



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE STATE RECLAMATION & MOSQUITO CONTROL BOARD



PLYMOUTH COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT

272 SOUTH MEADOW RD, PLYMOUTH, MA 02360
TELEPHONE (781) 585-5450 FAX (781) 582-1276
www.plymouthmosquito.org

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 September 15, 2022

On Thursday, September 15, 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, Ellen Bidlack Entomologist, Denise DeLuca Administrative Assistant, and Erin Morrill Community Liaison.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Sharland at 9:41am.

Public Comment/Input- There was no public comment.

Comments from the Chair: Commissioner Sharland noted that opportunity for potential candidates to apply for the vacant commissioner position is now available. Each commissioner individually welcomed the Project’s new Community Liaison, Erin Morrill.

Vote to approve July 21, 2022 Minutes: A motion to accept the amended July 21, 2022 minutes were approved unanimously by roll call vote. Additionally, the August 18, 2022 minutes were approved unanimously by roll call vote.

Administrative Assistant Expense Report: Denise noted that her seasonal assistant Kim’s last day was Friday, September 16th. Project administrators noted her professionalism and ease of learning many tasks as her strength. The most recent balance forward expense report was presented with no unexpected changes. Denise reports that spray request calls from residents are down significantly.

Assistant Superintendent’s Report-Field Work Summary: Matt reported that the Project received 2,390 adulticiding requests since the last meeting. The past month, residents called in 15 check water requests. There were 1,367 larvicide inspections, resulting in 216 treatments. The catch basin crew finished the season treating 7,508 basins for a grand total of 60,094 basins for the season. Wetlands Management had two upland machine digging projects. One was at 79 Atlantic Avenue, Cohasset; 930 linear feet and the other was at 22 Hawthorne Street in Kingston, resulting in 180 linear feet.

PLYMOUTH COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT

Superintendent's Review of Project Operations: Ross reported that all seasonal employees are done for the season except Kim, Denise's assistant, who is finishing on Friday, September 16. Due to more recent precipitation in the western part of the county, West Nile Virus risk level may increase. The Project received 318 spray calls from the residents of Wareham on September 2nd after they were notified, through a local newspaper article, that WNV isolates had been trapped in the town. Budget surplus monies from FY22 will be rolled over to FY 23 with no significant purchases expected.

DPH Surveillance Report: Ross reports that 373 mosquito samples have been submitted to the DPH. *Cs. melanura* numbers showed an increase due to recent rain totals. During the last month *Cq. peturban* numbers leveled off significantly. Next week, weather permitting, the Project plans to aerial spray the *Cq. peturban* habitats in the towns of Carver, Halifax, Hanson and W. Bridgewater.

EV First Policy: On September 19th, the Department of Energy Resources will meet to further discuss the next steps in beginning the transition from gas powered vehicles to electric vehicles for state agencies. Availability of grants to assist agencies has been ongoing. Discussions arose regarding the number of charging stations needed for the Project's fleet of vehicles and their location relative to the building. There was new discussion on solar panels and how they might be an option going forward. Whether the panels would be leased or owned would need to be determined.

Community Liaison introduction: Erin Morrill introduced herself and spoke of her educational background and her extensive work history, which included public speaking situations. Erin will be taking advantage of the Project's off season to get more up to speed on what the Project has done up to this point.

Entomologist Summary- Adult Surveillance Update: Ellen complimented Julia Cheesman, her seasonal assistant, who spent her first summer in the position and has now returned to college. Ellen will be trapping ovicups through Labor Day. September 23 is expected to be the last week of New Jersey trapping. With the recent precipitation increase in the northwestern towns in the county, Ellen plans to set more WNV gravid traps in Brockton as well as the surrounding towns of West Bridgewater, Bridgewater, Abington, and Whitman. She will continue to trap in Duxbury and plans to put a new trap at the DPW facility in Kingston. Along with 2 field techs, Ellen plans to dip for *Cq. peturbans* at the Hockomock swamp.

Commissioner Comments, if any: Commissioner Sharland believes that information being shared on social media sites must be getting the Project's points across as there has been a significant reduction in negative posts regarding Project adulticiding efforts. Ellen was congratulated for the creation and the ongoing updating of the Project's website; www.plymouthmosquito.org. Commissioner Sharland has viewed other project's websites and believes that ours is the best by far. The Commissioners complimented General Foreman Russ Mazzilli and the field techs for their efforts on saltmarsh documentations for future historical predictions.

Date, Time, Location of next Commission Meeting- Thursday, October 20, 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 at 10:51am.

Respectively submitted,

Ann Motyka

PLYMOUTH COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT

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

Documents/Media that accompanied this agenda:

- * Meeting Agenda
- * July and August, 2022 minutes
- * Monthly Expense Report
- * West Nile Virus Surveillance Summary