

**MINUTES OF THE 443<sup>rd</sup> MEETING  
OF THE STATE MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION  
HELD AT THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY MOSQUITO COMMISSION AT 81  
BROADWAY ROAD, SOUTH BRUNSWICK, NJ**

**June 21, 2011**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

John Sarnas, Howard Emerson, Dr. Mark Robson, John Surmay, Mark Mayer, Dr. George Van Orden, Tony Petrongolo, Shereen Semple, George Shivery, Robert Kent, Secretary, and Claudia O'Malley, Technical Advisor. Dr. Bruder was unable to attend.

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Dr. Mark Slaff, John Kranz, Scott Crans, Dr. Lisa Reed, Jenn Gruener, Eric Williges, D.A.G. Michael Schuit, Steve Csorgo and Michelle McGuinness.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Sarnas called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Secretary Kent called the roll.

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT**

Secretary Kent reported that on June 10, 2011 the Secretary of State was sent an announcement for the June meeting to be held at the Middlesex County Mosquito Commission at 81 Broadway Road, South Brunswick, 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, 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 APRIL 19, 2011 MEETING**

Mr. Emerson moved and Mr. Surmay seconded a motion to approve the minutes. Dr. Van Orden, Ms. Semple and Mr. Mayer abstained. The motion passed.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

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| 04/19/11 | Correspondence from Heather Lomberg, Superintendent of the Cumberland County Mosquito Control Division. Ref.: Request to be part of surveillance QA/QC project. |
| 04/22/11 | Correspondence from Christine Musa, Superintendent of Warren County Mosquito Commission, to Claudia O'Malley. Ref.: Repairs to Revco freezer.                   |
| 04/28/11 | Correspondence from Carmen Bermudez, Atlantic County Department of Law, to Claudia O'Malley. Ref.: Signed equipment use agreement for Fiscal Year 11.           |

- 04/29/11 Correspondence from Dr. Greg Williams, Program Coordinator for the Hudson Regional Health Commission Mosquito Control Program. Ref.: Purchase of sprayhead for Buffalo Turbine assigned to that county.
- 05/02/11 Correspondence to John Rigolizzo, Commissioner of the Camden County Mosquito Commission, signed by Chairman Sarnas. Ref.: Request for a meeting.
- 05/02/11 Correspondence to Earl Gage, Clerk of Salem County Board of Chosen Freeholders, signed by Chairman Sarnas. Ref.: Request for a meeting.
- 05/05/11 Correspondence between Claudia O'Malley and Dr. Greg Williams, Program Coordinator for the Hudson Regional Health Commission Mosquito Control Program. Ref.: Registration for trailer for the Buffalo Turbine in Hudson County.
- 05/05/11 Correspondence between Claudia O'Malley and Richard Candeletti, Superintendent of the Ocean County Mosquito Control Commission. Ref.: Registration for boat trailer in that county.
- 05/05/11 Correspondence between Claudia O'Malley and Jim McDonald, Sussex County Department of Environmental and Public Health Services. Ref.: Registration for a trailer for an ATV in that county.
- 05/05/11 Correspondence between Claudia O'Malley and Christine Musa, Warren County Mosquito Commission. Ref.: Registration for a trailer for equipment in that county.
- 05/09/11 Memo to Commission members from Robert Kent, Secretary. Ref.: Meeting announcement for the May meeting of the Commission.
- 05/09/11 Correspondence to Honorable Kim Guadagno, Secretary of State, from Robert Kent, Secretary. Ref.: Meeting announcement for the May meeting of the Commission.
- 05/10/11 Memo to the SMCC Equipment Committee from Claudia O'Malley. Ref.: Items for consideration at the May meeting of the Commission.
- 05/18/11 Correspondence to Erin Nooney, Superintendent of Burlington County Mosquito Control Program, from Claudia O'Malley. Ref.: Registration for 1988 Boston Whaler.
- 05/23/11 Correspondence to all county mosquito control agencies and commissions, Rutgers University, and the Division of Fish and Wildlife, from Claudia O'Malley. Ref.: 2012 equipment use agreements.
- 05/23/11 Correspondence to Joe D'Alessandro, Assistant Road Supervisor for Gloucester County Division of Mosquito Control, from Claudia O'Malley. Ref.: 2012 equipment use agreements.
- 05/23/11 Correspondence to Jack Sworaski, Superintendent of Camden County Mosquito Commission, from Claudia O'Malley. Ref.: 2012 equipment use agreements.

- 05/31/11 Correspondence to Drs. Randy Gaugler and George Hamilton, Rutgers University, from Dr. Van Orden. Ref.: Thanks for preliminary proposal “The Development of Novel Application Technology for Control of Urban Containment Mosquitoes.”
- 06/06/11 Correspondence to Dr. Robson from Robert Kent, Secretary. Ref.: Document amending surveillance data and standardization and assurance contract for six months.
- 06/10/11 Memo to Commission members from Robert Kent, Secretary. Ref.: Meeting announcement for the June meeting of the Commission.
- 06/10/11 Correspondence to Honorable Kim Guadagno, Secretary of State, from Robert Kent, Secretary. Ref.: Meeting announcement for the June meeting of the Commission.
- 06/13/11 Correspondence from Richard Candeletti, Superintendent of the Ocean County Mosquito Commission to Robert Kent, Administrator. Ref.: Requesting two pieces of equipment: new boat trailer and parts for amphibious rotary excavator.
- 06/20/11 Correspondence to Commission from Ary Farajollahi, Superintendent of Mercer County Division of Mosquito Control. Ref: Surrendering state-owned microscope lent to that county.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

The financial statement was distributed and reviewed. The Secretary noted the changes, including Under Administration, a payment to the toll free number was made. A digital tape recorder was also purchased. Insecticides were purchased for the state airspray program. Supplies were purchased for calibrating aircraft. Under Equipment Repairs and Purchases, \$513 was spent to buy an alternator for an amphibious piece of machinery. Under Education and Information, \$996 was spent printing the past two years’ annual reports. Mr. Surmay moved and Mr. Mayer seconded a motion to approve the financial statement. All members approved.

**REPORT FROM THE SECRETARY**

The Secretary reviewed several documents that he distributed. Included were: a reprint from “The Journal of Vector Ecology,” talking points from the Vector Borne Working Group and Dr. Kristen Janusz. Mr. Kent discussed a July 14 refresher course on submitting specimens open to anyone and taught by Mr. Crans, Dr. Reed, Ms. O’Malley, Ms. Semple, Mr. Kent, Pat Bryant and Bruce Wolf to be held at the Assunpink Wildlife Management Area. A representative from every county is expected to attend. Mr. Kent also distributed the commission’s renewal membership as sustaining members of the AMCA. Mr. Kent discussed a no-fee contract extension for six months for the QA/QC Surveillance Program operated by Dr. Slaff. A copy of the notes from last month’s informal meeting were distributed. Mr. Kent said that he sat in on a conference call with the EPA on the Clean Water Act legislation, but little new information is available currently.

**REPORT FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISOR**

Ms. O’Malley said the Airspray Program has been pretty active all month long. A total of 7,969 acres were treated in June. 12,145 total acres have been treated over the course of the season. Ms. O’Malley praised the fast response of Helicopter Applicators when a helicopter experienced an equipment failure. The Bio-Control Program has not distributed any additional fish since the

May 17 meeting. The indoor supply of fish has been distributed. The program is waiting for the outdoor supply of fish to build up a population so they too can be distributed. Ms. O'Malley said widespread distribution of copepods to counties has begun. To date, Atlantic, Cumberland, Warren, Gloucester, Bergen, Monmouth, Hunterdon, Cape May, Ocean and Burlington counties have received copepods. 31,150 copepods have been distributed so far, but the program is still new and there has therefore been some mixed results in terms of copepod survival rates. The program is using an alternative distribution method for counties who are interested; this method involves six ounce cups of water with 250 copepods in each cup. The aircraft contract has been extended for 90 days, but prices have risen 10 percent due to their only being one bidder for the contract. For the Air Tractor, it will cost about \$3,500 per hour, and for helicopters, it will cost about \$3,100 per hour. Chairman Sarnas noted that the copepod program has gotten a lot of good press, including a front page article in the Newark Star-Ledger.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Legislative – Mr. Surmay said the League of Municipalities Legislative Committee met Friday but did not have much of relevance to the Commission to say. Most of the discussion focused on budgets.

Equipment – Ms. O'Malley said Hudson County requested an atomizing head costing \$2,020 for a Buffalo Turbine sprayer used for BTI applications. Mr. Surmay moved and Chairman Sarnas approved a motion to provide funds for the atomizing head. The motion passed unanimously.

Research and Development – Dr. Van Orden said the committee met on May 19 and approved Dr. Brattsten's proposal on insecticides for mosquito control in New Jersey. The committee also discussed a proposal entitled "The Development of Novel Application Technology for Control of Urban Containment Mosquitoes." There were concerns about notifying residents about spraying BTI; residents must be notified due to the low risk of skin and eye irritation as a result of BTI being sprayed at low altitude in a residential area. There was also a question as to whether this would be an off-label use of BTI. Dr. Van Orden said the committee put together a letter with these concerns in it. Mr. Kent said Dr. Gaugler had emailed back a response that answers the concerns brought up.

Budget – Mr. Kent said the commission will have \$1,046,000 before carry forward funds for the next fiscal year. The amount for Administration will remain the same. The amount for the Airspray Program will be \$20,000 less next year. The Equipment Program will also see a reduction of \$35,000. Memoranda of agreement remained the same. The Bio Control Program also remained the same. The courier will change due to Morris County no longer being able to provide that service; instead, Warren County will provide the courier service for an additional \$1,500. Mr. Kent said Ms. Musa has investigated commercial couriers and put together a proposal on how much such a service would cost. However, a commercial courier would eliminate the ability to pick up things other than specimens, such as rabid animals. Mr. Kent said that Vector Surveillance is a dollar more than last year, Statewide Surveillance is the same, Efficacy of Insecticides is less than last year and the QA/QC Surveillance Program had no money committed to it yet. Mr. Emerson said there were concerns about the Equipment Program having less money next fiscal year. Chairman Sarnas agreed, saying that while the counties take good care of equipment, it is getting older and more prone to problems. The Budget Committee's recommendation to accept this budget was approved unanimously, with Mr. Surmay abstaining.

Public Relations – Ms. Semple said the Department of Health received materials from the CDC's surplus of materials for mosquito-borne and tick-borne diseases, including signs.

Ad-hoc County Assistance – Mr. Emerson said there was a meeting with Salem County and Camden County regarding their staff. He said both meetings were satisfactory and both counties are performing with available resources. Mr. Kent said he and Ms. O’Malley were also approached by Burlington County, which also has a resource problem, to discuss surveillance and control.

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & SENIOR SERVICES**

Ms. Semple said Dr. Janusz resigned. She said that 367 mosquito pools have been tested with no positives. She added that many counties have not submitted pools yet, however. Ms. Semple looked at previous years and found that usually a positive pool is found by this time of year. She reported that 11 birds have also been submitted from Burlington, Cumberland, Gloucester, Monmouth, Ocean and Warren counties, again with no positives. She said it is not typical to see positive birds yet. Human applications for testing have not been accepted yet.

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Mr. Mayer said emerald ash borer traps have been set in northern New Jersey, though no emerald ash borers have yet reached the state. He said there are also wood wasp traps set out.

**NEW JERSEY AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION**

Dr. Robson said that he had met with Mr. Kent to discuss the surveillance program. Dr. Slaff said the QA/QC Surveillance program has gotten off to a slow start. He has visited 4 agencies so far, those being in Salem, Ocean, Warren and Mercer counties. He said that so far he has seen excellent light trap surveillance and training of employees. Dr. Slaff said that there is more variability in the quality of vector and larval surveillance. He hopes to have break out sessions at the next NJMCA annual meeting to brainstorm ideas for surveillance technology. Dr. Reed said that this year she has seen a different profile of mosquitoes. As far as adults are concerned, the wetter season with less drought and warmer temperatures than previous years has brought on earlier activity. In vector surveillance, Dr. Reed said there has not been any activity yet. She said that it is hard to predict what the season will bring, as drought conditions could change things suddenly.

**ASSOCIATED EXECUTIVES OF MOSQUITO CONTROL WORK IN NEW JERSEY**

Mr. Williges reported that the Associated Executives did meet, but did not discuss anything of relevance to the commission. They were interested in getting contact information for the commissioners.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Chairman Sarnas appointed Mr. Emerson as the Commission Vice-Chair. Mr. Surmay moved and Ms. Semple seconded a motion to approve the appointment. It was approved unanimously. Chairman Sarnas also appointed Mr. Shivery, who is new to the commission, to the Budget Committee. Cape May County was selected as the next meeting location, with future locations to be determined later.

**COMMENTS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:34 a.m.