

**MINUTES OF THE 449th MEETING  
OF THE STATE MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION  
HELD IN THE NJDEP NATURAL AND HISTORIC RESOURCES 4<sup>th</sup> FLOOR  
CONFERENCE ROOM, 501 EAST STATE STREET, TRENTON, NEW JERSEY  
February 21, 2012**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

John Sarnas, Howard Emerson, Dr. Kenneth Bruder, Mark Mayer, Dr. George Van Orden, Shereen Semple, George Shivery, Dr. Mark Robson, Paulette Nelson (for Tony Petrongolo) 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, D.A.G. Michael Schuit, Steve Csorgo, Kimberly Johnson, Eric Williges 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 February 8, 2012 the Secretary of State was sent an announcement for the February 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 JANUARY 17, 2011 MEETING**

Dr. Bruder moved and Mr. Shivery seconded a motion approve the minutes. All members approved.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- 01/09/12 Correspondence to John P. Sarnas, Chairman, from Ms. Michele Brown, Aide to the Governor. Ref: Respectively requesting that the Governor consider the reappointment of Mr. Surmay and Dr. Van Orden.
- 01/17/12 Correspondence to Ary Farajollahi, Superintendent, Mercer County Division of Mosquito Control from Ms. O'Malley, Technical Advisor. Ref.: The surrender of an ultra low temperature freezer.
- 01/17/12 Memorandum from Claudia O'Malley, Technical Advisor to New Jersey Mosquito Control Agencies Commission, Ref: Available equipment.
- 01/17/12 Correspondence to Claudia O'Malley, Technical Advisor, from Jennifer Gruener, Assistant Superintendent, Warren County Mosquito Commission. Ref.: Repair on the 1980 John Deere 250C Bulldozer.

- 02/06/12 Memorandum from Claudia O'Malley, Technical Advisor to Jeffrey Ridgway, Director, Salem County Department of Public Works. Ref.: Registration for the 1987 20-ton trailer.
- 02/06/12 Memorandum from Ms. O'Malley, Technical Advisor, to Ralph Strano, Bureau Chief, Union County Bureau of Mosquito Control. Ref: Registration for the 2003 all-terrain vehicle.
- 02/08/12 Memorandum from Robert Kent, Secretary to SMCC members. Ref.: State Mosquito Control Commission meeting.
- 02/08/12 Correspondence from Robert Kent, Secretary to the Honorable Kim Guadagno, Secretary of State. Ref.: Announcement of the Mosquito Commission meeting for February 21, 2012.

#### **FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

The financial statement was distributed and reviewed. The Secretary noted that at the top of the first page, funds that have been encumbered from prior fiscal years have been canceled and carried forward. This includes funds from the Office of Mosquito Control Coordination which were cancelled and carried forward to supplement the appropriation. The administration line items for the toll free number, legal ads, and refreshments for last month's meeting were paid. Funds in the amount of \$18,000, approved last month for the hydraulic excavator in Morris County, were encumbered. The annual replacement of resting boxes that are used by the vector surveillance program also appears on the statement. The \$200.00 registration fee has been sent to NJMCA for nonprofit exhibitor at the conference next month. The Department's attorney is still reviewing all Rutgers service contracts. Mrs. Semple moved and Dr. Bruder seconded a motion to accept the Financial Statement. All members approved.

#### **REPORT FROM THE SECRETARY**

The Secretary stated that a letter from the chair of the NJMCA scholarship committee was received with regard to the Jobbins Scholarship for students. Also received was a notice from the Division of Fish & Wildlife which will be celebrating the 100 year anniversary of the Hackettstown State Fish Hatchery. Distributed was the resolution acknowledging Bruce Wolf's retirement. The Secretary has had a meeting with Asst. Commissioner Amy Cradic on a variety of topics, such as surveillance and control of mosquitoes on State-owned lands. Another subject that was discussed with the Assistant Commissioner was the West Nile virus website which is presently hosted by the Department of Health and Senior Services.

#### **REPORT FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISOR**

Ms. O'Malley stated that she held her Airspray Program preseason meeting on February 16, at the Division of Fish & Wildlife Conservation Center on the Assunpink Wildlife Management Area. Ten counties were represented (Atlantic, Burlington, Cumberland, Essex, Gloucester, Middlesex, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, and Salem.) The Kobelco hydraulic excavator has been temporarily transferred from Salem County to Monmouth County, where it is being used on a water management project before timing restrictions begin in April. A memo was sent to all counties on 1/17 regarding an ultra-low temperature freezer which is available under the terms of the State Equipment Use Agreement. The state contract for insecticides expires on November 17, 2012. Ms. O'Malley has reached out to the Department of Treasury regarding bid specifications for the new contract, but has not received any response to date.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Legislative – Mr. Emerson reported that introduced legislation, if passed, would designate the Troy Meadows Natural Area of Morris County as a State 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. The Technical Advisor has discovered three pieces of legislation deals with public meetings, public records and pensions.

Dr. Bruder noted that he would like to review the 3 pieces of State legislation prior to any action by the Commission. Mr. Emerson also noted the U.S. Congressional legislation HR 872, which deals with the Clean Water Act, FIFRA regulations and the new pollution elimination system pesticide permit. The committee recommended that the template statement on the subject, previously offered by the American Mosquito Control Association, be endorsed by the Commission and sent to President Obama. Chairman Sarnas determined to consider this recommendation under “New Business” in the agenda.

Equipment –No report.

Research and Development – Dr. Van Orden and the Secretary had a meeting with the county water management network. There were people from the watershed and mosquito control community to discuss issues regarding stormwater management practices. Dr. Van Orden would like to form a subcommittee so they can find a way of improving and maintaining existing stormwater systems. If possible, a manual could be created that will address some of the “Best Management Practices” that already exist and correct them.

Dr. Van Orden would like to assemble the R & D committee and some key members from the other communities. Dr. Robson suggested that a letter be sent to Commissioner Bob Martin noting the preventive nature of proper facility construction.

Budget – No report.

Public Relations – No report.

Ad-hoc County Assistance – No report.

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

Mrs. Semple has been generating letters for counties who have applied for emergency funding from FEMA to support their response from the flooding from Hurricane Irene. Mrs. Semple offered a message to all the superintendents in order to provide documentation of their surveillance and potential vector threats. Mrs. Semple attended a vector borne disease working group meeting. A sharp decrease in EEE, West Nile and infectious diseases in horses were noted. When Dr. Halpern was the state veterinarian she implemented a system through the Department of Agriculture Division of Animal & Health. The laboratory had a fee for service program. Mrs. Semple has asked for data showing how many horses are tested. If the number is within a reasonable amount we perhaps could fund the program for testing those horses which have been tested for rabies, found to be “negative” and not tested further for other diseases such as EEE and West Nile virus.

#### **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Mark Mayer gave a report on the laboratory's successful rearing of copepods. He described a natural control program for Mile-a-Minute Weed at a meeting at the new Public Health Environmental & Agriculture Laboratory. No Gypsy Moth program will be established this year because there has been no discovery of egg masses.

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

Dr. Marc Slaff will present information from the pilot surveillance & quality assurance project at the NJMCA meeting in March. The University has prepared next year's contracts. They will be given to the Secretary.

Mr. Crans stated they have wrapped up the training agenda with NJMCA for the two workshops. Interested students can sign up on the website. They also attended the seminar on mosquito trapping and the technology was very interesting. The presentation for the NJMCA is done and the AMCA meeting is next week. The biologist meeting is at the end of April and Mr. Crans is still entertaining ideas for a topic. Dr. John Bartley Schmidt was a Professor at Rutgers and they have submitted a picture and information in his honor for the archives.

Mr. Emerson inquired of Dr. Robson when the Commission will receive Dr. Slaff's final report from the Surveillance Quality Control / Quality Assurance Project. Dr. Robson noted that Dr. Slaff will offer a presentation at the upcoming NJMCA meeting and a more formal report of the April Commission meeting.

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

Mr. Eric Williges noted that the organization has met and stated that the membership's concern is that of the potential failure of the Department of Health West Nile virus website failure due to the aged software system.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

No report.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Emerson has a resolution on the table to send a letter to the President of the United States regarding the Clean Water Act. The committee recommends that it be sent to the President and to copy the AMCA and also Senator Barbara Boxer. All members approved. Mr. Emerson asked if he could be nominated to attend the meeting in Atlantic City of the New Jersey Mosquito Control Association as there will be an election of officers. Chairman Sarnas so designated Mr. Emerson to represent the Commission.

#### **COMMENTS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC**

No report.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:21 a.m.