

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS



Department of Agricultural Resources

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Alisha Bouchard, Chair
Department of Agricultural
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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
Legal Counsel

Alexander Gill
Contracts Manager

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

Nantucket Mosquito Control
Project

Norfolk County Mosquito
Control District

Northeast Massachusetts
Mosquito & Wetland
Management District

Plymouth County Mosquito
Control Project

Suffolk County Mosquito
Control Project

DRAFT

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

North Attleboro Town Hall

43 S. Washington St, North Attleboro, MA 02760

1/18/2017

Board Members & Guests in Attendance:

Alisha Bouchard, Chairwoman, Gary Gonyea, Jim Straub, Taryn LaScola, Jessica Burgess, Jennifer Forman Orth, Juan Carlos Gutierrez, Alexander Gill, Ellen Bidlack, Stephen Gillett, Chris Horton, Christine A. Fagan, Priscilla Matton, Caroline Havaland, David Lawson, , William Mehaffey, Gabrielle Sakolski, Todd Duval, Kimberly Foss, Timothy Deschamps, Joe Onorato, John Sharland, Matt Osborne, Ross Rossetti, Arthur F. Tobin, Gregory D. Dorrance.

- 1. Call to Order:** Alisha Bouchard, representing Commissioner Lebeaux called the meeting to order at 10:01 am.
- 2. Attendance:** Chairwoman Bouchard noted the Board has a quorum.
- 3. Public Comment/Input Period:** No comments heard.
- 4. Approval of Meeting Minutes:** The Board considered approval for the meeting minutes from the October 19th, 2016 Board meeting. **Action Taken:** Gary Gonyea made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Jim Straub and the minutes were unanimously voted for approval.

5. FY18 Budget Requests: Updates since the Board's October Meeting:

Central Mass: Requested a FY/18 budget increase to 4.4%. They are seeking to increase field staffing levels in FY/18 by 2 FTE to reduce the waiting period between receipt of request and actual service.

Norfolk County: Just signed a lease extension covering the dates of 11/1/16 - 10/31/17 in its current location. Norfolk County Mosquito Control will be moving into new building November 1st, 2017. The rollover amount (\$205,098.30) will help ease with the moving expenses and new lease.

Cape Cod: Requested a FY/18 budget increase to 7.154%. The operational increases were necessary to cover increasing mosquito surveillance due to growing risk of WNV in Barnstable County.

- 6. SRB Budget Policy update:** Since the SRB October 18th, meeting, Districts sent their public attendance history of their Budget meetings. As discussed, there was a low turnout and lack of participation. **Discussion:** Various mosquito control districts reported that holding public meetings has resulted in very limited public participation; all the Districts concur with these remarks. As a result, the policy has been in the process of a redraft to incorporating new public record law requirements. Alisha Bouchard has made comments and redrafted the policy. Jessica Burgess will take a final look and finalize it before it goes out to the districts for any additional comments. **Action Taken:** Once the policy is completed and approved by Jessica Burgess, it will be distributed to the Districts for their comments and concerns.
- 7. OSD/OVM Updates:** The Fiscal Office's, Alex Gill updated the Board/Districts noting misapplications from the FY16 OVM chargeback will be fixed in FY17. The issue was related to inaccurate District's vehicle information. **Discussion:** Districts that were overcharge will be credited in FY18. Alisha Bouchard shared Bristol's county regarding possible litigation against OVM. Jessica Burgess informed the Districts that they did not have a ground to pursue any legal action. **Action Taken:** None.
- 8. Updates on Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control efforts:** Taryn LaScola provided an update on progress and information from the January 13th, 2017 meeting. **Discussion:** Pioneer Valley (PV) applied and got approved for the Community Compact Grant, of an amount of ~ \$35,000.00. PV will now start working with 2 consultants who will help create the new Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District. PV sees the

consultant doing the leg work in 2017 and presenting the information to each town in the spring of 2018. PV have an inclination to have the district perform voluntary contribution from their towns. **Action Taken:** The next meeting is scheduled for 2/28/17.

9. Legal updates: Attorney Jessica Burgess provided the Board an update on various matters including the public hearing for exclusion rights.

- a. New Regulation 33 CRM13.03 promulgated and now in effect
- b. New changes include:
 - Exclusion request must be made to the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources, it will no longer be submitted to each individual town;
 - Requests can be made electronically or via hard copy. If submitting a hard copy request it must be sent via first class mail and contain the following information:
 - Name of the landowner or tenant requesting the exclusion. If request is made by the tenant, the name and contact information for the landlord must also be provided;
 - Address of the individual requesting the exclusion (if different than property to be excluded);
 - Telephone number of the individual requesting the exclusion;
 - Address of the property to be excluded, including the parcel identification number as assigned by the city or town if a property in question does not have a dwelling or a street address; and
 - A description of the types of pesticide application programs from which exclusion is requested
 - Exclusions requests can be made at any point in time during the year
 - Exclusion request may submitted at any time of the year, it shall be effective fourteen (14) days from the receipt of the request
 - Exclusion requests expire on December 31st of the year
- c. All public records request go through Carol Szocik (AGR)

10. Regional updates:

- a. Cape Cod Project - The Project is currently working on the Annual Operations Report, Gabrielle Sakolski requested an organizational chart from SRB admin in order to direct their questions to the right department.

- b. Norfolk County Project: The Project informed the board they signed a lease extension covering the dates of 11/1/16 - 10/31/17 and will be moving into new building November 1st, 2017. The Project is working on their Annual Operations Report.
- c. Central Mass Project – The Project requested a FY/18 budget increase 4.4%. They are seeking to increase field staffing levels in FY/18 by 2 FTE. The Project is working on their mid-season operations, ditching maintenance program and working on purchasing 5 new trucks with 5 sprayers.
- d. East Middlesex/Suffolk County – The Project is currently working in ditch maintenance, and the Annual Operations Report.
- e. Berkshire County Project– The Project is working on their Annual Operations Report and is working with 5 towns who may want to be part of the Berkshire County Project.
- f. Northeast Mass Project – The Project is finalizing their Annual Operations Report. John Moak is still the acting superintendent.
- g. Bristol County Project – The Project is working in their Annual Operation Report, water management and maintenance. Interviews for the Wetlands coordinator position are completed and an offer has been made.
- h. Plymouth County - The Project is working on their Annual Operations report, water management, maintenance on machines and vehicles. They are looking into a tablet upgrade for better accountability. The Project is working with Frontier Precisions Company for this upgrade.

11. Next Board Meeting: The next SRB meeting is scheduled for 10:00am on Wednesday, March 15th, 2017 @ Richard Cronin Building 1 Rabbit Hill Road, Westborough, MA 01581.

12. Adjournment: Action Taken: Mr. Gonyea made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bouchard. The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 12:16pm.