

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE STATE RECLAMATION & MOSQUITO CONTROL BOARD



Plymouth County MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT

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Commissioners:
John Kenney, Chairman
Michael F. Valenti, Vice Chairman
Cathleen Drinan
John Sharland, Secretary

Stephen A. Gillett — Superintendent Ross Rossetti — Asst. Superintendent/Pilot Ellen Bidlack — Entomologist Denise Deluca — Administrative Assistant

COMMISSIONER'S MEETING MINUTES

On Wednesday, October 25, 2017, the Commissioners of the Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project held their monthly meeting at Project Headquarters in Kingston at 10:00 am. Commissioners Kenney, Valenti, Drinan and Sharland were present, along with Supt. Steve Gillett and Asst. Supt. Ross Rossetti and Administrative Asst. Denise Deluca. There were no members of the public present.

Chairman Kenney called the meeting to order at 10:08 am.

Project Administration

The minutes of the August 23, 2017 meeting were reviewed and approved as written. There was no meeting in September, 2017.

Expenses for the last period were reviewed, with no issues noted.

Commissioner's Reports – None

Superintendent's Report

Project Review/ Update -

The new headquarters facility is in suspense for the time being. Negotiations with DCAMM and the proposer were unsuccessful. A new RFP is being prepared which will expand the areas where the facility could be located to beyond just Plymouth.

An ex-employee has filed a worker's comp claim and is receiving payments that are taken from our budget. Supt. Gillett has discussed this with Jessica Burgess. The validity of the claim will be challenged.

The Annual Field Day at Myles Standish State Park was attended on October 12 by all field technical staff and management. The content of the day qualifies for two credits towards license renewal.

At the SRB Quarterly meeting last week, it was announced that a new mosquito control Project has been formed in western Massachusetts – to be called Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control.

PLYMOUTH COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT

The full staff of field techs also recently attended the annual state DPW Expo. Asst. Supt/Pilot Rossetti gave a brief report.

The recent changes/updates to the Open Meeting Law were reviewed. Commissioner Sharland noted that he had reviewed them also in regards to the new requirements for minutes and noted that we are in full compliance.

It was noted that license renewals are now fully implemented on line as the sole method.

It was proposed that the Project start a tire recycling program for residents of Plymouth County. This has been very successful in some of the other Projects. There would be no fee for the residents and the Project would pay the typical \$1.50-\$2.00 fee for disposal (recycling). This type of program has been costing other Projects about \$5000/yr. The proposal included using just the recycling facility in Ayer, MA as they receive and quickly process (grind up) the tires for re-use as mulch, etc. The Board enthusiastically supported this proposal and a motion was made by Commissioner Sharland, seconded by Commissioner Valenti to establish the program with tires delivered only to the Ayer facility. The vote was unanimous.

Entomologist Bidlack has met with the new tick entomologist Blake Dinius at the Plymouth County Extension service. Areas where they could work together were explored. She also met with Dr. Nate Horowitz-Willis, who is the new Health Department Director for the Town of Plymouth. Indications are that Dr. Horowitz-Willis will be a strong ally for our efforts.

Water Management – End of season totals for basin treatments were 50,694, for larval checks, 8,382 and for spray requests, 14,209. Spray requests were up slightly from the prior year. All requests were met.

Hand cleanings for the prior two month period totaled 27,380 ft. and 1,893 larvicide sites were checked.

Machine digging for the prior two months were carried out in Cohasset on King St., Mattapoisett on Sagamore Rd. and Nashawena Rd., Plymouth at 90 Fuller's Farm Rd., Rochester at 145 Clapp Rd. and in West Bridgewater at C&C Reading Farm for a total of 2440 feet.

Community Liaison

Supt. Gillett read Dan Daly's report:

He continues to seek out organizations where he can give our public relations presentation.

He has approached the Farmer's Markets organization with a request that we could have an information table at these markets. All but the Plymouth organization said they would welcome us. The Plymouth representative replied with very negative comments about our work. In this regard, Dan has met with Dr. Horowitz-Willis, not only for familiarization, but to specifically discuss this issue and the issue of the Plymouth School District not including us in their Integrated Pest Management Plan, as they apparently don't have one. Dan has been asking for this plan for several years, with no response.

Other Business/Comment - None

Public Comment/Input - None

PLYMOUTH COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT

Our next meeting will be at 10:00 am on Wednesday, November 29, 2017. The December meeting was tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, December 13, 2017

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 am.

Respectfully submitted,

John Sharland, Secretary