## THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS



### Department of Agricultural Resources

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CHARLES D. BAKER Governor KARYN E. POLITO Lt. Governor MATTHEW A. BEATON Secretary JOHN LEBEAUX Commissioner

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

**Richard Cronin Building 1 Rabbit Hill Road, Westborough, MA 01581** 3/20/2019

#### **Board Members in Attendance:**

Commissioner John Lebeaux, Chair, Gary Gonyea, Jim Straub.

- **1. Call to Order:** Commissioner Lebeaux called the meeting to order at 10:01 am.
- 2. Public Comment/Input Period: No comments heard.
- **3. Approval of Meeting Minutes (Vote required):** The Board considered approval for the meeting minutes from the January 16, 2019 Board meetings. **Action Taken:** Gary Gonyea made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Jim Straub and the minutes are voted for approval.
- **4. Regional updates:** Mosquito Control Districts will provide the Board with brief updates about regional activities, issues and concerns.
  - a. Northeast: District is getting ready for the new mosquito season. So far, the temperature is cold and most fields are covered in ice. Tire recycling program continues to be a success.
  - b. Berkshire: District wrapped up their annual reports. They are prepare to begin the new season and are in the process of hiring new seasonal personnel.
  - c. Bristol: District also has experienced low temperatures, and have not found any larvae to date. The district has sent out their budget notifications. Water management has been successful and district is ready for the new season.
  - d. Central: District also has experienced iced areas. Tire recycling continues to be a success, and is welcomed by all communities.

<u>MEMBERS</u> Commissioner John Lebeaux, Chair Department of Agricultural

Resources (DAR)

Jim Straub Department of Conservation And Recreation (DCR)

Gary Gonyea Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

OPERATIONS Jennifer Forman Orth Environmental Biologist

Juan Carlos Gutierrez Operations Coordinator

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 The district has sent out their budget notifications and are ready for the new season. They are also in the process of hiring seasonal employees.

- e. East Middlesex/Suffolk: District has also experienced cold temperatures. They are working on mapping and getting ready to use the helicopter for spraying season. They are also working on hiring seasonal employees.
- f. Norfolk: the district has not experienced anything out of the ordinary. Currently doing the hand cleaning of all equipment and machines. They are in the process of transitioning to Larviciding and also preparing for aerial Larviciding applications.
- g. Plymouth: they are finishing their tire recycling program for the season. Airplane received its annual maintenance. They will be moving into their new facility in early April into May. District is in the process of hiring seasonal employees.

The districts asked the SRB admin is there is a contract for emergency pesticide application. There is a contract in place.

Jessica Burgess went over the new Comptroller's payroll policy regarding clothing allowance. If the employer requires employees to purchase clothing from a certain store, it can be tax exempt. If there are no requirement for the clothing used at work, it cannot be tax exempt. A second option is to have the District use vendors under contract to purchase work clothing for the employees.

# 5. Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control Membership approval (Vote required):

The Board considered approval of the town of Palmer. **Action Taken:** Jim Straub made a motion to approve the town of Palmer's membership to the Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District. The motion was seconded by Gary Gonyea and the membership is voted for approval.

- Next Board Meetings: The next SRB meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019 10:00AM @ Richard Cronin Building. 1 Rabbit Hill Road, Westborough, MA 01581
- **7.** Adjournment: Action Taken: Mr. Gonyea made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Jim Straub. The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:52am.