

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

State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board Meeting Minutes

MEMBERS

John Lebeaux, Chair
Department of Agricultural
Resources (DAR)

Jim Straub
Department of Conservation
And Recreation (DCR)

Nancy Lin
Department of Environmental
Protection (DEP)

OPERATIONS

Jennifer Forman Orth
Environmental Biologist

Jessica Burgess, Esq.
General Counsel

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

Date: February 22, 2022 at 2:00 P.M.

Location: Zoom Meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81684123117>

1. Call to Order and Attendance

The meeting was called to order by SRB Chair, Commissioner John Lebeaux at 2:05 p.m. A quorum was met and the SRB members in attendance included John Lebeaux (MDAR), Nancy Lin (DEP), and Jim Straub (DCR).

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes (Vote Required)

Commissioner Lebeaux entertained a motion to approve the meeting minutes from 9/8/21. A motion was made by Jim Straub and seconded by Nancy Lin. A roll call vote was conducted. Commissioner Lebeaux noted that he was not at the 9/8/21 meeting and therefore abstained from the vote, Nancy Lin (aye), Jim Straub (aye). The meeting minutes were approved.

3. Mosquito Control for the Twenty-First Century Task Force Update ("Task Force")

Commissioner Lebeaux reported that four subcommittees were established by the Task Force and have been meeting actively since early October 2021. Legislative directives were divided out to each subcommittee with final recommendations due to the legislature by 3/31/22. There was an expectation that the deadline of 3/31/22 would be met. Commissioner Lebeaux asked if there were any questions from the SRB members. Jim Straub asked if there was going to be a more updated version of the draft recommendations as he wanted to make sure that DCR leadership was informed if any recommendations impacted DCR responsibilities. Commissioner Lebeaux discussed the process and noted that recommendations would be formalized and

advanced to the full Task Force for deliberation and recommendation to the Legislature.

Jessica Burgess added that a DCR representative, Nicole Keleher, and a DEP representative, Kathy Baskin, were on the task force. Jessica Burgess also noted that there was a Task Force website with information related to how things have progressed and evolved.

4. FY23 MCD Preliminary Budget Update

Commissioner Lebeaux noted that preliminary budget requests had been received and are in the amount of a little over \$15.6MM with increases generally in the area of 2%. It was added that Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District (“PVMCD”) budget request was a 6.59% increase year over year. However, because of their smaller budget, a 6.59% year over year increase represented only \$6K. Commissioner Lebeaux commented that it would be the SRBs responsibility to vote on the budget at the May SRB meeting. Commissioner Lebeaux asked if there were any questions. Jim Straub commented that he wanted to ensure that budget information would be received with enough time so the SRB members could go through and review the requests.

5. Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District Membership Updates (Vote Required)

Commissioner Lebeaux noted that there was a follow up meeting with PVMCD, and a request was made to not take a vote, as no new potential members were going to be advanced to the SRB at this time. The Commission for the PVMCD (“Commission”) met on 2/14 and deliberated on putting a cap on new member communities at least until the PVMCD had a facility to work out of. It was noted that at the March Commission meeting, that they would have a better sense of which towns may want to join and that would determine who the PVMCD brought forward to the SRB for approval. It was added that a vote would not be taken today but may be taken at the April or May SRB meetings.

6. District Commission Openings/Application Update

Commissioner Lebeaux advised that there were currently four openings throughout the various MCD Commissions. It was noted that Bristol County Mosquito Control District (“BCMCD”) had not received a formal application to fill their seat, but there was some interest from individuals. Norfolk Mosquito Control District (“NCMCD”) had not received any applications submitted to date but was anticipating an application submission shortly. Both PVMCD and Suffolk County

Mosquito Control District (“SCMCD”) had not received applications to date for their Commission openings. Jim Straub inquired if the lack of people in the Commissions was going to create an issue. Commissioner Lebeaux noted that none of the Commission vacancies hinder work. Dave Lawson of the NCMCD also provided response in the Zoom chat to confirm that Commission vacancies did not hinder their work.

7. Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting would be held on be 4/11/22 at 10:00 a.m. Commissioner Lebeaux commented that Jennifer Forman-Orth put a link in the Zoom chat related to the Mosquito Control Task Force website that may be a benefit to the SRB members.

Jessica Burgess noted that there was a Commission appointment request from the East Middlesex Mosquito Control District (“EMMCD”) Commission. Commissioner Lebeaux stated that he preferred that the SRB receive the appointment request in their packet for the April meeting so the information could be reviewed. Jessica Burgess noted that because the appointment is for EMMCD there was nothing to review other than the appointment letter and added that it would be ok to vote on. Commissioner Lebeaux noted that after hearing from Counsel he would be comfortable putting this to a vote. Both Jim Straub and Nancy Lin agreed. Commissioner Lebeaux entertained a motion from the SRB to approve the appointment by the Brookline Board of Health of Dr. Roland Lankah to the EMMCD Commission. The motion was made by Nancy Lin. Seconded by Jim Straub. A roll call vote was conducted. Commissioner Lebeaux (aye), Nancy Lin (aye), Jim Straub (aye).

8. Adjourn

Hearing no other questions or comments from the group, Commissioner Lebeaux entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting from Nancy Lin. Seconded by Jim Straub. All SRB members voted aye. The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.