

10.13.21 Mosquito Control Task Force (MCTF) Meeting – Minutes

October 13, 2021, 12:00 p.m. via Zoom

MCTF Member Participants: Beth Card, Eve Schluter, Heidi Ricci, Helen Poynton, Jennifer Pederson, John Lebeaux, Kathy Baskin, Kimberly LeBeau, Nicole Keleher, Priscilla Matton, Richard Pollack, Richard Robinson, Russell Hopping

Quorum of MCTF member participants was announced and the meeting was called to order. In accordance with Open Meeting Law (OML) requirements, the full Task Force meeting was used to release the task force member comments in addition to the public comments on the report prepared for the task force. Caroline Higley screenshared the information for all to see. First, the aggregated Task Force Member Report Comment Compilation was released, followed by the spreadsheet Overview of Public Comments on the MCTF Report. Lastly, the Public Comment Summary from August 2021 through September 2021 was shared.

- Comments on the report from MCTF members and members of the public are now released to the public. ERG prepared an aggregation of the information to facilitate review. ERG clarified that although this aggregation does not perfectly capture 100% of the information received, the original comments are also available.
 - It was noted that the MCTF will see all of the public comments, but this document specifically aggregates public comments to give task force members and the public the ability to sort and filter the information more easily.
- Heidi asked for clarification to confirm if the task force members will receive the actual comment letters. It was noted that the letters are captured through the public comment platform, so they are included in this summary. The last column in the spreadsheet that is presented has a file name that allows members to cross-reference the summary excel sheet with every individual comment received.
- ERG noted that this is also the format they would use for the rest of the comment buckets, with a goal to make review as easy as possible, but also to provide the complete package of what committee members want to see.
- Richard Robinson expressed frustration with how the open meeting law seemed to be getting in the way of sharing complex information such as these comments in a timelier manner (i.e., in-between meetings).
 - He looked at the Attorney General's wording and his interpretation was that only opinions, not factual information, was subject to the constraint of only being shared at meetings. Richard Robinson quoted: "When feasible, the chair should distribute ahead of a meeting documents that might be used in the meeting." Heidi Ricci seconded Richard Robinson's sentiment.
 - Jessica Burgess clarified that the relevant laws include both open meeting law and case law – there have been interpretations of the open meeting law in other court cases that fairly clearly establish the precedent of not facilitating any deliberation outside an open meeting. Jessica Burgess is happy to share those materials.
- Jennifer Pederson asked whether the materials shared during this MCTF meeting would be able to be discussed at the next meeting, and the answer provided was yes.
- Heidi Ricci asked whether she would be able to provide input to the next meeting through ERG since she will be unable to attend. Caroline Higley and Jessica Burgess confirmed that she could provide a document to them in advance, and it could be read at the meeting.

- Jennifer Pederson asked whether meetings could be recorded – this might help subcommittee members who are unable to attend. Jessica Burgess noted that detailed meeting minutes were intended to serve this purpose, but this could be revisited.
- Patti Page submitted a comment in the Q&A: “Recording subcommittee meetings would be very valuable for public review.”

A motion was made to end the full MCTF meeting before returning to the Best Practices Subcommittee meeting. A motion was made to adjourn and seconded by Jennifer Pederson. All in favor said aye and the full task force meeting was adjourned.