

**MINUTES OF THE 430TH MEETING
OF THE STATE MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION
HELD AT NJ DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
501 EAST STATE STREET
TRENTON, NJ 08625
JANUARY 19, 2010**

MEMBERS PRESENT

John Sarnas, Dr. George Van Orden, John Surmay, Dr. Mark Robson. Shereen Semple, Mark Mayer, Dan Konczyk, Anthony Petrongolo, Robert Kent, Secretary and Claudia O'Malley, Technical Advisor. Mr. Emerson and Dr. Bruder were absent due to other commitments.

OTHERS PRESENT

Scott Crans, Jenn Gruener, Tadhgh Rainey, Christine Musa, Steven Csorgo and DAG Michael Schuit.

CALL TO ORDER

Secretary Kent called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Secretary Kent called the roll.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Secretary Kent reported that on January 5, 2010 the Secretary of State was sent an announcement for the January meeting to be held in the third floor NJDEP conference room at 501 East State Street, Trenton, NJ. A copy of the announcement was also sent to the Newark Star Ledger, the Asbury Park Press, the Associated Press, the Atlantic City Press, the Bridgeton Evening News and the NJDEP Press Office and the NJDEP Office of Communication and Legislation in compliance with P.L. 1975, c. 231.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 24, 2009 MEETING

Dr. Van Orden moved and Mr. Mayer seconded a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed with abstentions from Mr. Konczyk and Chairman Sarnas.

CORRESPONDENCE

- 11/25/09 Letter to Chairman Sarnas from Terrence W. McCaffrey, Manager of Stamp Development, United States Postal Service. Ref.: Reply to the Chairman's letter about a J.B. Smith Commemorative stamp.

- 11/30/09 Letter to Wayne Wurtz, Gloucester County Division of Mosquito Control from Claudia O'Malley. Ref.: Approval of the transfer of SMCC #93 and #94 an all-terrain vehicle and trailer.

- 11/30/09 Letter to Arthur Jamieson, Supervisor, Camden County Mosquito Commission from Claudia O'Malley. Ref.: Transfer of SMCC #93 and #94 an all-terrain vehicle and trailer and insurance certification of other equipment assigned to Camden County.
- 11/30/09 Letter sent to Ary Farajollahi, Superintendent, Mercer County Mosquito Control from Claudia O'Malley. Ref.: Approval of repairs to SMCC #107, an ultra-low-temperature freezer assigned there.
- 12/01/09 Copy of a letter to Dr. Robert Goodman, Executive Director, N.J. Agricultural Experiment Station from Heather Lomberk, Superintendent, Cumberland County Mosquito Control Division. Ref.: Pending appointment of Dr. Randy Gaugler as Director of the Center for Vector Biology.
- 12/17/09 Memo to Dr. Gregory Williams, Program Coordinator, Hudson County Mosquito Control from Claudia O'Malley. Ref.: Registration for SMCC #121 an all-terrain vehicle trailer assigned to that county.
- 12/17/09 Memo to Dominic Chappine, Supervisor, Burlington County Division of Mosquito Control from Claudia O'Malley. Ref.: Registration for SMCC #22, a boat trailer assigned to that county.
- 12/17/09 Memo to Guy Bramonte, NJDEP, Management and Budget from Robert Kent. Ref.: Processing of payment to the Department of Health and Senior Services for testing of specimens for virus in fiscal year 2010.
- 12/18/09 Copy of a letter to Dr. Robert Goodman, Executive Director, N.J. Agricultural Experiment Station from Dr. Peter Bosak, Superintendent, Cape May County Department of Mosquito Control. Ref.: Pending appointment of Dr. Randy Gaugler as Director of the Center for Vector Biology.
- 12/21/09 Letter to Kristian McMorland, Superintendent, Morris County Mosquito Commission from Robert Kent. Ref.: Gratitude for hosting the November meeting of the State Mosquito Commission.
- 12/28/09 Letter to Ms. Marcia Anderson, USEPA, Region 2 from Robert Kent. Ref.: Response to her request for a copy of the "Best Management Practices for Mosquito Control in Freshwater Wetlands".
- 12/28/09 Letter to Mr. Ronald L. Campbell, Lower Alloways Creek Twp. from Robert Kent. Ref.: Response to his request for a copy of the "Best Management Practices for Mosquito Control in Freshwater Wetlands".

- 01/04/10 Letter from Kristian McMorland, Superintendent, Morris County Mosquito Commission to Robert Kent. Ref.: Request for the use of the MarshMaster amphibious mower for several projects in that county.
- 01/05/10 Letter to the Honorable Nina Wells, Secretary of State from Robert Kent. Ref.: Notification of the January meeting of the State Mosquito Commission.
- 01/05/10 Memo to Commission members from Robert Kent. Ref.: Notification of the January meeting date of the State Mosquito Commission.
- 01/05/10 Memo to Elaine Makatura, NJDEP Press Office and to Veronica Moore, NJDEP Office of Communication and Legislation. Ref.: Notification of meeting dates of the State Mosquito Commission for 2010.
- 01/05/10 Letter to the Honorable Nina Wells, Secretary of State from Robert Kent. Ref.: Notification of meeting dates of the State Mosquito Commission for 2010.
- 01/05/10 Letter from Bill Reinert, Superintendent, Atlantic County Mosquito Control. Ref.: Response to a report that a government-owned vehicle was used inappropriately.
- 01/08/10 Letter to Claudia O'Malley from Jolyn Beal, Salem County Mosquito Commission. Ref.: Documents related to the repair of SMCC #10, an amphibious excavator assigned to that county.
- 01/08/10 Letter to Nicole Nicholas, Rutgers University from Robert Kent. Ref.: Contracts for "Surveillance for the Mosquito Vectors of Eastern Equine Encephalitis and West Nile Virus".
- 01/11/10 Letter to Dennis Mahoney, Supervisor, Salem County Mosquito Commission from Claudia O'Malley. Ref.: Documents related to the repair of SMCC #10, an amphibious excavator assigned to that county.
- 01/11/10 Memo to the Equipment Committee from Claudia O'Malley. Ref.: Items for consideration at the January 19 Commission meeting.
- 01/11/10 Letter from Jolyn Beal, Salem County Mosquito Commission to Claudia O'Malley. Ref.: Documents related to the repair of SMCC #10, an amphibious excavator assigned to that county.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The financial statement was distributed and reviewed. The Secretary noted changes from the prior month's report which included payments for the toll-free number and to Commissioner Emerson for expenses. The repairs and equipment purchases approved

last month also appear on the statement. Significant payments were made to both the NJ Department of Health and to Cape May County for specimen testing during the season. Payment to the Department of Agriculture for the copepod work has also been made.

Finally the Secretary noted that all funds associated with the Rutgers contracts have been encumbered and invoices are anticipated from the University.

Dr. Van Orden moved and Ms. Semple seconded a motion to approve the financial statement. All members approved.

REPORT FROM THE SECRETARY

The Secretary distributed invoices from the NJ Mosquito Control Association, Inc. and registration forms for the 2010 annual NJMCA conference in Atlantic City. He also made available a brochure relating to the 76th annual meeting of the American Mosquito Control Association meeting to be held in Kentucky this March. The Secretary noted receipt of the annual schedule for the meetings of the Middlesex County Mosquito Commission. Correspondence was also received introducing Salem County Mosquito Commission's new biologist. New arrangements will be introduced for commissioner parking near the building soon. Mr. Kent wanted confirmation that each member is receiving their copy of "WingBeats" magazine and the "Legislative Index" is available for members who want a copy.

REPORT FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISOR

Mrs. O'Malley reported that there will be a meeting on February 10 when participating counties will meet to plan field trials in various habitats using copepods as bio-control agents. Ocean County has joined the group and proposes to use copepods in their "yard audit" program against the Asian Tiger Mosquito. The advisor also reminded the members of a request from Ocean County Mosquito Commission for the purchase and assignment of a push-boat (to move amphibious machinery). She has since learned that Ocean County will be purchasing their own boat so the request has been filed. Mrs. O'Malley completed her remarks by indicating that there has been no movement on the purchase of the truck which will replace one of the vehicles currently used for the courier service. Mr. Kent added that since the funds for this vehicle have been "reserved" by the Department of Treasury, a special request has been forwarded to release these funds so the truck can be ordered. No further information on the status of this transaction is available.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chairman Sarnas indicated some changes in committee structure. He replaced Dr. Robson with Dr. Van Orden on the Research and Development Committee; Dr. Van Orden was replaced on the Equipment Committee by Dr. Robson, at his request.

Legislative – Mr. Mayer indicated that more will be learned regarding legislative agendas after the new administration is installed. Mrs. O'Malley offered information regarding introduced legislation that would combine elements of the Department of Agriculture and the DEP; a new Department of Natural Resources may be created as a result. Similar legislation has been introduced in past years. Mr. Surmay commented on today's inauguration. He acknowledged the nomination of Robert Martin as the new DEP

Commissioner. Mr. Surmay had not learned of any possible nominations to the Department of Health and Sr. Services. Budget issues are expected to be on the new administration's agenda.

Equipment – Mr. Konczyk asked Mrs. O'Malley to give the report. The Morris County Mosquito Commission has requested the use of the MarshMaster amphibious mower to rehabilitate seven stormwater facilities in the county. The committee recommends transfer of the machine to the county. The committee recommendation was unanimously approved.

Research and Development – Dr. Robson could not attend the most recent committee meeting and yielded to the comments of the committee. The Secretary reviewed the topics covered at the meeting including the details of the "Vector Surveillance "contract at Rutgers; a meeting between the Secretary and Dr. Goodman at the Experiment Station; the future of support to continue development of a "Risk Model"; and the concept of a "focus group", composed of a broad representation of the mosquito control community which might be assembled to aid in the formulation of future priorities for state resources. Dr. Van Orden inquired about the risk model. There is always the possibility that, if determined to be a priority, a separate contract can be developed to pursue that initiative.

Budget – No report. Mr. Kent noted that the preliminary budget for fiscal year 2011 is already targeted for a reduction from 2010. Mr. Surmay noted that in the Health Department, public health priority funds were cut by \$100,000.

Public Relations – No report.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & SENIOR SERVICES

Mrs. Semple reported that the Department executed the end-of-year maintenance on the West Nile Virus Surveillance System website. It is now back online. The end-of-year annual report has not been produced; she is waiting for case confirmations from the CDC. She will be attending the State Public Health Vector Control Conference in February in Fort Collins, Colorado. Mrs. Semple has been revising the Department's website; she would like to add even more information to the site. It should be done by April, in line with the beginning of bird surveillance and testing. The office has been moved to a new address: 135 East State Street. Parking issues may hinder meetings usually held in Health Department offices. Mr. Surmay inquired about the potential for mosquito borne disease to become a problem in Haiti as a result of the recent earthquake there. There is significant habitat there for mosquito production.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Mr. Mayer reported that the State Board of Agriculture would like Secretary Fisher to remain at that post in the cabinet. The Beneficial Insect Laboratory has ramped up copepod production and will be ready for stocking this spring. The Gypsy Moth Surveillance is complete and only one town is targeted for applications this spring; that town has elected not to participate in the program. The state apiarist noted little to no goldenrod flow in the state this year; this might affect hive's ability to overwinter.

NEW JERSEY AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

Dr. Robson referred to the correspondence received regarding the appointment of the Director of the Center for Vector Biology. There have been many meetings and discussions on the plans Rutgers has for the future. Dr. Robson will be assuming more responsibility with regard to the mosquito program. He will be taking the role of state extension specialist in mosquito control. It is hoped that this will facilitate a better relationship with the county mosquito control community. Dr. Robson will also be the named person on the contracts between the Commission and the University. Dr. Robson will now have a closer working relationship with Mr. Crans. The research program at Rutgers will continue under the leadership of Dr. Gaugler. These steps, it is hoped, will enhance the program at Rutgers in step with its one hundred year history in the work. The development of a focus group and available resources will be the key to success. Ms. Gruener asked if this meant that Dr. Robson would be directing the CVB; he will not. Dr. Gaugler will continue in that role; that will be the aforementioned research portion of the mosquito program. As a result of the focus group a new structure will be developed. Mr. Kent noted that, as a result of his recent meeting with Dr. Goodman, a meeting is scheduled for him with Dr. Larry Katz, the Director of Extension at Rutgers.

Dr. Brattsten was unable to attend today's meeting and Dr. Reed's report was offered by Mr. Crans. Mr. Crans noted that Dr. Robson's report was positive news. He validated that both he and Dr. Reed work well not only with Dr. Robson but with the counties as well. Dr. Reed is working on U.S.D.A. grant publications. Mr. Crans continues to work on spinosad laboratory trials. There is a "Wetlands Training" committee meeting on January 27 at the Rutgers Eco-Complex; there is progress being made on that project. They have received a two-year, \$300,000 grant to study pyriproxifen (an insect growth regulator). They will be working with Mercer, Monmouth and Hudson Counties and the U.S. Navy.

ASSOCIATED EXECUTIVES OF MOSQUITO CONTROL WORK IN NEW JERSEY

Ms. Gruener reported that the organization met on January 6th at Monmouth County. The election of officers took place. They are: President- Tadhgh Rainey, Vice President- Greg Williams, Secretary- Jenn Gruener and Treasurer- Peter Bosak. There are two new associate members. The aforementioned focus group was discussed and volunteers have stepped up to serve. The pesticide legislative committee reported on the Clean Water Act and the NJPDES permits. A group was developed to work on a Best Management Practices Manual for Mosquito Control. Many counties are working on their budgets. Sussex County reported that they may be hiring a biologist. The next meeting is February 10th at Monmouth County Mosquito Commission.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

The nominating committee offered its report. The committee recommends for Chairman: John Sarnas; Vice Chairman: Dan Konczyk; Secretary: Robert Kent and Claudia

O'Malley as Technical Advisor. The Chair asked for action on the recommendation. The members unanimously approved the recommendation.

COMMENTS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:57 a.m.