

# THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS



## Department of Agricultural Resources State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board

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Lee Corte-Real, **Chairman**  
Department of Agricultural  
Resources (DAR)

Bruce Hansen  
Department of Conservation  
And Recreation (DCR)

Gary Gonyea  
Department of Environmental  
Protection (DEP)

### OPERATIONS

Alisha Bouchard  
Executive Director

Jennifer Forman Orth  
Environmental Biologist

Nu Nguyen  
Finance Manager

### MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECTS & DISTRICTS

Berkshire County Mosquito  
Control Project

Bristol County Mosquito  
Control Project

Central Massachusetts  
Mosquito Control Project

Cape Cod Mosquito  
Control Project

East Middlesex Mosquito  
Control Project

Nantucket Mosquito Control  
Project

Norfolk County Mosquito  
Control District

Northeast Massachusetts  
Mosquito & Wetland  
Management District

Plymouth County Mosquito  
Control Project

Suffolk County Mosquito  
Control Project

**Meeting:** State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board (SRMCB)

**Date:** Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014

**Time:** 10:00 AM-NOON

**Location:** Mass. Dept. of Agricultural Resources  
251 Causeway St. Suite 500  
Boston, MA 02114

### Attendance

#### **Board and Staff:**

Lee Corte-Real, Dept. of Agricultural Resources (DAR), Chairman (representing  
Commissioner Watson)

Gary Gonyea, Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP), Member (representing  
Commissioner Cash)

Bruce Hansen, Dept. of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), Member (representing  
Commissioner Murray)

Alisha Bouchard, Executive Director (SRMCB)

Jessica Burgess, Dept. of Agricultural Resources (DAR), Legal Counsel

Jennifer Forman Orth, Environmental Biologist (DAR)

#### **Mosquito Control Districts Commissioners:**

John Kenney, Plymouth County Mosquito Control

Michael Valenti, Plymouth County Mosquito Control

Kimberley King, Plymouth County Mosquito Control

#### **Mosquito Control Districts Staff: None**

#### **Other:**

Gregory Goodband

John Sharland, Bridgewater Board of Health

1. **Meeting Convened:** Chairman Lee Corte-Real called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. The Chairman stated the Board had a quorum.
2. **Commissioner Interviews:** The Board interviewed candidates for commissioner appointments and reappointments to the Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project. Chairman Corte-Real noted that the commissioner interviews are being conducted in open meeting, but candidates are not required to stay throughout the entire interview process.

Five interviewees were present (all remained through recess except for John Kenney):

- a. John Kenney (Requesting Reappointment, went first due to a time constraint)
- b. Gregory Goodband (Requesting a New Appointment)
- c. John Sharland (Requesting a New Appointment)
- d. Michael Valenti (Requesting Reappointment)
- e. Kimberly King (Requesting Reappointment)

Each candidate answered interview questions, spoke about his/her reasons for wanting to be a Commissioner, his/her experience with mosquito control, and managerial/budget management experience.

Mr. Hansen asked if the Board members were restricted to the questions on the list that was distributed at the start of the meeting. Chairman Corte-Real said no but that they should try to follow them in general.

There was a brief discussion regarding whether the Board needed to enter executive session to rate candidates, followed by a brief recess at approximately 11:20 am. The Chairman called the Board back into session at 11:30am.

The Board spoke with Jessica Burgess, Legal Counsel regarding the procedure for open meeting during interviews. Ms. Burgess explained that there is no executive session exception and offered possible alternatives for the future including; having each interview only conducted by one member and/or create a pre-screening committee. Ms. Burgess noted that since the Board is a public body, it must be in public session according to open meeting law, and that others cannot be used as conduit to violating the open meeting law. Furthermore, any discussion of who is getting appointed has to be in an open meeting as well.

Discussion of commissioner candidates by the Board continued. Mr. Hansen said that the candidates all had different skills and strengths that meshed well together. The Board noted that they are filling 4 positions among the 5 interviewees. The Chairman suggested waiting until the next SRB meeting to officially announce appointments and that the Board should provide scores to Ms. Bouchard for tabulation.

Mr. Gonyea suggested the Board have a brief discussion about each candidate, to help with scoring. The Board commented as follows:

- Mr. Kenney: well qualified, doing a good job, understands SRB and mosquito control; lots of field and technical experience, good organizational skills, maybe lacking in communication/diplomacy experience as well as an understanding of SRB.
- Mr. Goodband: has a lot of operational experience and would bring technical expertise, but doesn't have a broad enough perspective compared to the other candidates.
- Mr. Sharland: a good breath of fresh air, would be good to have some representation from local communities.
- Mr. Valenti: has SRB experience, is knowledgeable and professional, listens and provides good direction. Seemed unfamiliar with aspect of SRB/MCD management dealing with flow issues being directly tied to mosquito control, though it was noted that all Mosquito Control Districts might need a reminder about this. Also represents a local community.
- Ms. King: impressed with her desire and ability to learn about mosquito control, seemed unfamiliar with basic SRB/District issues re: District salaries, has also had issues with conflicts of interest.

Chairman Corte-Real noted that although they are filling 4 positions, the reappointments are for expired positions of those Commissioners' slots. Reappointments would be due again as normal according to the cycle:

- Mr. Kenney would be up for reappointment in 2015.
- Ms. King would be up for reappointment in 2017.
- Mr. Valenti would be up for reappointment in 2018.
- Ms. Drinan's term expired 11/30/2014 and will need to be contacted.

The Chairman further indicated his support for Mr. Kenney, Mr. Sharland, Mr. Valenti and Ms. King. Mr. Gonyea agreed. The Board noted their reservations about Ms. King but acknowledged she continues to bring good qualities to table. Mr. Hansen stated he likes that Ms. King does her research, noting her lack of knowledge on financial issues, and also noted that the Board has 5 well-qualified people here, making it difficult to choose.

Chairman Corte-Real then polled Board members by stating each candidate's name:

- Mr. Kenney – "aye – all"
- Mr. Valenti – "aye – all"
- Ms. King – "aye – all"
- Mr. Goodband – "nay – all"
- Mr. Sharland – "aye – all"

**Motion:** Chairman Corte-Real made a motion to approve John Kenney, John Sharland, Michael Valenti, and Kimberly King to either their own expiring terms or a new vacant term, as appropriate.

**Second:** Gary Gonyea

**Vote:** 3:0:0 (yea:nay:abstentions)

The Board requested that Ms. Bouchard draft letters to notify those that were reappointed or newly appointed, with a letter of regret to the candidate that was not chosen.

3. **Public comment/input period:** The Board provided an opportunity for the general public to speak to the Board. No comments were made.
4. **Date, time, and location of next meeting:** The next SRB meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014 at 10am at the North Attleboro Town Hall.
5. **Adjournment:** The Board considered adjournment of the meeting.

**Motion:** Mr. Hansen made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

**Second:** Gary Gonyea

**Vote:** 3:0:0 (yea:nay:abstentions)

Meeting was adjourned at 11:38 am.