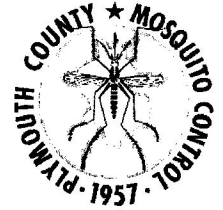




THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE STATE RECLAMATION & MOSQUITO CONTROL BOARD



PLYMOUTH COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT

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Commissioners:

John Sharland, Chairman
Ann Motyka, Vice Chairman/Secretary
Michael F. Valenti
John Kenney
Thomas Reynolds

Ross Rossetti – Superintendent/Pilot
Matthew McPhee – Asst. Superintendent
Ellen Bidlack – Entomologist
Denise DeLuca – Administrative Assistant
Cathleen Drinan – Community Liaison

COMMISSIONER'S MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 23, 2021

On Thursday, September 23, 2021, the Commissioners of the Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project held their monthly meeting in person at the Project building. Present were Commissioners Sharland, Motyka, Kenney, Valenti, Reynolds. Also present; Ross Rossetti, Superintendent/Pilot, Matt McPhee, Assistant Superintendent, Entomologist Ellen Bidlack, Administrative Assistant Denise DeLuca, and Joan Kenney, wife of Commissioner Kenney.

Meeting was called to order by Chair Sharland at 9:30am.

Public Comment/Input- Present and listening in via Zoom were Pat Neary, Bridgewater BOH and Lori Desmaris, Marion BOH.

Vote to approve August, 2021 Minutes- The minutes were unanimously approved as written.

Administrative Assistant Update- Denise reported no significant changes in the most up-to-date expense report. Ellen took Denise out into the field to take more pictures for the website. Denise said that it helped her get a better frame of reference on the trapping methods done by the Project and felt it could help her better communicate with residents who might have specifically related questions.

Commissioner's Report- Commissioner Motyka inquired on what the procedures would be in going about implementing the drug testing policy. Ross will be checking with the testing agency for further information.

Assistant Superintendent Report- Matt reported that the crew had completed a total of 1,216 larval site visits/inspections. This month, 37 check water requests came from residents. There were 53,924 catch basins treated this season as the basin crew has completed their summer employment. The field techs completed 275 feet of hand cleaning and brushing. Sum of the length done through machine digging was 350 feet. Sites included reclaiming 200 feet of an existing ditch on Tami Court in Bridgewater and 150 feet on 355 Bedford Street in East Bridgewater.

Superintendent's Report/Monthly Review- Ross noted there was no new arbovirus in Plymouth County. The Project stopped taking residential requests on September 10th and finished up on September 17th. The crew continued to spray areas of concern in the towns of Marion, Mattapoisett, Halifax, Hanson and the Bunny's Lane area on the Plymouth/Carver town lines. Commissioners Valenti and Reynolds as well as the PCMCP field crew attended a DPW event run by the Massachusetts Highway Association. They attended a chainsaw

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safety program. The program was very educational and led the Project to purchase new safety equipment for Techs to wear and carry while using a chainsaw. The SRB approved a back up to Anvil; Mirus 3.0, a natural pyrethrin.

Ross is waiting on the rules regarding drones from the Department of Agriculture. The Project has looked into purchasing two drones. The first drone will have a camera to take pictures of the intended sites and the second, larger drone applies the pesticide, up to 5-10 acres in an hour. Ross has acquired the license needed to operate the drones. Commissioner Valenti made a point that the Project should get information regarding the need to secure permits when using the drones.

Discussion took place regarding Gov. Baker's COVID vaccination deadline of October 17th. Ross will find out if it applies to the commissioners as well. On September 2, the Task Force received the final report compiled by the ERG. Their final report is due by the end of October. Ross noted that the tire collection season is back in full swing. Both Ross and Assistant Superintendent Matt McPhee were featured in a 2-minute clip on WBZ TV 4 news broadcast informing the viewers of what the Project had done over the past year to combat viruses and to further educate the viewers. We were able to view the clip and were very impressed by the explanation of the content and professionalism of both Ross and Matt. Well done!

Entomologist Report- Ellen reports that there have been 6 West Nile isolates found in Plymouth County so far this year including, most recently, East Bridgewater, and Hanson. There continues to be no EEE in the state. The towns of Plympton, Halifax, East Bridgewater, and Bridgewater were moved to moderate level risk on September 10th. Gravid trapping and Ovi Cup testing has been discontinued for the season. Ellen plans to run the CDC traps for another week. There has been high biting pressure in both freshwater and salt marsh environments. Due to increased amounts of rainwater this summer, there was a 200% increase in *Ae. vexans* collected on August 22, the highest on record. The Project received the results from samples we sent to NEVBD for pesticide resistance testing. There was no resistance found in *Cx. pipiens* from Cohasset and Brockton. The mosquitoes were tested for resistance to sumithrin and the sample from Cohasset was also tested for prallethrin as well. Due to state-to-state travel restrictions, the NMCA meeting will be held virtually again this year. It will take place during the first week of December.

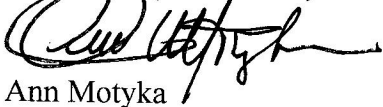
Community Liaison Report- No official report was presented although Cathy's presentation at the Marshfield Fair, the COA/Library was positively noted.

Other Business/Comment- There was no new business or comments.

Date, Time, Location of next Commission Meeting- Thursday, October 28, at 9:30am. Meeting will be held at the Project headquarters, 272 South Meadow Road, Plymouth. It will also have a ZOOM option.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:24am

Respectively submitted,



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