted at the Project, on October 13. The OVM is requesting a removal of 20 gas powered vehicles to be carried out by the SRB and mosquito control projects around the state. Further conversations are taking place with representatives from OVM and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Resources (MDAR) regarding this directive.

Budget Update: Ross reported that Budget surplus monies from FY22 will be rolled over to FY 23 with no significant purchases expected. FY24 request is for level funding. Projected rollover monies will cover any increased expenses. This will be submitted to the SRB.

Entomologist Report- Adult Surveillance Update: (Ross reported in Ellen's absence). 410 pools were submitted to DPH in 2022; down from 468 in 2021. There were no Eastern Equine Encephalitis isolates trapped this year. There were 16 West Nile Virus pools from a total of 12 towns versus 5 pools from 4 towns in 2021. As of this meeting date, Ellen had not received the results of the ovicup submissions. The extremely dry summer affected overall trap collections. Light traps with CO2 collections were down 55%; NJ Traps were down 66%. Conversely, Gravid Traps, accounted for by late summer rain increases, were up 1%.

Community Liaison Report: Erin is making calls and sending emails to all Project towns to introduce herself and update contacts. She noted there had been a significant number of personnel changes in many towns during the last year. She updated towns regarding the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and the accepted use of Zenevex as an truck spray application, if needed. She met with Blake Dinius, Plymouth County Entomologist Extension Administrator. The two are open to giving presentations together to further educate residents on tick and mosquito-borne viruses.

Commissioner Comments, if any: Commissioner Sharland noted an article from the Brockton Enterprise and a media segment that discussed the potential future of 'designer' mosquito repellents; those that would match and repel according to one's body chemistry.

Date, Time, Location of next Commission Meeting: Thursday, November 17, 2022 at 9:30am. Meeting will be held at the Project headquarters, 272 South Meadow Road, Plymouth. It will also have a ZOOM option.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was accepted unanimously by roll call vote at 10:33am.

Respectively submitted,

Ann Motyka
Commissioner/Vice-Chairman/Secretary
Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project

Documents/Media that accompanied this agenda:

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- * Meeting Agenda
- * Letter from Carver resident
- * Expense Report
- * Adult Surveillance Update