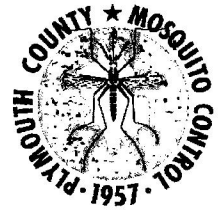


THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
THE STATE RECLAMATION & MOSQUITO CONTROL BOARD



## PLYMOUTH COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT

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**Commissioners:**

John Sharland, Chairman

Ann Motyka, Vice Chairman/Secretary

Michael F. Valenti

Thomas Reynolds

Elaine Fiore

Ross Rossetti – Superintendent/Pilot

Matthew McPhee – Asst. Superintendent

Ellen Bidlack – Entomologist

Denise DeLuca – Administrative Assistant

### COMMISSIONER'S MEETING MINUTES

May 18, 2023

On Thursday, May 18th, 2023, the Commissioners of the Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project held their monthly meeting at the Project headquarters. In attendance were Commissioners Sharland, Motyka, Valenti, Reynolds, and Fiore. 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 9:32am.

Public Comment/Input: There was no public comment.

Comments From the Chair: There were no comments from the Chair.

Vote to approve April 27, 2023 Minutes: The April 27, 2023 minutes were unanimously approved by roll call vote by Commissioners Valenti, Reynolds, Motyka, Fiore and Sharland.

Discussion on COLA and step increases for FY24: After discussion, a motion to approve a 5% COLA and step increases for full and part time employees for FY24 was made by Commissioner Valenti and seconded by Commissioner Reynolds. It was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Administrative Assistant Expense Report- Denise presented the most up to date expenses report. There were no significant changes. Denise presented a copy of the service request form that is available on the newly updated Project website. Residents completing the request form have the options of fax, mail, or in-person drop-off. She noted that this new service is resulting in a significant number of requests being collected. Denise emailed all Boards of Health to inform them of when residents may begin to call for spray services; May 22nd, and when spraying commences; June 5th.

Assistant Superintendent Report-Field work summary- Matt reported that the crew completed 2 upland machine digging jobs. In Duxbury, at 232 Elm Street, 130 feet were dug and completed. At 278 River Street in Halifax, the crew dug 200 feet. Total for the month was 230 feet. In the final collection month until the fall, the crew collected 455 tires. Residents contacted the Project for 54 larviciding requests for the month. The field techs completed 1,048 larviciding inspections with 127 positive breeding results. From these results, the crew treated 146 acres.

# PLYMOUTH COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT

Superintendent's Review of Project Operations since last meeting: Ross noted that the sprayers would be put on the trucks this week and will be calibrated by Clarke next week. The Project has been working with vendor Verdek, to supply us with EV charging equipment. The Department of Energy Resources is providing the grants for the Project to acquire five 40 amp chargers. Ross will apply for these grants when price quotes are received.

Ross has been in contact with Mike Huguenin of the Mattapoisett Land Trust as they are requesting a letter of support from the Project to pursue grants provided by the Coastal Zone Management. These saltmarsh sites in Mattapoisett have long been familiar with the Project as seasonally- treated areas. The MLT is looking to collaborate with the Buzzards Bay Coalition, who are also looking to pursue grants.

Spring Aerial Larvicide Review: Ross presented the final 2023 Aerial Liquid Larviciding results; Total acres treated were 15,452.6, Plymouth County, 12,849.8 acres and Bristol County, 2,602.8 acres. There were 3,860 gallons of liquid Vectobac 12AS mix applied at .25 gallons/acre. Ross was able to spray 13 days within the time frame of April 4th-May 9th. He noted that the acre total was the most ever documented and 17 targeted swamps in the 2 counties were treated.

OVM Policy Update: The OVM policy update requests purchasing a vehicle in the order of most fuel efficient first: EV-Plug in hybrids-hybrid-gas. It also offers two options of Safe Driver programs that affect Project drivers. OVM is offering one with free access but there are a significant number of stipulations asked of the Projects. The other is offered through Fleet Response as this option collects driver information on a yearly basis. There is a \$35.00 charge for each driver. After discussions, staff determined that the Fleet Response option was considered best.

H845 and H1844 Legislation Update: These two bills are in Committee now. The intent of H845 is to repeal Chapter 252. In response, the Project submitted a letter to the Committee. The other legislation, H1844, is an Act to provide collective bargaining rights to employees of the mosquito control projects and mosquito control districts.

Entomologist Report: Update on Collaboration NEVBD: Ellen has been working with the Northeast Regional Center for Excellence in Vector borne diseases on the protocol for our pesticide resistance cage trials. The cages will be set up at Plymouth Airport. She reports that mosquito trapping has begun but collections are low. Ellen has also been saving mosquitoes for Jamestown Canyon Virus testing. Mosquito Mayhem is on 19<sup>th</sup> of May at Cape Cod Community College. The class is designed to help train people in the identification of adult mosquitoes. Ellen will be teaching one of the sections. Seasonal assistant Julia Cheeseman will be returning after Memorial Day.

Community Liaison Report-Visits to Senior Centers: Upcoming May events will take place at East Bridgewater Senior Center on the 25th and the Kingston Council on Aging on May 30th. On June 8th, Erin will be presenting at the East Bridgewater Health Fair. On June 28th, she will be presenting at the Hanover Library. Many town libraries are looking for children's programs for the Fall season.

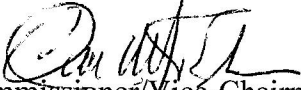
Commissioner Comments, if any: There were no comments

Date, Time, Location of next Commission Meeting/Adjournment- Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 15th, 2023 at 9:30am. Meeting will be scheduled at the Project headquarters, 272 South Meadow Road, Plymouth. It will also have a ZOOM option.  
The meeting was adjourned at 10:30am.

# PLYMOUTH COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT

Respectively submitted,

Ann Motyka



Commissioner/Vice-Chairman/Secretary

Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project

Documents that accompanied this agenda:

- \* Meeting Agenda
- \* April 27, 2023 Meeting Minutes
- \* Expense Report