

**MINUTES OF THE 457th MEETING
OF THE STATE MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION
HELD AT THE N.J.D.E.P. DIVISION OF FISH & WILDLIFE,
ASSUNPINK WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA,
ROBBINSVILLE, NEW JERSEY**

March 19, 2013

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Dr. Lisa Reed, Scott Crans, Kristian McMorland, Dr. Gregory Williams, Steve Csorgo and D.A.G. Mike Schuit.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Sarnas called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Secretary Kent called the roll.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Secretary Kent reported that on March 13, 2013 the Secretary of State was sent an announcement for the March meeting to be held at the Assunpink Wildlife Management Area. 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 FEBRUARY 19, 2013 MEETING

Mr. Emerson remarked on the reference in the "new business" part of the minutes with regard to the subject matter during the recent meeting between select public members on the Commission and Assistant Commissioner Boornazian. He made the point that the recovery from Super Storm Sandy was also discussed. Dr. Bruder moved and Dr. George Van Orden seconded a motion to approve the minutes. All members approved.

CORRESPONDENCE

- 02/25/13 Memorandum to Christine Musa, Director, Warren County Mosquito Commission, from Claudia O'Malley, Technical Advisor, SMCC. Ref.: A letter regarding a recall notice for a GMC pickup truck assigned to the Warren County Mosquito Control Commission.
- 03/04/13 Correspondence to Melissa Vinch, Research Contract/Grant Specialist, Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, Rutgers University. Ref.: Enclosed two fully executed copies of the service contracts for surveillance.

- 03/07/13 Correspondence to Hon. Chris Christie, Governor from John Sarnas, Chairman, SMCC. Ref.: A letter showing concern regarding the impacts that Hurricane Sandy may have on the coastal counties with regard to mosquito production.
- 03/12/13 Memorandum from Claudia O'Malley, Principal Biologist/Technical Advisor, OMCC to Jagjit Sethi, Senior Buyer, Central Purchasing. Ref.: Enclosed payment voucher for reimbursement to Salem County Mosquito Control for repairs made to state-owned amphibious hydraulic excavator.
- 03/13/13 Memorandum from Robert Kent, Secretary to Commission members. Ref.; Announcement of the March State Mosquito Control Commission meeting.
- 03/13/13 Correspondence from Robert Kent, Secretary to Hon. Kim Guadagno, Secretary of State. Ref.: Announcement of the March State Mosquito Control Commission meeting.
- 03/14/13 Memorandum from Robert Kent, Administrator, OMCC to Annette Ristoro, Financial Operations. Ref.: Enclosed payment to New Jersey Department of Agriculture for equine testing.
- 03/14/13 Memorandum to Claudia O'Malley, Principal Biologist from Steve Csorgo Jr., Assistant Biologist. Ref.: Delivery of Logan DMC 1200 from Essex County to Division of Support Services yard for auction.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The financial statement was distributed and reviewed. The Secretary stated that under the line-item for administration the toll free number had another \$23.68 added to the annual total. Several payments were made for repairs on several pieces of equipment. Dr. Van Orden moved and Dr. Bruder seconded a motion to approve the financial statement. All members approved.

REPORT FROM THE SECRETARY

Mr. Kent reported that last month he had attended a meeting with staff from the D.E.P. Deputy Commissioner's Office in order to discuss Sandy recovery, FEMA funding and to make sure every county mosquito control agency is involved in the recovery process. A member of that staff was interested in learning more about FEMA reimbursements and mosquito control. It was decided that in order to find out the needs of each county, a statewide email was sent with an assessment form. Out of 21 counties only 12 responded. The Secretary has attended a recent meeting of the D.E.P. working group regarding Clean Water Act. The Secretary has been attending several public health working group meetings that are chaired by Department of Health Commissioner O'Dowd. There was a general discussion on the process to fill the position upon the retirement of the Office of Mosquito Control Coordination Administrator. Ms. Semple stressed the point the candidates must have credentials equivalent to the present individual in the position.

REPORT FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISOR

Ms. O'Malley stated that the State Airspray program participants had a preseason meeting on March 8; there were only 9 counties represented. There has been an update on the state insecticide purchasing contract that expired on 11/17/12. Despite Ms. O'Malley inquires, she did not receive the "Request for Proposal" for the new contract from the Department of Treasury until early October. Of the 4 vendors on the old contract, Clarke was the only vendor to agree to a 6 month contract extension (5/17/13), and only for the products: Abate, Anvil and Duet; not for any of the Vectobac products. At this time, bids were

received and have been tabulated; Ms. O'Malley has provided the Department of Treasury with recommendations, the "Notices of Intent" to Award was sent to the vendors on March 4. The protest period ended at close-of-business on March 15. Ms. O'Malley reached out to Treasury to inquire if any protests were lodged but has not received a response. If no protests were lodged, Treasury may have the contracts in by April. It takes time to activate and award all of the 95 price lines in Treasury's computer system.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Legislative – Mr. Emerson stated that there is federal legislation introduced to address concerns associated with the Clean Water Act. In the State Senate there is legislation introduced to modify stream cleaning restrictions as currently regulated.

Equipment – The committee recommends the transfer of a pick-up truck, S.M.C.C # 54, to be transferred to the Department of Agriculture. All members approved; Mr. Mayer abstained.

Research and Development – Dr. Van Orden stated that the copepod study sub-committee had met on February 20. The committee had a good discussion and review of study design. They will meet again on April 18 @10:30 am at the Beneficial Insect Lab to finalize the study design.

Budget – No report.

Public Relations – No report.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Mrs. Semple stated that she has been closing out the data for 2012; she reports that there have been 48 human cases for West Nile Virus and 6 fatalities. The 48 cases occurred in 16 counties which are Bergen, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Essex, Gloucester, Hudson, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean, Salem, Passaic, Somerset and Union counties. The 6 fatalities occurred in Burlington, Essex, Passaic, Gloucester and Ocean. There is no definitive case definition for a fatality. The States are left to define it themselves. The close out data for the year: 1,027 West Nile Virus mosquito pools. Ms. Semple is working with the CDC and other states to finalize the data. The Vector Borne Work Group established a surveillance subcommittee to review testing protocols and consider new and fresh ideas.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Mr. Mayer stated that copepod rearing is going well. The Asian Longhorn Beetle has been eradicated in New Jersey.

NEW JERSEY AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

Dr. Robson noted that he and Mr. Crans will be re-starting their visits to the county mosquito control agencies soon.

Dr. Reed reported that she is working on surveillance protocols and data preparation for the season of 2013.

Mr. Crans reported that he has been preparing for the A.M.C.A. meeting. He is cancelling the "parasites of mosquitoes" due to the lack of interest. He will be setting up a review of the Asia Tiger Mosquito Project. Mosquito Biology courses will continue from April to June.

ASSOCIATED EXECUTIVES OF MOSQUITO CONTROL WORK IN NEW JERSEY

Dr. Williams reported that they have new officers: Richard Candeletti is the President, Heather Lomberk is the Vice-President, Eric Williges and Pete Bosak are still Secretary and Treasurer respectively. Dr. Williams added that he will advise both the Associated Executives and the N.J. Mosquito Control Association on the matter of the soon to be vacated Administrator position in the NJDEP Office of Mosquito Control Coordination. He also inquired with regard to the number of line-items in the new state insecticide contract. Ms. O'Malley responded that there are 95 line items for insecticides; up from 74 in the previous contract.

OLD BUSINESS

No report.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Emerson discussed the removal of debris from streams and the introduced legislation on the topic. Mr. Kent has coordinated a meeting with the county water management network and was coordinated a meeting with the counties and the Assistant Director of the Land Use Division in DEP and his staff. The invitation went out to every county in the State. The meeting will be held at the Assunpink.

COMMENTS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Mr. Kris McMorland, Superintendent of the Morris County Mosquito Commission expressed to the commission his concern with regard to the pending retirement of the Administrator of the Office of Mosquito Control Coordination. The superintendent expressed the cooperation between the state programs and the county and also the trepidation surrounding the qualifications of potential applicants for the position. The Morris County Mosquito Commission intends to correspond to the Governor and the Commission of the DEP to express their concern.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.