

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS



Department of Agricultural Resources

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JOHN LEBEAUX
Commissioner

State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board Meeting

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: April 11, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

Location: Zoom Meeting:

1. Call to Order and Attendance

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair, John Lebeaux at 10:00 a.m. SRB members in attendance included Jim Straub, John Lebeaux, and Nancy Lin (joined the meeting at 10:04 a.m.).

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from 2/22/22

John Lebeaux entertained a motion to approve the meeting minutes as written. A motion was made by Jim Straub. Seconded by John Lebeaux. A roll call was conducted. John Lebeaux (aye), Jim Straub (aye).

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

John Lebeaux noted that the MCTF report was submitted to the Legislature. Jim Straub asked who the Legislature would be contacting from the SRB if they had questions. John Lebeaux noted that questions from the Legislature would most likely be addressed to EEA and EEA would determine who would need to provide responses. John Lebeaux mentioned to the Board Members that if questions were received regarding the MCTF they could be directed to SRB Operations Coordinator, Alex Giannantonio. Nancy Lin inquired about the timing and implementation of MCTF recommendations. John Lebeaux noted that the charge of the MCTF was to provide recommendations to the Legislature and that the MCTF members completed their work and now it was in the Legislature's hands to do as they saw fit. It was noted that legislative action was most likely to start in the 2023 legislative session. Nancy Lin commented that many of the recommendations would require funding.

4. Municipal Opt-Out Process Update

It was noted that EEA announced the release of the 2022 municipal opt-out process related to spraying conducted by the SRB. John Lebeaux commented that all opt-out plans would require approval by EEA and that applications were due by May 27, 2022. Nancy Lin inquired about the municipal opt-out procedures. It was noted that municipal opt-out applications were handled by EEA and Alisha Bouchard added that the applications would go through EEA first and then the proposed opt-out list would go through the SRB for review and approval. Jessica Burgess confirmed that the approval process would follow the statutory requirements and that currently there was no action needed by the SRB until the opt-out list was presented to the SRB Board Members.

5. Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District Membership Updates

John Lebeaux noted that the Pioneer Valley Commission would be meeting in the next few weeks to finalize a decision to determine if they would be allowing more towns to join the District. It was mentioned that there were currently four towns who have voted to join the District. Christopher Craig of the Pioneer Valley District concurred and noted that the Commission was leaning towards including the four towns and that this topic would likely be part of a Commission vote in May.

6. Date of Next Meeting

John Lebeaux noted that the next SRB meeting would be held on May 16th and would be the meeting where the SRB would vote to certify District budgets. It was also mentioned that District budget content would be distributed to the Board Members in advance of the meeting, so everyone would have a chance to review.

7. Norfolk County MCD Commission Interview – Kylee Sullivan (Vote Required)

Kylee Sullivan, Health Director with the Town of Dedham, provided an overview of her background, educational credentials, and a synopsis of her interests related to the open Commission position. The Board Members asked Kylee Sullivan a series of questions that related to her relevant skills, knowledge, and experiences interfacing and addressing topics related to public health, communications, mosquito control, working with elected officials, and budgeting processes. Kylee Sullivan provided robust and pertinent information and examples that answered the interview questions that were posed by the Board Members.

John Lebeaux noted that in addition to the application that was submitted by Kylee Sullivan, the Board also received a letter that was submitted by Nancy Baker, Assistant Town Manager, from the Town of Dedham recommending Kylee Sullivan's application for appointment. John Lebeaux asked if there were any questions and Kylee Sullivan noted that she had some questions regarding the MCTF, but her

questions were addressed at the beginning of the meeting. Hearing no other questions or comments, John Lebeaux entertained a motion to move ahead with a vote to appoint Kylee Sullivan to the Norfolk County Mosquito Control District Commission. Nancy Lin made a motion. Seconded by Jim Straub. A roll call was conducted. John Lebeaux (aye), Nancy Lin (aye), Jim Straub (aye). The motion passed unanimously.

8. Zoom Chat / Adjourn

John Lebeaux acknowledged a comment in the Zoom chat from Kimberly Cavicchi, a member of the Halifax Conservation Committee. Kimberly Cavicchi commented on no-spray requests and concerns about private mosquito control companies continuing to be allowed to spray and wanted to know if MDAR or the SRB had plans to address concerns related to private mosquito control companies. John Lebeaux discussed the current process and noted that private mosquito applicators are outside the SRB but are regulated under state statutes and regulations. Kimberly Cavicchi asked if there were plans to address loopholes.

John Lebeaux respectfully suggested that individuals who shared a similar position may want to speak to their legislative delegation. Kimberly Cavicchi continued discussing plans to revise large area spraying to reduce adulticide requests by organized mosquito control. John Lebeaux noted that the questions were moving far away from the posted agenda for the meeting and that the MCTF had just finished its work and now MDAR and the SRB was waiting for the Legislature. Discussion and commentary continued, and John Lebeaux noted that comments were addressed, and the conversation would not become a back-and-forth. With the completion of the meeting agenda, John Lebeaux entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jim Straub made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Nancy Lin. A roll call was conducted. John Lebeaux (aye), Nancy Lin (aye), Jim Straub (aye). The meeting was adjourned at 10:33 a.m.