

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS



Department of Agricultural Resources

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Ashley E. Randle, Chair
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Resources (MDAR)

Jim Straub, Commissioner
Department of Conservation and
Recreation (DCR)

Mia McDonald, Commissioner
Department of Environmental
Protections (DEP)

OPERATIONS
Jennifer Forman
Orth Environmental Biologist

Jessica Burgess, Esq.
General Counsel

Anita Amin
Operations Coordinator

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

State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board Meeting

Date: 07/07/25 from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Location: Meeting held remotely via Zoom

1. Call to Order and Attendance

The meeting was called to order by SRB Chair and MDAR Commissioner, Ashley Randle, at 1:01 PM. Additional SRB members in attendance included Mia McDonald (DEP) and Jim Straub (DCR). A meeting quorum was met. Chair Randle acknowledged Deputy Commissioner Bouchard's retirement on July 25th.

2. Pesticide Product Review and Selection

Director Taryn LaScola presented a packet of information on products used for aerial applications in the event of an emergency response. State agencies including Departments of Environmental Protection, Fish and Wildlife, Marine and Fisheries and Public Health reviewed the packet and provided a memo regarding the products. Jim Straub inquired what the process was if there are inquiries regarding the products and whether information can be made publicly available. Director LaScola responded to send inquiries to her team, and she can route to the appropriate party, and the information is publicly available. The information is listed in the Emergency Response Plan. If record requests are made, they can be routed to General Counsel per Jessica Burgess. Most material is public record now that the information is being reviewed during the meeting.

Motion to approve ANVIL 10 + 10 as the primary product of mosquito adulticide and Marus 3.0 as back up: Jim Straub

Second: Mia McDonald

Roll Call (AYE): Jim Straub, Mia McDonald, Ashley Randle

3. 2024 Emergency Response Summary Report

Director Taryn LaScola reviewed high level overview of the Emergency Response operation in 2024. July 2024 started to see pools with EEE. At the end of July, a positive horse, and in August human positive cases were reported. On August 24th, 2024, the Department of Public Health issued a certification of a public health hazard, the SRB convened and approved an emergency response. An aerial operation occurred on August 27th where 86,500 acres were sprayed in Plymouth County (total of 8 towns.) Ground spraying occurred in Worcester County (5 towns and 775 miles covered) during August 27th to August 30th. Anvil 10 + 10 was utilized. Efforts were mobilized quickly once the emergency response plan was activated. Environmental monitoring of surface water and honeybee were also conducted. The reports were to be posted after the meeting. No additional questions from the board.

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4. Commissioner Application Review and Interviews

Chair Randle noted that interviews of applicants seeking to fill commissioner vacancies would occur today, but voting for the appointment would be held at a later date to allow members of the board to review the answers of the applicants.

Joseph Barille for Cape Cod Mosquito Control District: He was a previous Commissioner for Bristol County (2007.) Changed residency to Barnstable County in 2017. Felt it was more appropriate after retiring in 2024. Graduate from UMass Amherst in Entomology. 45-year professional history of non-agricultural pest management (structural, food, public health, and animal health.) During his career in public and private sector, had experience with public health in product support and technical service nationally and internationally. In a structural pest control company for 5 years, managed 65 technicians, 4 supervisors, and 1 service manager over three branches. Near the end of his tenure, was the sole technical manager for US and Canada. Trained his replacement for two years prior to retirement. Oversaw large scale projects dealing with political and public pressures. Saw significant public health crises in other regions outside of Massachusetts. Considers himself an environmentalist and there is a proper way to demonstrate the balance of nuisance abatement. The data collected regarding public requesting services. The requests are legitimate but also have to have consideration of pesticide load in the environment. He has regulatory experience through usage of products and the environmental impacts. Spoke to Bristol County and Cape Cod wildlife and protected wet lands. Highlighted the importance of balance. Worked on securing additional funding with several State Representatives in regard to spring larvicide efforts to target melanura. Managed a seminar series while with Clorox - around 26 cities in the Northeast (budget of \$250,000 annually.) Retired as the Chairman of Bristol County Mosquito Commission. Anticipates full participation and limited absences if elected to position and lives locally.

Theodore “Ted” Andreadis for the Cape Cod Mosquito Control District: Spent career studying mosquitos, ticks, and vector borne diseases. Recently retired from Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station. Current adjunct appointment at Yale School of Health and University of Connecticut. Wants to use his experience to bring mosquito control in Massachusetts to the next level. Intimate working knowledge in vector borne diseases both at viral level and bio safety level. Developed arbovirus surveillance program for Connecticut and directed program for 15 years. Has extensive experience with federal and state involvement – various departments of Health, speaking to legislators, and speaking with the Public. Had 120 employees under him, and managed \$22,000 in grant funds, collaborated with other institutions, and personally hiring staff including post-doctoral staff. Led weekly conference calls with the Department Health and DEP regarding surveillance of nuisance mosquitos and disease carrying mosquitos. Belief that chemical intervention should be last resort with priority in surveillance and preemptive larval control. Worked with Senators Dick Blumenthal and Chris Murphy as wells as Governor Ned Lamont and Dan Malloy regarding EEE, West Nile, and Zika. Doesn’t like operating in the red and wants to always ensure a balanced budget. Anticipates full participation and limited absences if elected to position and lives locally. Offers his experience in case of any outbreaks and is willing to visit the field with the Superintendent if needed if elected.

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Landis Hershey for the Norfolk County Mosquito Control District Commissioner. She worked for the town of Walpole for 23 years as a Conservation Agent and Norfolk MCD on different projects. She also worked for the City of Attleboro with a total career history of 30 years with focus on wetlands, rivers, and ponds and streams. Interfaces with the public and has participated in public hearings. Have managed board secretary time and assigned projects. Managed support, administrative, technical and enforcement staff. While her background is in wetland protection, understands why human protection is needed with mosquito control. As department head for Conservation has prepared budgets, capital budgets, and grant proposals for storm water management. Anticipates full participation and has no problem to making full commitment to the role.

5. New Business

No new business

6. Adjourn Meeting

Motion to adjourn at 1:48 PM: Jim Straub

Second: Mia McDonald

Role Call (AYE): Jim Straub, Mia McDonald, Ashley Randle