



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

*EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND*

*ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS*

*Department of Agricultural Resources*

**State Reclamation and  
Mosquito Control Board**

251 Causeway Street, Suite 500

Boston, MA 02114-2151

<http://www.mass.gov/agr/mosquito/index.htm>



**DEVAL L. PATRICK**

Governor

**TIMOTHY MURRAY**

Lt. Governor

Mark S. Buffone, Chairman

*Department of Agricultural Resources*

*Anne Monnelly*

*Department of Conservation and Recreation*

Gary Gonyea

*Department of Environmental Protection*

**IAN A. BOWLES**

Secretary

**DOUGLAS W. PETERSEN**

Commissioner

Alisha Bouchard

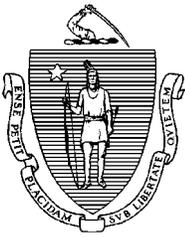
*Project Administrator*

Tel: (617) 626-1715

Fax: (617) 626-1850

Meeting Agenda  
State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board  
Wednesday, March 25, 2009  
At 10:00 AM at the UMASS Eastern Extension Center, 240 Beaver Street,  
Waltham, MA

1. Call to Order, Attendance, Introductory Remarks (if any)
  - A. Annual Reports due March 6<sup>th</sup> in PDF format
2. **Vote** to approve minutes of January 30, 2009 meeting
3. Clean Water Act (CWA) Ruling and NPDES Permit Update (if any)
4. BMP Post Monitoring Protocol Addendum (final draft) and Board consider to vote on final draft for MEPA/GEIR review process
5. DPH State Lab Update (Cynthia Stinson)
6. GEIR Update
7. Aquatic Habitat Restoration Task Force (AHRTF) (David Henley, EMMCP)
8. Next Meeting Date and Adjournment



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

Department of Agricultural Resources

**State Reclamation and  
Mosquito Control Board**

251 Causeway Street, Suite 500

Boston, MA 02114-2151



**DEVAL L. PATRICK**  
Governor

**TIMOTHY MURRAY**  
Lt. Governor

Mark S. Buffone, Chairman  
*Department of Agricultural Resources*  
Anne Monnelly  
*Department of Conservation and Recreation*  
Gary Gonyea  
*Department of Environmental Protection*

**IAN A. BOWLES**  
Secretary

**SCOTT J. SOARES**  
Commissioner

Alisha Bouchard  
*Project Administrator*  
Tel: (617) 626-1715  
Fax: (617) 626-1850

**STATE RECLAMATION AND MOSQUITO CONTROL BOARD (SRMCB)**

**Subject:** Summary Meeting Minutes

**Date:** Wednesday, March 25, 2009

**Place:** 240 Beaver Street, UMASS Eastern Extension Center/  
Waltham Field Station  
Waltham, MA

**Attendees:** Mark Buffone, Department of Agricultural Resources  
/SRMCB, Chairman  
Gary Gonyea, Department of Environmental Protection /  
SRMCB Member  
Anne Monnelly, Department of Conservation and Recreation  
/ SRMCB Member  
Alisha Bouchard, Department of Agricultural  
Resources/SRMCB/Projects Administrator

**Mosquito Control  
Project Commissioners:**

None

**Mosquito Control Project Directors/  
Superintendents /Assistants:**

Ellen Bidlack, Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project  
Tim Deschamps, Central MA Mosquito Control Project  
David Henley, East Middlesex Mosquito Control Project  
Bruce A. Landers, Suffolk County Mosquito Control Project  
Dave Lawson, Norfolk County Mosquito Control Project  
Priscilla Matton, Bristol County Mosquito Control Project  
Timothy McGlinchy, Central MA Mosquito Control Project  
Gabrielle Sakolsky, Cape Cod Mosquito Control Project  
John Smith, Norfolk County Mosquito Control Project  
Emily Sullivan, Northeast MA Mosquito Control & Wetlands Management  
District  
Anthony "Tony" Texeira, Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project

**Others:**

Heidi Ricci, Mass Audubon  
Cynthia Stinson, MA Department of Public Health  
Dr. Sam Telford, Tufts University

- 1.0: Call to Order and Attendance.** The meeting of the State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board was called to order at 10:05 AM on Wednesday, March 25, 2009 at the UMASS Eastern Extension Center or Waltham Field Station by Mark Buffone, Chairman.

He stated that today's meeting was posted at both the Secretary of States office and Executive Office of Administration and Finance pursuant to the Open meeting Law. Also, he remarked that today's meeting was posted on the Board's website.

He began by stating the Board did have a quorum for voting purposes and introduced Gary Gonyea who represents the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) along with Anne Monnelly representing the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR). Finally, he introduced himself as Chairman and the fact that he was representing the Department of Agricultural Resources (DAR). He asked that those in attendance to identify themselves and their affiliation along with completing the attendance sheet that was distributed for the record.

- 1.2: **Opening Remarks:** Chairman Buffone opened the meeting with some remarks. The Chairman mentioned that he was aware that notification was sent out but for the record officially recognized a new staff member at the Boston office. On behalf of the Board, Chairman Buffone welcomed Tashi Pique. He commented that she will be assisting Alisha and Nu as an Accountant. Tashi has worked for the Office of International Trade and Investment and the Office of Educational Quality and Accountability in Boston. Her primary responsibilities will be to review, prepare, and process accounts payable invoices which are sent in from the 9 mosquito control projects. He concluded by saying that this is one step in re-working some of the business functions performed in the Boston office in response to the ever increasing workload and to improve upon the processing of fiscal work and to respond to the mosquito control districts to better serve their needs.

**Annual Reports - Have we received all the Annual Reports?**

Chairman Buffone reminded everyone that the Board set a due date of March 6<sup>th</sup> for the Annual Operational Reports for 2008 season. Tim Deschamps stated that the revised report that was circulated electronically was never sent out to the mosquito control projects. Tim volunteered to send out the revised version to mosquito control projects after the meeting.

**Budget Inquiry**

The Chairman asked if MCPs are getting any feedback from member municipalities on membership concerns and budget assessments due to difficult fiscal climate. He remarked that the Board wants to stay on track with FY 10 budget numbers submitted for certification and submission to DOR for the next meeting. There were no significant funding gaps at this point in time.

The Board proceeded to agenda item 2.

- 2.0: **Vote to approve minutes:** Chairman Buffone said that the minutes of January 30, 2009 needed to be approved. Chairman Buffone made a motion to approve the minutes as written.
- 2.1: **Questions and Discussions:** There was no discussion.
- 2.2: **Action Taken:** Motion was made by Gary Gonyea to approve the minutes of January 30, 2009 no changes. The motion was seconded by Anne Monnelly. The vote to approve the minutes was unanimous.

### 3.0: Clean Water Act (CWA) Ruling

- 3.1: **Background:** Chairman Buffone explained that the new ruling which could subject Mosquito control in particular, aquatic pesticide applications, and other pesticide activities to Clean Water Act (CWA) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit is still up in the air. He remarked that the Board and Mosquito Control Projects (MCPs) have been concerned since several MCP will begin aerial larvicide operations middle of April which occurs shortly after the new deadline date of April 9, 2009 (extended from the February 20, 2009 deadline).

He continues to say, along with thanking Wally Terrill, Commissioner from Berkshire County, for the timely update that informed us that Joe Conlon, Technical Advisor from the AMCA gave a presentation on what is happening with the Clean Water Act appeal at a recent technical meeting.

According to Wally's e-mail, what we know is that there has been an appeal from Crop Life America. This appeal will expire on April 10th. At that time if the court decides not to hear the appeal of Crop Life America (CLA), CLA will ask for an 18 month extension. If the appeal is denied, then EPA is set to appeal. If there is no decision then it is expected that interested Industry Partners will appeal. **During this appeal process permits are not required under FIFRA.** Here are some of the actions EPA may take if the appeal process fails:

1. EPA will propose that the federal label is the permit.
2. EPA will issue a national permit.
3. EPA will ask states to issue permits under their aquatic weed programs.
4. EPA will issue "Use Pattern Permits".

In the interim, the Chairman explained to those present that he notified senior level managers and the Commissioner about this issue. He commented that a letter is in the process of being sent out under Commissioner Petersen's signature to EPA to express overall and specific concern about the potential ramifications of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 6<sup>th</sup> Circuit January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2009 decision to vacate the 2006 rule that allowed agricultural pesticide users, state pest controllers and others such as mosquito control who spray pesticides on or near water under certain circumstances without having to obtain a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit.

- 3.2 **Questions and Discussion:** Chairman Buffone answered questions about the letter saying that it would address both mosquito control concerns and concerns of DAR as the state lead agency for pesticides. For example, although mosquito control activities will be impacted, it was noted that this decision would have impact on cranberry operations in Massachusetts. Chairman Buffone noted that it is clear that this decision

by the court and the apparent appeals appears too encompassing and important to worry about some kind of short term implementation requirement. The bottom line, according to the Chairman, will be that mosquito operations will be able to move forward without a permit and need not fear litigation without one at the present time.

MCP representatives questioned the DEP representative on the Board asking was DEP working on this issue. Gary Gonyea stated that to the best of his knowledge that there is a clear sense that the EPA would want to maintain the ability to apply pesticides and believes that many of the appeals will take effect. He further commented that DEP writes the permit and EPA issues the permit.

Chairman Buffone stated he appreciated Dave Lawson calling him expressing his concerns about litigation.

Gabrielle Sakolsky mentioned that all of the mosquito control projects in the Northeast are part of the EPA's Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program ( PESP) where information is submitted annually and have working relationship with EPA on various AMCA committees to focus on pesticide and application safety.

3.3: **Action Taken:** Chairman Buffone felt that the Board does not need not to take any action at this time. However, Gary Gonyea asked that the Chairman keep the members posted on the DAR letter especially if the letter went to levels about the Commissioner position to the Executive Office level

#### 4.0 **BMP Post Monitoring Protocol Discussion (Freshwater Inland BMP) final draft:**

4.1 **Background:** Chairman Buffone remarked that at the last meeting, the Board reviewed and discussed a draft document that the water management specialists developed. This was a first draft of the BMP post monitoring protocol intended to better clarify what is done after a water management projects. The Chairman acknowledged the various water management specialists of the mosquito control projects for a good job and echoed by the other Board members.

At that prior Board meeting, it was agreed to further revise the draft post monitoring guidelines discussed in order to incorporate changes adding clarification but added an introduction and description. He continued by saying that another meeting was held in Boston on February 23<sup>rd</sup> to review and discuss those revisions. Shortly thereafter, electronic versions were circulated for further refinement.

The Chairmen reminded everyone that one concern of the Board is that the MCPs should select sites, which have a history of supporting mosquito development or elect sites that manifest with characteristics consistent with

such habitats. In other words, it needs to have a mosquito mitigation component for these projects. He acknowledged that Chapter 252 of the M.G.L. authorizes that wetland management activities can be conducted for a number of reasons other than mosquito control but still the Board prefers the MCP's to focus on mosquito control which is the modern day activity of the Board.

Chairman Buffone announced that a new draft had become available sent to the Board from Emily Sullivan and the other wetland specialists. Before opening this agenda item for discussion, Chairman Buffone asked if this version was acceptable to all who were involved in the process and one that could be sent in the 2<sup>nd</sup> filing to MEPA. There was a general expression in the affirmative that this was the case.

**4.2 Questions and Discussion:** Chairman Buffone suggested that the Board may want to consider accepting this version since a lot of effort went into the development of this particular version and submit it in the 2<sup>nd</sup> filing to allow the public to review it. Anne Monnelly suggested a change to the 1<sup>st</sup> line of the 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph of the document. The word "any" was agreed to be changed to "a". Chairman Buffone applauded all those involved. Heidi Ricci stated that this document has come a long way, was major progress, and appreciated the efforts involved with this matter. Heidi Ricci asked if the Board would encourage the MCP's to use the new protocol even though it has not gone out for public review. Gary Gonyea remarked that the MCP's are following the BMP guidance and that the addendum was part of the BMP. David Henley stated that they are incorporating new protocol materials into their plans in order to be ready to implement. A few more changes were noted by the water management specialists. Chairman Buffone asked that a final draft be sent with those changes to him.

**4.3:**           **Action Taken:** Chairman Buffone suggested that the Board formally accept this version noting the changes discussed and agreed upon. He made a motion to accept the post monitoring addendum to the BMP for freshwater inland mosquito work with suggested amendments and encouraged the MCPs to adopt to the extent practical and feasible the protocol once MCPs reviewed their programs. The motion was seconded by Gary Gonyea. The Board voted unanimously to carry out the motion.

**5.0:**           **DPH State Lab Update**

**5.1**           **Background:** Chairman Buffone noted that there have been ongoing recent communications regarding the ISA that was approved by the Board last March. He mentioned that when budget shortfalls became a reality for DPH last year, DPH requested that ISA be developed in order to assess a fee for lab assays of mosquito collections above and beyond a total collection pool number of 3,200 pools. DPH continued to maintain core sampling services up to 400 pools per MCP with no charge (no pools from Berkshire County).

He continued saying that the economic climate continues to be bad if not worse. One of the Board's concerns was whether or not the MA DPH would continue to do what was done last year or would there be any changes? He pointed out that on behalf of the Board, he e-mailed Cindy Stinson, Manager of the Arbovirus program, to confirm whether or not the procedure spelled out in the ISA last year will be the same for 2009? He remarked that Sandra Smole, Ph.D. Director of the Division of Molecular Diagnostics and Virology Bureau of Laboratory Sciences responded that DPH would like to renew the ISA for 2009.

In addition, the Chairman mentioned that he sent another e-mail on behalf of the Board requesting that Director Smole initiate the ISA with DAR fiscal experts in order to get the appropriate signatures to insure the ISA be ready for this season. He encouraged that DPH as a matter of course initiate the ISA on an annual basis.

Chairman Buffone highlighted the fact that during these communications, a number of letters of support for the state lab's services were sent to DPH. Chairman Buffone acknowledged Ellen Bidlack for her excellent letter in support of the State Lab's efforts. The Board itself sent its own letter he exclaimed. For the record, Chairman Buffone read the salient points into the record:

The Board would add that DPH state Arbovirus surveillance program should actually receive additional funding even in very difficult economic times;

1. to continue to support its mission;
2. to enhance its data collection by documenting the age structure of mosquito populations each season. (This is something that Dr. Pollack has stressed many times in the past);
3. to establish surveillance in municipalities outside of organized mosquito control programs; and
4. to intercept potential new arbovirus threats whose introduction and spread cannot be ruled out especially pertaining to climate change, increase public travel to regions where other Arbovirus are endemic, and introduction of invasive mosquito species such as the Asian rock pool mosquito (*Ochlerotatus japonicas*) and the Asian tiger mosquito (*Aedes albopictus*).

Clearly, this information would help significantly to better understand transmission risk from mosquitoes each year in order to alert the public, and if necessary, mobilize and deploy effective public health responses via mosquito control programs.

Chairman Buffone announced that Cindy Stinson the Arbovirus Surveillance Program Manager was in fact with us today to answer any questions and provide an overview of a number of ongoing efforts at that the state lab in preparation for the 2009 mosquito season.

She began by stating that she secured a date for the pre-season supply distribution planning meeting with mosquito control projects for Wednesday April 8, 2009 12:30 PM to 2 PM at the State Labs.

She gave a brief update on what the state labs anticipated pertaining to vector abundance from what has been observed in the field so far at their long term trap areas. She mentioned that EEEv enzootic vector, *Culiseta melanura* started out below trend due to drought conditions for the last 2 years. Heavy rains at the end of last season however helped this species to recover at the 5 year mean level. Cindy noted that with heavy snow and lack of any extreme conditions this year, many larvae have been observed in the crypts. These mosquitoes overwinter as larvae and if spring temperatures are warm and rainfall amounts copious, there is an expectation that abundance of this important mosquito will increase early in the season or trend above normal.

Dr. Stinson talked about *Coquillettidia perturbans*, the cattail mosquito and stated that DPH does not do a larval count for this species. However, warm spring temperatures and weather patterns occurring winter that one could expect to see considerably higher abundance early in the season.

For *Aedes vexans*, state lab personnel expect high viability of eggs deposited in 2008. Depending on weather especially anticipated traditional heavy rains during spring months, there is an expectation to see this species activity trend upward early in the season.

*Ochlerotatus canadensis*, a woodland species will benefit from snow melt from this winter season and one could expect higher abundance earlier in the season.

Cindy expressed concern for West Nile virus (WNV) which she noted the *Culex pipiens* populations were well above average due to localized intense rains during the summer of 2008. She noted that weather was not extreme over the winter, which it is likely to help those adults that overwintered and as a result expect the increases in their emergence along with egg laying to be intense. If precipitation events trend moderate, there is an expectation that the abundance will be above trend early on. Cindy and others present expressed concern that the 2009 could be a busy year but still very weather dependent.

David Henley asked if DPH would transmit the information of WNV risk to Health Officers to be sure that local communities who are making decisions on budgets this year can consider the anticipated risk this coming season. David concern was to encourage municipalities to treat catch basins early on in anticipation of abundant early populations depositing eggs. Cindy Stinson approved of the idea and suggested that she could provide a synopsis as to what DPH is currently anticipating to give local communities a heads up.

Chairman Buffone asked if any of the stimulus funds being received by the state would help reduce current DPH budget shortfalls. She stated that lab-ready sciences would likely benefit but nothing official has come to their attention.

She noted that DPH is collaborating with Dr. Asim A. Ahmed and Michael Silverman for Children Hospitals who are conducting an EEEV study compiling all the Children Hospital cases. The state lab is providing the information where they have identified 13 cases as early 1970 thru the 2006 outbreak.

Dr. Stinson continued to comment on other activities such as collaboration with Dr. Richard Primack Professor of Biology at Boston University studying the effects of climate change focus on Massachusetts looking at the change on the timing on the first flowering plants and the spring arrival of birds in MA.

She explained that he came and provided a presentation on Monday, March 23rd sharing with them that the first bloom date since 1850 has changed and now its occurs 8 days earlier. Native birds arrive 3-4 days earlier and creates a disconnect between birds migrating from long distances. This causes a problem since caterpillars are emerging earlier and when birds arrive there food source may not be readily available or already completed metamorphosis.

Cindy emphasized that Dr. Primack had little data on insects. As a result, DPH will work with him and provide him with some specific mosquito data from the MDPH trap sites from 1956 to the present date. She noted that Dr. Primack's research results may be useful to the mosquito control projects.

Dr. Stinson is working with Dr. Brown on a group called the New England Regional Arbovirus Communication Group, a group of state epidemiologist that Dr. Brown works with. Katie and Cindy are working to help coordinate the release of relevant Arbovirus information in a more timely fashion. One idea that was discussed was the possibility of the State Lab serving as a repository for regional alerts of Arbovirus and post on the HANN. However, limited staffing and time were factors to be considered. Cindy cautioned that this was only a beginning initiative, and will keep us updated.

Dr. Stinson said budget matters are similar to everyone else in this economy. She commented that depending on the scenario, budget shortfalls could result in possible reduction in seasonal staff, delaying the start of the season by 1 or 2 weeks, decreasing number of vehicles used, decreasing number or eliminating bird testing, further restricting pool size early in the season, and or reducing trapping to non-member communities. She is waiting for confirmation about the WNV hotline, seasonal hires, and other program services. She stated that it was not yet know what the ISA procedure will be for 2009; and hoped the Arbo program will continue to receive maintenance funding given the current state fiscal difficulties.

- 5.2: **Questions and Discussions:** Chairman Buffone asked Dr. Stinson about the state response and surveillance plan and whether or not there will be any changes for 2009? Cindy mentioned that there were two comments from last year relating to abundance of *Culex sp.* and observation of bridge vectors that would be considered for incorporation into the 2009 version. He asked about what level of risk DPH would assign for 2009 season. She commented that it was going to start most likely low to moderate again depending on the area or community. Chairman Buffone conveyed his concern that with expectations of abundance levels trending above normal (weather dependent of course), we could be in for a busy season in 2009.

In response to a question on critical risk levels and allotments, Dr. Stinson noted that the ISA agreement in 2008 stated that if conditions in a focal area become critical or level 5, that additional pools collected as part of increased surveillance in that focal area would not be charged a fee and noted that there was no ISA agreement yet for 2009.

David Henley commented that there is a role for mosquito control during these difficult economic times. He mentioned that there are a lot of abandoned properties with swimming pools and commercial establishments where there may be water holding containers on the sites. Alisha Bouchard commented that the Department of Revenue maintains a list of foreclosed homes and she offered to help David and others to get the list.

Heidi Ricci asked a question on human population being exposed and becoming immune over time. Cindy remarked that CDC just published their conference proceedings for West Nile and one of the topics included incidents of WNV in human population. She stated she could send Heidi the report. Chairman Buffone asked if she could send it to him and he would distribute.

John Smith commented that there was an article he ran across that spoke about population immunity and West Nile virus infections. He would send it to the Chairman Buffone if he could find it.

- 5.3: **Action Taken:** Chairman Buffone thanked Cindy Stinson for coming and providing a very good update and invited her back as often as her schedule would allow.

#### 6.0: MEPA/GEIR Update:

- 6.1: **Background:** Chairman Buffone wanted to update everyone on what progress has been made to date on the GEIR update including a recent meeting called by MEPA on March 4<sup>th</sup>. He remarked that Anne Monnelly and I met with Nicholas Zavolas of MEPA and also conference by telephone with Dr. Sam Telford. MEPA explained to the Board and Dr. Telford its obligations pertaining to a second filing and clarifying the most recent certificate of the Secretary of Environmental Affairs dated January 16, 2009.

Chairman Buffone stated that the main issue of monitoring is one of the overriding comment or concern expressed by public comments. MEPA noted that monitoring is an important (if not the most important element) to be built into the final report/update for the Board. The report should describe the current monitoring programs of MCPs. The information should describe how and what kinds of monitoring took place during the season. The information should describe how the data was collected and present the results at the end of the season. The Chairman, for the sake of time and brevity, told those present that he would not go into all the details of the meeting but invited Dr. Sam Telford and Anne to input if they felt so inclined.

One point that the Chairman shared to those present pertained to a new component proposed by MEPA. MEPA would like to see an annual report or review that would entail public meetings for each of the 9 MCP probably in February or early March of any year. The Board would introduce itself, describe itself, and provide a brief overview of statewide mosquito control. The regional mosquito control program would follow reporting on their activities covering their written annual report. Also, the Board would need to collate the 9 separate annual reports and develop 1 that would be sent to all municipal officials and public libraries located within the 9 regional mosquito control projects.

This annual format would provide the public an opportunity to attend a public meeting, an opportunity to ask questions about mosquito control and to keep mosquito control activities open to a transparent format as to what mosquito control activities are taking place each season in the various areas of the state.

Chairman Buffone finished by stating that the final report/update should be one that for example Dr. Telford deciphers in layman terms that mosquito control:

1. Is a targeted and meaningful program that is sensitive to environment
2. That mosquito control is moving in the direction to enhance it activities where and when feasible (commenting that rest assured the activities are the same as in the US
3. That the Board and MCPs need help in getting there, e.g. lobby for more resources

Chairman Buffone invited Dr. Sam Telford to present any updates to the Board at this time.

Dr Telford stated there were a number of critical tasks that need to be completed. One of them was the literature review addressing mainly the issues that were raised from public comments and look for the scientific basis for those comments. He continued by saying that the literature review is done. His staff will scan every single

document. They created several data base and for each question will provide the data base, the date that was accessed, the key word used, and the number of hits they received, and pull the most relevant abstracts and made available on line. He said much of this was done by his associate Dr. Alan Grant, an eminent mosquito expert.

He mentioned that he has received most of the materials from the mosquito control projects and going thru it to see how people are approaching the various facets of anti-mosquito activity.

He was impressed with the extensive data that each of the MCP were documenting and that these MCP were doing more than just spraying and that data is there. This will be a focal point of what he will do. Dr. Telford remarked that looking at how mosquito control projects are doing it and the quality of the data he receives indicate consistency with national standards.

Dr. Telford noted that they have been only been working on this for 7 weeks but still hopes to be on track for a draft to be circulated to every interested party by June. He has met with other stakeholders, and met with Mosquito Control Directors and anticipate meeting with those outside of mosquito control to listen to their concerns as well.

Chairman Buffone asked if the MCPs have submitted the completed questionnaire but Dr Telford explained they did not follow thru on the questionnaire because the questions ask for the first time around some 10 years ago were not relevant.

A question was raised on methoprene review by Heidi Ricci. Dr Telford noted that it was reviewed extensively by Suffolk County NY due to issues pose by Lobsterman Associations. He did not think that basic utility and cost benefit of using methoprene has changed.

Anne asked those present if the proposed MEPA annual review make sense and petitioned those present to think about it. Anne believed that the Board could propose its own format that may prove more meaningful. Anne stated that all of the mosquito control meetings are open to the public and having additional meetings make not make sense. Gary Gonyea suggested that the notice could be in the Environmental Monitoring that the final reports are complete and available at some site.

Tim Deschamps concern is that the preparation for such a meeting might not be as fruitful as proposed since only a few individuals from the public might attend.

Chairman Buffone asked if Dr. Telford would submit a brief update. Dr. Telford commented that the timeline he provided and identified main tasks is going according schedule. He reiterated that he has completed the literature review, has a draft what appears to be a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for larviciding. He mentioned that the adult related activities have not been approach nor has habitat management so they are a little behind on these 2 areas. Finally, he remarked that the deadline for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> task is due at the end of this month but overall moving ahead to complete a draft document.

6.2: Questions and Discussions: None

6.3: Action Taken: No action was necessary

7.0: Other: Aquatic Habitat Restoration Task Force (AHRTF)

7.1: **Background:** Chairman Buffone highlighted that at the Board's last meeting, David Henley provided a nice summary of a new collaboration called the Aquatic Habitat Restoration Task Force. Heidi Ricci asked that a meeting date be established and MCPs were invited to engage in an in-depth discussion. The meeting was set up for Wednesday, March 4, 2009 at the Waltham Field Station/UMASS Eastern Extension Center at 10 AM to find common ground and areas to partner with groups interested in restoration that will be mutually beneficial and address concerns where there is potential conflict to figure out ways to minimize them. I know Gary has remarked that perhaps the Board could include this new effort in our GEIR update as a good example of increased cooperation and communication between MCP's, agencies, and others. I would agree with Gary and add that what I believe is beneficial for all parties is the idea of maintaining ongoing communication with others.

This morning Dave Henley and Heidi Ricci agreed to update the Board and others of the meeting summarizing actions that took place and next steps.

Dave stated the meeting was well attended. David highlighted the fact that there were representatives from mosquito control projects and a number of people from the Aquatic Habitat Restoration Task Force. He commented that Heidi presented an overview of the goals of the task force and introduced the members. Emily Sullivan presented information on the capabilities of mosquito control and provided examples of what MCPs do. Beth Lambert - Riverways program presented information on fish biology and connectivity issues. Aimlee Laderman, a retired Yale forestry professor who now works at the Woods Hole, gave a fascinating presentation on Cedar Swamps. Peter Fetcher, former USDA soil scientist, gave an interesting presentation on the Sharon cedar swamp restoration project. One of the goals of this Task Force is to have all federal, state, and local agencies at the table regarding restorations to develop (or further??) cooperative efforts.

Heidi Ricci stated this is a beginning and will forward communications between all parties. She mentioned that they also talked about culverts that block fish passage and storm water management and these topics could be a focus of a future meeting.

7.2: **Questions and Discussions:** Chairman Buffone asked if there are any other meetings planned. Heidi responded that another meeting will likely be schedule with a larger group of people who have interests in aquatic water restoration. She is working to invite folks like Emily and other to one of the main meetings with a group called River Advocate Forum, Massachusetts River Alliance to enhance communication and built partnerships. Chairman Buffone expressed appreciation for this effort and the fact that people with diverse interest are talking to one another and building relationships.

7.3 Action: None

8.0: Adjournment:

Before adjournment, Gary announced that there were a two competitive grant programs available that could fit in with what had been discussed. In particular, Gary informed those present about the Section 319 Nonpoint Source completeive grants program and a new 604 B grant opportunity under the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act. The 604b proposals are due by May 15<sup>th</sup> and the s.319 proposals are due on June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

8.1: **Background:** Chairman Buffone stated that the next meeting would be May 27, 2009 here at Waltham and made a motion to officially adjourn the meeting at 11:50 AM.

8.2: **Questions and Discussions:** None.

8.3: **Action Taken:** Gary Gonyea seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark S. Buffone  
Chairman