



Commissioners  
Jennifer Brown  
Jeanne Galloway – Chair  
Gregory Lewis  
Dr. Andrew Lover  
Carolyn Shores Ness

# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

State Reclamation & Mosquito Control Board

## Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District

Fernald Hall, UMass Amherst

270 Stockbridge Road

Amherst, MA 01003

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District Director  
John Briggs

### Meeting Minutes

**Date:** Monday, June 9, 2025

**Time:** 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

1. Call to Order and Attendance
  - a. Commissioners in attendance: Jeanne Galloway, Carolyn Ness, Andrew Lover, Jennifer Brown, and Greg Lewis. Carolyn Ness left the meeting at 2:47 PM.
  - b. Also in attendance: Susan Gruen from the Heath Board of Health, and John Briggs, Director of Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District (PVMCD).
2. Public Comment/Output
3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes from 5/12/25 (**Vote Required**)
  - a. **Discussion: Carolyn noted a minor typo in the meeting minutes.**
  - b. **Vote: Carolyn made a motion to approve the minutes as amended and Jennifer seconded. Motion approved unanimously, 5-0.**
4. Budget/Finance
  - a. John briefed the Commissioners on which towns have yet to send payments for FY25. Membership invoices would be sent out soon.
  - b. Follow-up larval treatment fee adjustment (**Vote Required**)
    - i. **Discussion:** John proposed lowering the cost per acre for ground larval treatments, noting that follow-up treatments require less surveying and GIS work. He also stated that areas with excessive breeding would necessitate a higher application rate, which should be reflected in the associated costs.
    - ii. **Vote: Carolyn made a motion to implement a fee change for follow-up ground larval treatments, reducing the rate from \$978.25 per acre to \$675.06 per acre. She further moved that areas with excessive breeding requiring a higher application rate to be charged an additional \$47.00 per acre. Andrew seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.**
  - c. FY25 Budget Adjustment: Request to increase funds to cover vehicle fuel costs (**Vote Required**)
    - i. It was requested that an additional \$1,000.00 be allocated for vehicle fuel purchases during the month of June.
    - ii. **Vote:** Carolyn made a motion to increase fuel funds up to \$1,000.00 for the remainder of the fiscal year, and Jennifer seconded. Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.
5. Surveillance and Larval Control Update
  - a. Spring-collected mosquitoes that have not yet been identified in the lab have been frozen and placed in storage temporarily.
  - b. Larval treatments were being scheduled in Northampton in response to the recent excessive mosquito activity.
  - c. It was suggested that trifolds be created with the objective of providing more information on repellents and source reduction.
  - d. Catch basin treatments

- i. A total of 1,752 out of 2,387 catch basins have been completed.
6. Membership and Outreach Update
  - a. Ryan Paxton, the Public Health Director from Montague, reached out to John about revisiting the Town joining the District for FY26. John is scheduled to attend Montague's Board of Health meeting on June 15.
  - b. John would be participating in a listening session about mosquitoes with Shutesbury and surrounding communities on June 11.
  - c. Kiko Malin, the Public Health Director for Amherst, joined John for a ride along while he treated catch basins in Amherst.
7. Staffing/Hiring Update
  - a. Staffing needs will be assessed to determine whether additional support is required for mosquito identification.
8. Other Business
  - a. John notified the Commission that he had worked during Memorial Day and received additional pay. The Commission agreed that the extra pay was acceptable.
  - b. Concerns were raised about staff exposure to reduced air quality.
    - i. **Greg moved to approve \$200 for the use and purchase of N-95 masks, and Andrew seconded. Motion approved unanimously, 4-0.**
9. Date, Time, and Location of Next Commission Meeting
  - a. July 14 at 2 PM. The meeting will be held virtually.
10. Adjournment (**Vote Required**)
  - a. Andrew made a motion to adjourn, and Greg seconded. Motion passed unanimously, 4-0.