

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS



Department of Agricultural Resources

251 Causeway Street, Suite 500, Boston, MA 02114

617-626-1700 fax: 617-626-1850 www.mass.gov/agr



CHARLES D. BAKER
Governor

KARYN E. POLITO
Lt. Governor

KATHLEEN A. THEOHARIDES
Secretary

JOHN LEBEAUX
Commissioner

MEMBERS

Commissioner John Lebeaux,
Chair
Department of Agricultural
Resources (DAR)

Jim Straub
Department of Conservation
And Recreation (DCR)

Nancy Lin
Department of Environmental
Protection (DEP)

Meeting Minutes of the State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board (SRMCB)

**Richard Cronin Building 1 Rabbit Hill Road,
Westborough, MA 01581**

1/22/2020

OPERATIONS

Jennifer Forman Orth
Environmental Biologist

Juan Carlos Gutierrez
Operations Coordinator

Jessica Burgess, Esq.
General Counsel

Nu Nguyen
Finance Manager

Board Members in Attendance:

Commissioner John Lebeaux, Chair, Nancy Lin, Jim Straub.

MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECTS & DISTRICTS

Berkshire County Mosquito
Control Project

Bristol County Mosquito
Control Project

Cape Cod Mosquito
Control Project

Central Massachusetts
Mosquito Control Project

East Middlesex Mosquito
Control Project

Norfolk County Mosquito
Control District

Northeast Massachusetts
Mosquito & Wetland
Management District

Pioneer Valley Mosquito
Control District

Plymouth County Mosquito
Control Project

Suffolk County Mosquito
Control Project

- 1. Call to Order:** Commissioner Lebeaux called the meeting to order at 10:00am.
- 2. Approval of Meeting Minutes (Vote required):** The Board considered approval for the meeting minutes from the October 31, 2019 Board meetings. **Action Taken:** Jim Straub made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Nancy Lin and the minutes are voted for approval.
- 3. Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control Membership approval (Vote required):**
The Board considered approval of the town of Rowe's membership to PVMCD. **Action Taken:** Jim Straub made a motion to approve the town of Rowe's membership to the Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District. The motion was seconded by Nancy Lin and the membership is voted for approval.
- 4. Commissioner appointments: Interview/appointments for Plymouth County Mosquito Control District (PCMCD) (Vote Required)**
The board decided to change the order of the agenda items due to one member having to leave earlier.

The board interviewed two candidates for one Commissioner Vacancy at the PCMCD.

The board reviewed Ann Motyka's qualifications and application for The PCMCD commissioner position. Ann has worked for 34 years at the PCMCD as a seasonal licensed field technician. She has experience larviciding, adulticiding and setting up traps with the district's entomologist **Action taken:** The board decided not to take any action due to time constraints during this quarterly meeting. It will take more time to go over all the qualifications and paperwork.

The board reviewed Tom Reynold's qualifications and application for the PCMCD Commissioner position. Tom holds the position of Director of Public works at the town of Marshfield. Tom is also the current president of the Plymouth County Highway Association and has been the president of the Mass Highway Association. He is a member of the MA employee health and safety advisory board and a member of the MMA public works, transportation and telecommunication policy committee. **Action taken:** The board decided not to take any action due to time constraints during this quarterly meeting. It will take more time to go over all the qualifications and paperwork.

5. Public Comment/Input Period:

Westborough resident, Louise Hetzler, shares her concerns of the pesticides being used during the spraying and suggested a garlic based pesticide and a company in California that sells the product. She is concerned with pesticide companies lobbying public agencies to use their products. Jim Straub asked her to bring her finding got the pesticide board to see if the pesticide can be used in Massachusetts as mosquito control. A second Westborough resident also shared his concerns about the spraying and wanted to information about the efficacy of the spray during the EEE outbreak. Commissioner Lebeaux informed him that at this time the data is still being examined and will be available as soon as DPH allows it.

6. Regional updates: Mosquito Control Districts will provide the Board with brief updates about regional activities, issues and concerns.

- a. Northeast: District is working on their winter maintenance. Planning on purchasing new vehicles and sprays. They will be ordering additional pesticides this year due to shortages during last season's spray.
- b. Berkshire: District is working towards moving into a cloud GIS system that will allow them to improve their work. They are prepare to begin the new season and are in the process of reaching out to cities and towns to see if they are interested in joining the district.

- c. Bristol: the District has sent out their budget notifications. The District is working with Plymouth to plan a more comprehensive larvicide application. They are going through their budget, products and water management projects. The district is also updating their IT system with a new cloud base system with frontier precision.
- d. Central: the District is currently doing water management type of work. They are doing maintenance and updating their inventory maps. The district has sent out their budget notifications and is ready for the new season. They are also in the process of hiring seasonal employees. The district also mentioned that they reached out to West Boylston and will be present during their town meeting.
- e. East Middlesex/Suffolk: the Districts are working on mapping and working on ditch maintenance. The district is updating their IT system. They are also working on hiring seasonal employees.
- f. Norfolk: the District does not have much to report at this time. The district has not experienced anything out of the ordinary. Currently doing the hand cleaning of all equipment and machines.
- g. Plymouth: Airplane received its annual maintenance. District is planning their spring Larviciding. District is in the process of hiring seasonal employees.
- h. Pioneer Valley: the District is working in building their membership. They have met with 2 towns this year and reaching out to additional towns.

7. 2019 Emergency Aerial Spraying update

MDAR Chief of Staff, Alisha Bouchard gives an update of the 2019 emergency aerial spraying. There has been 77 recommendation of how to approach the new season. The state is working aggressively on planning the 2020 season. There are conversations about the review of long term organizational MCD structure and state wide surveillance.

- 8. Next Board Meetings:** The next SRB meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 18 10:00AM @ Richard Cronin Building. 1 Rabbit Hill Road, Westborough, MA 01581
- 9. Adjournment: Action Taken:** Nancy Lin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Jim Straub. The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:57am.