

**MINUTES OF THE 447th MEETING  
OF THE STATE MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION  
HELD AT THE CITY OF ELIZABETH'S "STEVE SAMPSON MULTI-PURPOSE  
BUILDING," 800 ANNA STREET, ELIZABETH, NJ**

**November 22, 2011**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

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

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Dr. Marc Slaff, Dr. Lisa Reed, D.A.G. Michael Schuit and Eric Williges.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Sarnas called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Secretary Kent called the roll.

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT**

Secretary Kent reported that on November 10, 2011 the Secretary of State was sent an announcement for the November meeting to be held at the City of Elizabeth's Steve Sampson Multi-Purpose Building, Elizabeth, 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 SEPTEMBER 20, 2011 MEETING**

Mr. Shivery moved and Dr. Van Orden seconded a motion to approve the minutes. The motion passed with no one abstaining.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

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| 09/21/11 | Correspondence from Claudia O'Malley, Technical Advisor, State Mosquito Control Commission to Peter Pluchino, Division Director, Bergen County Division of Mosquito Control. Ref: Registration for SMCC #104, a 2002 all terrain vehicle trailer assigned to Bergen County Division of Mosquito Control. |
| 09/23/11 | Correspondence from Robert Kent, Secretary to Sarah Gazi, Business Manager, American Mosquito Control Association. Ref.: Check for \$500.00 for the N.J. State Mosquito Control Commission's sustaining membership to A.M.C.A for 2012.  |
| 10/07/11 | Memorandum from Robert Kent, Secretary to State Mosquito Control Commissioner Members. Ref.: State Mosquito Control Commission Meeting.  |

- 10/07/11 Memorandum from Robert Kent, Secretary, State Mosquito Control Commission to the Honorable Kim Guadagno, Secretary of State. Ref.: Announcement of the October meeting of the Mosquito Commission.
- 10/12/11 Correspondence from Claudia O'Malley, Technical Advisor, to the SMCC Equipment Committee. Ref.: Item for consideration at the October 18<sup>th</sup> SMCC meeting.
- 10/18/11 Correspondence from Chairman John P. Sarnas to Bob Gogats, Burlington County Health Department. Ref.: Salt marsh and mosquito surveillance and control in the Great Bay area. There were several significant points; with copies to the county clerk and to the Board of Chosen Freeholders.
- 10/27/11 Correspondence from Robert Kent, Secretary to Stephen O'Connor, County of Cape May. Ref.: Surveillance of South Jersey and the testing of mosquito specimens for West Nile virus and Eastern Equine encephalitis.
- 10/27/11 Correspondence from Robert Kent to Carol Clark, NJ DEP Management & Budget. Ref.: Payment to Department of Treasury for contracted moving of a freezer from Headlee Labs to Ocean County Mosquito Commission.
- 10/28/11 Correspondence from Claudia O'Malley to Rick Pocino, NJ DEP Transportation Services. Ref.: Certificate of origin and boat trailer registration assigned to Ocean County Mosquito Extermination Commission.
- 10/31/11 Correspondence from Claudia O'Malley to Amy Cradic, NJ DEP Assistant Commissioner, Natural and Historic Resources. Ref.: Equipment Use Agreements for her signature.
- 11/04/11 Correspondence from Claudia O'Malley, Technical Advisor to all county mosquito control agencies and others with state – owned equipment. Ref.: Equipment Use Agreement for fiscal year 2012.
- 11/07/11 Memorandum from Claudia O'Malley to Richard Candeletti, Superintendent, Ocean County Mosquito Extermination Commission. Ref.: Requesting submission of records and maps of all insecticide applications on government owned lands.
- 11/07/11 Memorandum from Claudia O'Malley, Technical Advisor to Dr. Peter Bosak, Cape May County Department of Mosquito Control. Ref.: The records and maps of all insecticide applications on state lands within Cape May County during the 2011 mosquito season.
- 11/09/11 Memorandum from Robert Kent, Administrator to Division of Fish & Wildlife, Director David Chanda and to Asst. Commissioner Amy Cradic. Ref.: Vehicle Replacement.
- 11/10/11 Memorandum from Claudia O'Malley, Technical Advisor to SMCC Equipment Committee. Ref.: Items for consideration at the November 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

- 11/10/11 Correspondence from Robert Kent, Secretary to Secretary of State the Honorable Kim Guadagno. Ref.: Announcement of the November Commission meeting at the City of Elizabeth.
- 11/10/11 Correspondence from Robert Kent, Secretary to Commission members. Ref.: Announcement of the November Commission meeting at the City of Elizabeth.
- 11/10/11 Memorandum from Claudia O'Malley, Technical Advisor to all county mosquito control agencies/commissions. Ref.: Fully executed Equipment Use Agreements.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

The financial statement was distributed and reviewed. The Secretary noted that the Department would like to go back to paying month to month instead of annually to AT&T for the toll free number. The appropriate adjustments in the amounts expended and the balance in that line-item were made. Legal ads in the "Newark Star Ledger" appear as an expense for the first time this fiscal year. Adjustments were also made for expenses in the equipment line items. Dr. Van Orden moved and Mr. Mayer seconded a motion to approve the financial statement. All members approved.

**REPORT FROM THE SECRETARY**

The Secretary noted the possibility of qualifying for FEMA reimbursement of expenses resulting from Hurricane Irene. Central Life Sciences has obtained new labels for mosquito control use which resulted from work performed in New Jersey by Scott Crans from Rutgers and other colleagues from Union, Hunterdon, and Monmouth counties. Mr. Surmay's and Dr. Van Orden's terms have expired. Chairman Sarnas' and Vice Chairman Emerson's will expire on Sept 17, 2012. Mr. Shivery's is active up until 2013. The State and Rutgers University decided to reconfigure the annual service contracts, which meant that every contract had to be sent back and rewritten to agree with the new terms. The contracts were recently hand delivered to Fana Campbell, of the Office of Research & Sponsored Programs at Rutgers. The Secretary received a final invoice from the Health Department for mosquito specimen testing. A question arose about \$350,000 committed for aircraft. The Secretary said that there's only \$143,000 left in that account which will be used in the spring. On Thursday, December 1, 2011 at 4:00, Dr. Mark Robson will be hosting a seminar on Global Pesticide Use Human and Ecological Effects.

**REPORT FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISOR**

Ms. O'Malley distributed her final report on the State Airspray Program and State Biological Control Program – Mosquitofish.

**State Airspray Program**

**Year to Date**

County	Larviciding Acreage	Adulticiding Acreage	Total Acreage
Atlantic	14,014	3,868	17,882
Cumberland	5,293	- 0 -	5,293
Essex	3,490	- 0 -	3,490
Morris	3,370	- 0 -	3,370
Ocean	532	- 0 -	532

**State Biological Control Program – Mosquitofish  
Year to Date**

COUNTY	TOTAL NUMBER OF FISH	SPECIES
Bergen	10,000	Gambusia
Cumberland	9,000	Gambusia
Essex	5,000	Gambusia
Gloucester	5,000	Gambusia
Monmouth	9,736	Gambusia
Morris	5,000	Gambusia
Ocean	7,400 5,000	Fathead minnows Gambusia
Passaic	5,130 1,120	Fathead minnows Gambusia
Sussex	10,100 9,230	Fathead minnows Gambusia
Warren	5,000 15,400	Fathead minnows Gambusia

During the season that just ended the Airspray Program treated 41,876 acres. There was one adulticide in Atlantic County totaling 3,868 acres. There were 2 adulticides in Cumberland County (the first time in many years) as a result of Hurricane Irene and the Tropical Storm Lee which covered 8,733 acres.

The mosquitofish program, in which 10 counties participated, distributed 102,000 fish. Two species were stocked: Fathead Minnows, and Gambusia. Ten counties participated in the copepod project which was rolled out in the spring for any counties that were interested in participating. It was recommended that the copepods be used in artificial containers and tires. Burlington County treated artificial containers and tires which were inoculated with 50 copepods per container or tire. Ocean County worked with outfall structures associated with retention basins. Finally, two counties instituted something called “super stocking.” Burlington County

innoculated 200 to 500 copepods per tire and in Ocean County, one outfall structure (4ft long, 6wide, and 3ft deep) was stocked with 10,000 copepods. Both counties finally had good control.

On November 1, all liquid formulated insecticides used in the State Airspray Program were transferred to the new, secure, temperature-controlled storage facility recently installed at the Division of Park & Forestry, Forest Fire Division "C" Maintenance yard in Mays Landing for the winter.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Legislative – The Legislature is in recess. Senator Cardinale introduced legislation regarding stream cleaning. The counties can presently clean streams but they are limited to 500 ft in length and a 15 ft wide work area. He introduced legislation to remove the 500 ft limit, so that counties (under a general permit GP 26) would be able to clean unlimited stretches of stream with an increased the width from 15ft to 50ft.

Equipment – Mr. Mayer stated that the rotary ditcher, which is housed in Atlantic County needed bearing supports and new tracks. The wear strips needed to be replaced on the pontoons. When the pontoons were removed they discovered that the pontoons needed to be sand blasted and painted. The rear engine fuel system also needs to be fixed and the rear engine cover needs to be repaired. Atlantic County estimated they will need \$20,000 for the work. The committee considered the request to replace the Ford Ranger used by the principal Biologist in the OMCC, for an amount of \$20,513 dollars. Mr. Surmay moved and Dr. Van Orden seconded a motion to accept the committee report. All members approved.

Research and Development – Dr. Van Orden met with the Secretary and Dr. Robson regarding a storm water "Best Management Practices" research project. With regard to the proposal, they have looked at the data that already exists. They will do test remedies and then try to produce a B.M.P. manual which can be made available to the counties. Dr. Van Orden acknowledged that the mosquito control community experts should participate in identifying these problems. All interested parties will constitute a committee which will come together and look at the data for this proposal.

Budget – Mr. Emerson offered a brief report. The committee will meet as a whole in the near future.

Public Relations – Mr. Surmay reported that an accelerated PR effort about mosquito-borne disease and control is in order.

Ad-hoc County Assistance – Mr. Emerson provided a summary from the four counties that he has communicated with. They are waiting on their respective budget requests. Camden has a favorable monetary surplus even in view of a busy mosquito control season. Salem has savings because they no longer pay salary costs, since the Commission was eliminated. Sussex is proposing a budget beyond the 2% cap. Cumberland County is faced with requests to justify the program.

#### **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & SENIOR SERVICES**

In the 2011 season, seven (7) human cases of WNV have been identified from the following counties: Atlantic, Hudson, Mercer, Middlesex, Morris, Ocean and Union. Two (2) of the cases, from Atlantic and Morris counties, were exposed and developed illness while traveling outside of New Jersey. All of the cases recovered from their illnesses. Testing for human cases is done at the NJDHSS Public Health and Environmental Laboratories (PHEL). Fourteen (14) counties

submitted a total of 123 birds for WNV testing at the NJDHSS PHEL. These participating counties include Atlantic, Burlington, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Mercer, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Salem, Somerset, Sussex, Union and Warren. Of the birds submitted, 42 tested positive for WNV from 11 counties, including: Atlantic, Burlington, Gloucester, Mercer, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Somerset, Sussex, Union and Warren. Over 10,000 mosquito pools had been tested for WNV in 2011. A total of 531 pools were positive for WNV; these pools were identified in all counties with the exception of Cumberland. Nearly 3,000 mosquito pools tested negative for EEE from 10 counties including: Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Monmouth, Ocean, Salem and Sussex. A total of 1,700 mosquito pools tested negative for SLE virus from 4 counties including: Burlington, Camden, Essex and Hudson. Over 150 mosquito pools tested negative for LAC virus from 4 counties including: Cape May, Cumberland, Salem and Warren. All mosquito pool testing is done at the NJDHSS PHEL and the Cape May Biosafety Level 3 Laboratory. In 2011, two equine cases were identified by the NJ Department of Agriculture, Division of Animal Health: one each of WNV and EEE. A WNV – infected horse in Monmouth County experienced onset of symptoms on 10/10. The horse has since recovered. An EEE-infected horse was identified from Gloucester county with an onset of symptoms on 10/19. The horse was euthanized.

#### **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Mark Mayer gave a report on the Gypsy Moth egg survey. Sixty-two municipalities were surveyed and there was only one viable egg mass found. There will probably be no spray program next year. Beetles similar to the Emerald Ash Borer beetles were collected and are being sent to the lab for further testing. None of the borer beetles are in New Jersey as of yet but Mr. Mayer predicted that they will be here soon. The Division of Animal Health and the Division of Plant Industry have moved into the new PHEAL Laboratory. In the process of moving, several horse troughs were discovered and were given to staff at the Beneficial Insect Laboratory in order to raise copepods. The lab was given a mini tote which holds 246 gallons in order to experiment with raising the copepods.

#### **NEW JERSEY AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION**

Dr. Robson reported that Rutgers was trying to resolve budget cuts as a result of reduced federal funding. Congressman Rush Holt spoke at Rutgers University regarding the importance of science in government. The status of most Land Grant agencies is in dire straits regarding support. Dr. Robson noted the proposal for studies on stormwater collection facilities.

Dr. Reed offered comments in support of the arbovirus data supplied by Ms. Semple for the season. There were no positive mosquito specimens for Eastern Equine Encephalitis, yet one horse died from the disease. Mosquito surveillance reflected low Culiseta melanura populations this year. Light trap data from the pinelands region of the state documented that this species still existed in numbers in 2011. The cohort of the arbovirus suggests that overwintering survivors will bear a dangerous spring and start to the season of 2012. She endorsed Mr. Surmay's call for an enhanced public relations effort. Dr. Reed added that there will be a biologist meeting at Rutgers; that a webinar on parasitosis will be broadcast; and 2 lectures will be offered as part of the entomology seminar series.

Dr. Marc Slaff added that he has continued to visit county mosquito control agencies in order to evaluate their surveillance systems. He will continue to do so. His preliminary report will be presented at the NJMCA meeting in Atlantic City this March.

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

Mr. Williges announced that the organization will meet again on December 14.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

The nominating committee submitted a slate of officers composed of those who are presently serving as Chairman and Vice Chairman; The Secretary and Technical Advisor will also continue to serve. Mr. Surmay asked for the Secretary to cast a single ballot for all officers. This was seconded by Mr. Shivery. All members approved.

Mr. Surmay announced that on December 2, 2011 there will be a centennial celebration at the Newark Museum in the Valentine House. Senator Vitale is doing a presentation as well as Mayor Booker from Newark.

Mr. Emerson asked members to please capture any literature that the NJMCA can use for it's centennial celebration within the next year. He requested travel expenses in order to attend The American Mosquito Control Association conference in Austin, TX in February/March because New Jersey would like a large presence to promote the centennial.

**COMMENTS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:23 a.m.