

**MINUTES OF THE 448th MEETING
OF THE STATE MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION
HELD IN THE NJDEP NATURAL AND HISTORIC RESOURCES
CONFERENCE ROOM, 501 EAST STATE STREET, TRENTON, NEW JERSEY
January 17, 2012**

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Dr. Marc Slaff, Dr. Lisa Reed, D.A.G. Michael Schuit, Kimberly Johnson and Scott Crans.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Sarnas called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Secretary Kent called the roll.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Secretary Kent reported that on January 6, 2012 the Secretary of State was sent an announcement for the January meeting to be held at the NJDEP Natural and Historic Resources Conference Room, 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 NOVEMBER 15, 2011 MEETING

Mrs. Semple asked that it be noted that the report from the Department of Health was from submitted information to the secretary; she was not present at the meeting. Dr. Van Orden moved and Mr. Emerson seconded a motion approve the minutes with that notation. All members approved with Dr. Bruder and Mrs. Semple abstaining.

CORRESPONDENCE

- 12/01/11 Correspondence from John P. Sarnas, Chairman, to Ms. Michele Brown, Aide to the Governor. Ref: Respectively requesting that the Governor consider the reappointment of Mr. Surmay and Dr. Van Orden who are serving on the Commission with expired terms.
- 12/02/11 Correspondence from Claudia O'Malley, Technical Advisor to Amy Cradic, NJ DEP Assistant Commissioner, Natural and Historic Resources. Ref.: Equipment Use Agreements for her signature for fiscal year 2012.

- 12/06/11 Correspondence from Claudia O'Malley, Technical Advisor to Peter Pluchino, Division Director, Bergen County Division of Mosquito Control. Ref: Equipment Use Agreement for fiscal year 2012, covering the state owned equipment assigned to that organization.
- 1208/11 Correspondence from Ary Farajollahi, Superintendent, MCMC to Robert Kent, Secretary. Ref.: 2002 Ultra Low Temperature Freezer.
- 1219/11 Memorandum from Bob Gogats, Burlington County Health Department to Members of the New Jersey Mosquito Control Commission. Ref.: Salt marsh mosquito surveillance and control in the Great Bay area. There were several significant points; with copies to the NJ Office of Mosquito Control Coordination, DEP Commissioner and to the Board of Chosen Freeholders.
- 01/03/12 Correspondence to Claudia O'Malley, Principal Biologist from Kristian McMorland, Superintendent of Morris County Mosquito Commission. Ref.: Repair of the long reach excavator.
- 01/06/12 Memorandum from Robert Kent, Secretary to the Honorable Kim Guadagno, Secretary of State. Ref.: Announcement of the Mosquito Commission meeting dates for 2012.
- 01/06/12 Correspondence from Claudia O'Malley, Technical Advisor, to the SMCC Equipment Committee. Ref.: Items for consideration at the January 17th SMCC meeting.
- 01/06/12 Correspondence from Robert Kent, Secretary to Hon. Kim Guadagno, Secretary of State. Ref.: Announcement of the January Commission meeting at the NJ DEP Natural and Historic Resources conference room.
- 01/06/12 Correspondence from Robert Kent, Secretary to Commission members. Ref.: Announcement of the January Commission meeting at the NJ DEP Natural and Historic Resources conference room.
- 01/06/12 Memorandum from Robert Kent, Secretary, to Larry Ragonese, Press Office and Veronica Moore, Office of Communication and Legislation. Ref: 2012 Calendar of meeting dates for the State Mosquito Control Commission.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The financial statement was distributed and reviewed. The Secretary noted that there is an additional \$23.00 for the monthly charge for AT&T under the administration category and there now is a blanket purchase order for legal ads. 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. The purchase order is ready for the NJMCA Proceedings which are being published now. Adjustments were also made for expenses in the equipment line item as a result of last meetings' action. Mr. Emerson has requested support to attend the American Mosquito Control Association's conference in Austin, TX. Mr. Emerson

has applied for approval for the trip and the request was moved forward. Dr. Van Orden moved Mr. Shivery seconded a motion to approve the financial statement. All members approved.

REPORT FROM THE SECRETARY

The Secretary asked if everyone has received their copy of the “Proceedings” that were mailed out. Monmouth County had an excavator that was damaged by fire and they have requested that a piece of state commission equipment be transferred from Salem County to Monmouth County. There are time restraints with regard to wildlife in the project area. The Secretary also stated that Paul McCall, chairman of registration for NJMCA, sent an electronic registration form for the NJMCA annual conference which will be held on March 27-29. The Division of Fish & Wildlife will be celebrating the 100 years anniversary of the Hackettstown State Fish Hatchery.

REPORT FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISOR

Ms. O’Malley stated that the new boat trailer which replaced the 1995 trailer was delivered to Ocean County Mosquito Commission on December 13, 2011. The 2012 GMC Canyon which will serve as the northern courier vehicle was delivered to the Warren County Mosquito Commission on December 16, 2011. Ms. O’Malley has also scheduled a preseason meeting for the Airspray Program for February 16 at 10:00 am at the Division of Fish and Wildlife Conservation Center in the Assunpink Wildlife Management Area. One of these topics will be advent of the Clean Water Act. Mr. Robert Kent and Ms. Claudia O’Malley received a certificate of appreciation for participation in the Joint Base McGuire – Dix-Lakehurst Earth Day Event last year. There is \$350,000.00 encumbered for the aircraft operation’s for the fiscal year 2012. A balance of \$143,448.30 remains for operation in March, April, May, and June.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Legislative – Mr. Howard Emerson reported that introduced legislation, if passed, would designate the Troy Meadows Natural Area of Morris County as a natural area. The land would be managed by the Department of Environmental Protection and this may impact our ability to treat the land. That land is presently treated through the State Airspray Program. Ms. O’Malley states that the State Airspray Program supplies the aircraft and the county supplies the insecticide.

Another bill was introduced which would make uniform, flags marked with certain pesticide applications. Every commercial pesticide application all would be marked in English and Spanish. Ms. O’Malley stated that DEP would be in charge of development of rules and regulations and would amend the pesticide control regulations. Standardized flags for pesticide application would be posted. Homes and public places presently have flags with white and green lettering.

Equipment – Dr. Bruder stated that the Mercer County Division of Mosquito Control has a state-owned ultra-low temperature freezer. The county has purchased its own freezer and would like to surrender the state-owned freezer. The Morris County Mosquito Extermination Commission needs to make repairs on the long reach excavator. Dr. Bruder would like to recommend that Monmouth County’s request for a transfer for a piece of equipment from Salem County to Monmouth County be approved. The committee’s recommendations were unanimously approved.

Research and Development – Dr. Van Orden reported that he is anticipating a meeting with the county water management network members.

Budget – The committee met on January 5th in Greenwich Township. The meeting was intended to discuss several requests, including repairs on state owned equipment. There were several proposals from Rutgers for research but in view of the budget nothing can be seriously considered until next fiscal year.

Public Relations – No report.

Ad-hoc County Assistance – Mr. Emerson reported that nothing has changed since the November report. Commissioner Tomasello of the Camden County Mosquito Commission passed away. The Board of Freeholders have appointed a replacement.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & SENIOR SERVICES

Ms. Semple has sent out a notice last week asking that everyone submit their final mosquito surveillance data, so that she can generate a report and distribute it to the stakeholders and to the CDC. Once approved will go into the OIT system. The Department received word on the ELC grant (which is an acronym for Epidemiology Laboratory Capacity Cooperative Agreement). The CDC funds the majority of the programs throughout the office and the laboratory. The disease program (such as Hepatitis, Influenza and surveillance) has been cut. The two primary funded programs are for arbovirus and tick borne diseases. The funds left would support office and staff. The Vector Borne Group meeting is coming up on February 3 at the USDA in Robbinsville. The West Nile Virus surveillance website will fail in approximately one year from now. The contract with the support vendor has expired. Restoring the site will cost \$100,000.00. Dr. Bruder stated that \$100,000.00 was discussed at the budget committee meeting. Ms. Semple suggested that the amount necessary could be from a split of \$50,000 from one fiscal year budget and \$50,000.00 from another fiscal year budget.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Mark Mayer gave a report on the rearing of the copepods. No Emerald Ash Borer specimens have been collected in New Jersey. The lab is raising stink bugs. Once the bug's parasites are released from the Newark Delaware Beneficial Laboratory (and they are out of quarantine) NJ will try a release in NJ. Ms. Semple had a question regarding the parasitic fly and Mr. Robson noted that he had spoken to state agencies regarding the parasitic fly and bees. The Animal Health Division is in the process of moving into the new Public Health Environmental & Agriculture Laboratory (PHEAL).

NEW JERSEY AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

Dr. Marc Slaff reported on the surveillance programs in Hudson, Essex, and Bergen counties. Their surveillance programs have excellent devices such as the light trap which is very constant and accurate. Other agencies can't afford to run a large surveillance network program due to funding. There was a reduction in light traps in one county from 22 to 15 light traps for example. At least one person per agency has taken the course for certification and has been tested for quality control as a trained ID specialist. Hudson and Essex counties are improving with more staff, resources, and inspection personnel. Bergen County maintaining steady funding. Hudson uses "access" database program routinely which is very nice in its interpretation. Dr. Greg Williams hopefully will share this information with other agencies. Bergen County had a high isolation number for West Nile Virus. The University staff would like to introduce something called super pooling which uses subsamples of large collections of mosquitoes and tests them as

one unit. They would like to focus more on the house mosquito rather than the other species since funds are limited. Mr. Crans recommends more training be done at the Experiment Station.

Dr. Lisa Reed reported on EEE and West Nile virus this season, Dr. Ernest Ruber sent an email regarding a way to honor Mr Jobbins for his service and he has given thousands of dollars for webinars on mosquito biology as a gift. She reported on a number of webinars that were very informative.

Mr. Crans stated that there have been three days of meetings regarding the Asian Tiger Mosquito (ATM) project. The ATM project is in its last year and there will be a manual produced with control recommendations. Scott Crans reported on 38 different outreach offerings; 9 training sessions, 5 presentations, 5 biology meetings, 3 webinars but the participation levels were low. There is also a website; one can also download the information via the web. The manual will have recommendations (like a shopping list) and one may decide what ones county would need. There will be two county programs that will be participate in the application of the recommendation to New Jersey.

ASSOCIATED EXECUTIVES OF MOSQUITO CONTROL WORK IN NEW JERSEY

Mr. Emerson stated that Salem County had the highest citizen complaints this year.

OLD BUSINESS

Chairman Sarnas would like to form a committee in order to set up a meeting with Mr. Gogats from Burlington County regarding Great Bay. The goal would be to make it clear what services or programs we offer and to have an open line of communication. The chairman appointed Dr. Bruder, Mrs. Semple and Mr. Emerson to this committee.

Mr. Emerson would like to know if Cape May and Ocean County provided accounts of their records, with regard to the State Airspray Program. Ms. O'Malley noted that these were the data used to reimburse these counties as previously reported during the financial statement report.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Howard Emerson's trip for the AMCA meeting in Austin, TX for (\$1,325.40) as reported, may have to be appealed. Ms. Semple would like to recommend just paying the registration fees. SMCC members recommended hosting future commission meetings at the Eco-Complex, Morris County, Beneficial Insect Laboratory, and the conference room at the Assunpink.

COMMENTS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC

The biologists' meeting was scheduled for next week at the Headlee laboratory, Mr. Crans reported.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.