

**MINUTES OF THE 433rd MEETING
OF THE STATE MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION
HELD AT THE NJ DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
501 EAST STATE STREET
TRENTON, NJ 08625
May 18, 2010**

MEMBERS PRESENT

John Sarnas, Shereen Semple, Howard Emerson, John Surmay, Dr. Kenneth Bruder, Robert Kent, Secretary and Claudia O'Malley, Technical Advisor. Mr. Konczyk was unable to attend due to a business conflicts. Dr. Mark Robson was offering the Rutgers commencement address today and Mr. Mayer and Mr. Petrongolo were unable to attend due to work conflicts. Dr. Van Orden experienced car trouble on the way to the meeting.

OTHERS PRESENT

Jenn Gruener, Scott Crans, Tadhgh Rainey, Steven Csorgo, Dr. Lena Brattsten and Dr. Lisa Reed.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Sarnas called the meeting to order at 10:27 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Secretary Kent called the roll.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Secretary Kent reported that on May 11, 2010 the Secretary of State was sent an announcement for the May 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, 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 20, 2010 MEETING

Dr. Bruder moved and Mrs. Semple seconded a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Emerson noted an incorrect date notation for the next meeting of the Vector Borne Disease Working Group meeting. With that correction noted, the members approved the motion unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

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| 4/9/10 | Letter to Robert Kent, Secretary from Dr. Lena Brattsen, Professor, Rutgers University. Ref.: Signed proposal for "Efficacy of Insecticides" contract for 2011. |
| 4/29/10 | Letter to Robert Kent, Secretary from Dennis Mahoney, Superintendent, Salem County Mosquito Commission. Ref.: Calibration of insecticide sprayers. |

- 4/11/10 Memo to the Commission from the Secretary. Ref.: Announcement of the May 18, meeting of the Mosquito Commission.
- 4/11/10 Correspondence to the Secretary of State from Robert Kent. Ref.: Meeting announcement for the May 18, 2010 meeting of the Commission.
- 5/12/10 Letter from Chairman Sarnas to members of congressional appropriation subcommittees, all NJ congressional members and Senators Lautenberg and Menendez. Ref.: Restoration of funding for the Centers for Disease Control to the federal budget in FY 2011.
- 5/11/10 Letter from Dr. Lena Brattsten, Professor, Rutgers University. Ref.: Additional information re the FY 2011 "Efficacy of Insecticides" service contract.

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 for refreshments at the April meeting. The prior month equipment repairs are noted. A payment was made to the Department of Health for specimen testing and payments to Rutgers for the Vector Surveillance, Statewide Surveillance and Monitoring of Insecticides contracts were processed. Mr. Surmay moved and Dr. Bruder seconded a motion to approve the financial statement. All members approved. Dr. Bruder also reminded the membership to submit their travel expenses before the end of the fiscal year.

REPORT FROM THE SECRETARY

The Secretary reported on the schedule of meetings of the NJMCA Board of Trustees and inquired with regard to which member of the Commission would be the designated representative. The Chairman indicated that he would continue as the Commission representative trustee. The Secretary also noted the Presidential Citation (composed by Mr. Emerson) which congratulated the American Mosquito Control Association on its 75th anniversary. The citation was presented at AMCA's recent annual conference. Mr. Kent reviewed some of the structural changes in the DEP, especially those which may impact the issuance of permits. The status of NJPDES permit development for mosquito control as a result of recent legal judgment associated with the Clean Water Act was reviewed. The previously announced "stakeholders meetings" with mosquito control agencies will be postponed. The draft EPA permit was to have been published by now; it has not. There was extended discussion on the matter by those in attendance. The Secretary noted the announcement of the formation of the new DEP Science Advisory Board. There are four subcommittees; Dr. Robson has been appointed to this important Board and is Chair of the Public Health subcommittee. The Secretary has met with Assistant Commissioner Cradic and Fish and Wildlife Director Chanda on several important topics including the impacts of the Delaware River dredging operations, the recent OPRA requests (regarding the Passaic River) and the potential impacts of attrition to the Office of Mosquito Control Coordination and to the Commission. Information

about the subscription to the Journal of the Society of Vector Ecology and several other journal and newspaper articles were distributed. Finally, potential sites at which to meet in future months were offered to Commissioners for consideration. Mr. Surmay inquired to the status of the J.B. Smith commemorative stamp. Mr. Kent repeated the content of correspondence received in past months indicating that the stamp is still under consideration.

REPORT FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISOR

Mrs. O'Malley reported that the Airspray Program has executed a number of larval control operations; she distributed her detailed report. The Bio-Control Program has exhausted its stock of fish which were over-wintered indoors. Over 200,000 fish were distributed to holding ponds in Burlington and Cape May Counties. A copepod program meeting was held with participating personnel and several new initiatives were discussed. Mr. Mayer reported that 2400 copepods were released last week and populations are doing extremely well. Mrs. O'Malley attended the wetlands training session offered by Rutgers last week.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Legislative – Mr. Surmay noted the ongoing budget hearings. He reviewed the process involved in assembling the new budget.

Equipment – No report.

Research and Development – In the absence of the committee chair, the Secretary reviewed the proceedings of the recent R&D Committee meeting. The University contract proposals were reviewed and it became apparent that a follow-up meeting with Dr. Robson is in order. Such a meeting will be scheduled as soon as possible. He added that the loss of funds from the CDC may result in formalizing the Commission's relationship with the Infectious & Zoonotic Disease Program.

Budget – Dr. Bruder referred to the recent budget committee meeting and that the R&D committee meeting will be significant to the next budget committee meeting.

Public Relations – Mrs. Semple noted the recently published pamphlets on mosquitoes and ticks and disease. They are available from the Dep't. of Health and Senior Services. Mr. Sarnas asked about the number of visitors to the mosquito control website.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & SENIOR SERVICES

Mrs. Semple reported that bird surveillance commenced as of April 15 including corvids, raptors and other birds on request. She noted the date of the next Vector Borne Disease Working Group meeting to be held at the Monmouth County Mosquito Commission.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

No report.

NEW JERSEY AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

Mr. Crans reported that Dr. Robson is attending the Rutgers commencement and is a presentation speaker. He noted the recent "Rutgers Day" event attended by 75,000 people. He and Dr. Robson are continuing their county visits which are in lieu of further "listening sessions". There have been many visitors to their website from those investigating mosquito biology. The staff has been responding to mosquito complaints and inquiries about dog heartworm. The aforementioned wetlands training session was well attended; it was held "on-line". It has been recorded and is posted as an outreach session. Two NJ light-trap calibration teaching presentations are also "on-line". Dr. Reed noted that she broadcast an e-mail with regard to the commencement of the adult (statewide) surveillance effort. She suggested the last week in May serve as a "trial run" week for the Vector Surveillance Program with the first week in June as the start-up of specimen collecting and testing. Dr. Reed was queried by a county with regard to the potential issues associated with the scheduled move of the PHEL laboratories to West Trenton this summer. The Secretary has been in discussion with the PHEL Lab Director and has been assured there will be no interruption in service.

ASSOCIATED EXECUTIVES OF MOSQUITO CONTROL WORK IN NEW JERSEY

Mrs. Gruener announced that the organization met on May 5 at Mercer County. They are anticipating meetings with Dr. Robson. The Clean Water Act and NJPDES permits were discussed. They will meet next month at Cape May County. Mr. Rainey commented on *Aedes sticticus* populations with regard to their early emergence and the cooler weather perhaps retarding their role as nuisance populations. The "epi-tubes" used for specimen submission were distributed by the Office of Mosquito Control Coordination to those who were present at the meeting. Mr. Emerson had raised the point that there are state resources available to aid counties in surveillance efforts. He also inquired about the manner in which Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program data is submitted to EPA. Mr. Rainey responded that it had been executed "on-line". Dr. Bruder and Mr. Emerson noted that the data should be compiled and that New Jersey's contribution not be lost in the effort.

OLD BUSINESS

The draft letter to the Governor that was proposed last month which would alert him to the reduction of state and county resources and the state's ability to respond to blooming mosquito populations as a result of spring rain events was distributed. Comments are welcome during the construction of the letter which will be signed by the Chairman.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Kent commented on the declining health of former member and past chairman Dr. Len Spiegel.

COMMENTS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:41 a.m.